I. Purpose

The University of Connecticut aims to deliver its mission while protecting the health and safety of our residents and minimizing the potential spread of disease within our community. To address and respond to critical health and safety issues, the University has adopted these Temporary Health and Safety Procedures (Procedures). The Procedures may be revised from time to time during the course of the 2020-2021 academic year. Residents will be notified of any changes to the Procedures by email to their UConn student email account. Residents are responsible for reviewing and adhering to these Procedures. We expect that all members of the on-campus housing community—residents, staff and visitors—act in a manner that demonstrates respect and consideration for those around them, including respect and consideration for the health and safety of all community members. Failure to follow these procedures may result in adjudication through the conduct process. As always, we will endeavor to update you with timely information about specific health and safety guidance important for our residents.

II. On Campus Housing Availability and Occupancy

a. 2020-2021 housing assignments chosen or made during the spring 2020 semester are hereby canceled.

b. Not all residential housing spaces will be open for occupancy during the spring 2021 semester. All students interested in living on campus during the spring 2021 semester must confirm their interest in housing. Priority will be given to students who submit the application by November 6, 2020. Applications will be reviewed based on the housing priorities established by the University. Students who do not get an offer of housing will be placed on a waiting list for housing. Offers for housing to students on the waiting list must be accepted by the deadline communicated in the offer letter or the offer will be automatically rescinded and the housing will be offered to a different student on the waiting list.

c. Students accepting on-campus housing must sign up for a time to check into their assignment. Check in will be available at a date to be determined in January 2021. Residents will be required to quarantine on campus for 14 days after being tested for Covid-19 and before attending in-person classes. The combined quarantine and testing process is intended to allow the University to control for potential false negatives and prevent spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus by students who have yet to become infectious. Students will not be allowed to receive their room key or move into the residential facilities until they have been tested for COVID-19.

d. A spring housing cancellation fee will be not be charged through November 30, 2020. Any spring housing cancellation received December 1, 2020 through January 19, 2021, will be charged a $250 cancellation fee. Beginning on January 20, 2021 cancellations fees will be charged in accordance with the University Refund Schedule.

e. The occupancy dates are not yet determined but will be announced after the spring academic calendar has been finalized.

f. Once residents begin occupying their on-campus spring housing, they should plan to remain on campus and limit any off-campus travel for the duration of the spring semester.
g. Upon request, residents will be required to submit to periodic testing for COVID-19.

h. When asked by Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) staff, residents need to supply information about their contacts so that appropriate contract tracing can be completed.

i. Storrs residents who test positive or are presumed positive for COVID-19 will be placed in self-isolation or advised to return home until it is determined they are no longer infectious by SHaW Medical Care. This may involve residents temporarily being re-located to alternative housing during their period of self-isolation. Self-isolation means residents cannot attend face-to-face instruction, other group functions or events and may only leave their designated isolation space to seek medical care. Students who violate these expectations will be referred to the conduct process. Meals will be delivered by Dining Services. Residents who are able, may choose to self-isolate at home.

j. Residents who have been identified as being in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 must self-quarantine for 14 days. Self-quarantine means residents cannot attend face to face instruction, other group functions or events. Students who violate these expectations will be referred to the conduct process. Storrs residents on the meal plan may go to designated dining facilities and pick up food to go. Residents who live in apartments should prepare for the likelihood that they will be quarantined at some point during the semester and therefore should have enough food on hand to support a 14-day period. Storrs residents identified as close contacts will be required to be tested for COVID-19 by SHaW Medical Care. Please note: it is likely that self-quarantine periods will be repeated or extended due to subsequent exposures.

k. When the residential housing is closed, residents are expected to remove all of their belongings and move out of on-campus housing. Residential Life suggests that residents bring only the items they know they will need during the spring semester when moving into their assigned residence in January. In the event that the University closes housing before the end of the 2020-2021 On-Campus Housing Contract period, residents who cannot leave the University may submit a request to remain on campus. The request process, including the criteria for eligibility, will be communicated at the time a closing announcement is made.

III. Guests

No guests are allowed in your residence hall room/suite/apartment. Guests are defined as anyone not assigned to your residence hall room/suite/apartment. This includes Storrs residential students, Stamford residential students and all off campus guests.

Storrs on-campus residents may gather with any Storrs on-campus residential student in residential building common spaces (lounge spaces and residential area community centers.) Students need to wear a mask, practice physical distancing and comply with all posted room capacity limits.

IV. Social Gatherings

a. The maximum room capacity limit for people allowed to gather in each lounge area will be prominently posted. Residents are prohibited from gathering in numbers that exceed the maximum room capacity limit posted.
b. Outdoor recreation areas adjacent to residential facilities may not exceed the Governor’s stated guidelines.

V. Face Masks and Physical Distancing

a. Common Areas. Residents must comply with all University guidelines and State of Connecticut public health mandates regarding the use of face masks and physical distancing in residential public spaces. Residents must also comply with all University guidelines related to public health in public spaces. Residential public spaces means all spaces outside of a resident’s individual room/apartment/suite, including but not limited to stairwells, hallways, and laundry rooms.

b. Dining Facilities. Dining Services will continue to offer a variety of menu options and all-day dining for students with meal plans. Offerings will be limited to items served, versus “cook to order” menu items. Service will be a blend of takeout and dine-in to align with Dining Health Requirements. Dining Services has modified its retail policies for the use of points. All changes to Dining Services will remain in effect until Dining Health Requirements are revised. Residents may encounter longer wait times than normal when entering dining facilities during the first few weeks of the semester. Dining Services will work to keep residents informed of busier times so that residents can plan accordingly.

c. Common Use Bathrooms. To the extent practicable, residents should wear facemasks when using any common use bathroom (those not on resident floors). Residents are expected to use their assigned family unit bathroom only.

VI. Facility Use Restrictions

a. The University may restrict residential stairwells and hallways to one-way use. Except in times of emergency, residents are required to abide by these restrictions and limit their movement to the one-way direction so identified.

b. Game rooms located within a residential area will not be open for use.

c. All Bathroom users:
   a. Minimize time in all shared bathrooms.
   b. No cell phone use in shared bathrooms.
   c. Personal items should not be stored in shared bathrooms.

d. Residents assigned to apartments, suites and rooms with semi-private bathrooms are responsible for the cleaning of their bathrooms. These may be inspected periodically by University staff. A schedule will be developed and shared with residents.

VII. Self-Monitoring and Self-Care

a. Storrs residents should consider SHaW Medical Care their primary health resource if they develop symptoms of an acute illness while on campus.
b. All residents will be expected to arrive on campus with a personal reusable thermometer.

c. A packing list of recommended self-care items to bring to campus can be found on the SHaW Medical Care website. (https://shs.uconn.edu/coronavirus/)

VIII. The UConn Promise - As a condition for living on campus during the spring 2021 semester, students must agree to abide by the behaviors outlined in the UConn Promise.

Revised 10/8/2020