



COLLEGE OF
MOUNT SAINT VINCENT

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

January 6, 2021

Dear Students,

We wish you a Happy New Year and we are excited to welcome you back to campus in a few short weeks! Although we are still awaiting guidance from the Governor, we recognize the need for communication so that you can begin your plans for returning to the Mount. We encourage you to continue to check your College email regularly to stay up-to-date.

Testing and Monitoring

All students must be tested no more than seven days before coming to campus*. Students must submit all documentation to the Office of Student Affairs via [Self-Service](#). All students (residents and commuters) will be required to take the test and submit a negative test result before returning to residence halls, attending in-person classes and/or participating in on-campus activities.

Resident students must upload results of a negative test prior to their move-in appointment.

**Please note:* For any traveler to New York State from a noncontiguous state, U.S. territory, or CDC level 2 and higher country, the [new state guidelines](#) for travelers to test-out of the mandatory 10-day quarantine are below:

- Travelers must obtain a test within three days of departure, prior to arrival in New York.
- The traveler must, upon arrival in New York, quarantine for three days.
- On day four of their quarantine, the traveler must obtain another COVID test. Testing for this purpose will be available on campus from January 21 to February 4.
- If both tests come back negative, the traveler may exit quarantine early upon receipt of the second negative diagnostic test.
- Additional instructions will be sent to students based on their scheduled move in appointment.

In anticipation of in-person classes beginning on Monday, February 8, commuter students should make arrangements to be tested between Monday, February 1 and Sunday, February 7. Anyone returning to campus without providing negative test results will not be allowed to move into their housing assignment, take in-person classes, or participate in campus activities until they provide results of a negative COVID-19 test.

Students are asked to retain copies of all documentation submitted for their records and may contact Student Affairs at (718) 405-3253 with any questions or concerns.

Campus-wide pool testing will resume the week of February 8.

Academic Instruction

In an effort to de-densify the campus during the time period most likely affected by holiday gatherings, our spring 2021 semester will follow the posted [Undergraduate Academic Calendar](#) and [Accelerated Nursing Academic Calendar](#) with classes beginning on January 25, 2021. The first two weeks of classes will be offered fully online in synchronous (i.e., at the posted scheduled times) format. Faculty will communicate with their students via Canvas and email during these first two weeks. Please note that the only exception will be for Nursing students who have clinical placements in facilities off-campus; these students will go to their assignments in-person as scheduled beginning on January 25, 2021. Classes will resume in-person on Monday, February 8, 2021. Graduate programs will follow the posted [Graduate Academic Calendar](#).

Orientation

Welcome new students! Orientation for new and transfer students will take place virtually on Friday, January 22. For more information visit the [Orientation website](#).

Residence Life

To promote social distancing and minimize exposure, the Office of Housing and Residence Life will conduct move-in by appointment from Monday, January 18 through Sunday, February 7. Students will schedule a two hour move-in assignment on a specific date. Move-in times will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. To reserve a date and time, [click here](#) and choose an option within your availability.

During move-in, residents can be accompanied by one guest. This guest is not required to have a COVID-19 test, but facial coverings and social distancing must be practiced at all times. Guests will be administered a health screening questionnaire upon entering campus. Failure to comply with these protocols will result in removal from the campus. Housing assignments and additional instructions to facilitate a smooth move-in process will be sent to resident students no later than January 13, 2021.

Students arriving from noncontiguous states are subject to the [New York State COVID-19 travel advisory](#). Contiguous states are Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont. Students from states other than PA, NJ, CT, MA, and VT must arrive prior to January 29 in order to provide sufficient time to complete a second negative test with results and/or 10-day quarantine.

Student Activities

Clubs, organizations, and all student activities will continue once students are back on campus. Clubs will still meet regularly while adhering to social distance measures and safety protocols. Student Government Association, Campus Activities Board, and all clubs will still offer in-person programs and events, as well as virtual programming options. Masks will be required for all in-person activities and meetings.

Athletics and Fitness

The Fitness Center is open by appointment only. To reserve your session, please visit: picktime.com/CMSVFitnessCenter. Beginning Monday, January 25, hours will be:

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday Closed

Sunday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Due to ongoing construction, the entrance to the Fitness Center is located outside of Cardinal Hayes Auditorium, down the stairs near the shuttle stop.

Fitness Center Rules and Regulations

- Masks are to be worn at all times.
- Appointment reservation is required for everyone.
- COVID-19 pass and Student ID must be presented at reservation time (no student ID and COVID clearance will result in you not being allowed to use the Fitness Center).
- Sessions are limited to 20 students.
- Sessions will be 45 minutes each.
- If booking back-to-back sessions, you must leave in-between sessions for cleaning.
- Equipment is to be wiped down after you use it.
- If you are looking to stretch, you need to bring your own mats, you will not be permitted to use mats from the Fitness Center.
- Be prompt to your session (you may wait outside, socially distant, while you wait for your session to begin).
- Bathrooms are not accessible from the Fitness Center. To use the restroom, you must exit the fitness center and use the restrooms in the lobby of the Peter Jay Sharp Athletic and Recreation Center.

Student athletes should refer to the communication sent by Phil Stern, Director for Athletics and Recreation, for additional information pertaining to their sport.

Dining

Hudson Heights remains open for grab and go. Seating is limited. Additional seating has been made available in Pastorini (Founders Hall, 1st floor), the Blue Room (Founders Hall, 2nd floor) and the Alumnae Pavilion Game Room. Students completing the [New York State COVID-19 travel advisory](#) will receive meal delivery to the lobby of their residence halls daily from 9 to 11 a.m. for brunch and 4 to 6 p.m. for dinner for the duration of their quarantine period.

Shuttle Services

Shuttle services will resume on Monday, February 8, 2021 to coincide with the first day of in-

person classes. Face coverings will be required. A College-issued clearance permit is required to board. Seating is limited.

COVID Pledge and Expectations

The safety and well-being of all members of the College of Mount Saint Vincent community is our top priority. In light of this extraordinary pandemic, the College is prepared to welcome back students, faculty, and staff to this vibrant campus. As a campus community, it will take all members to protect the safety and well-being of every campus community member. We must all work together, hold each other accountable, and practice all safety measures set by state, local, and College officials. In order to be successful and to keep the campus safe, we look for all students to reaffirm their commitment to the [Community Pledge](#) for Spring 2021, which in the end will be a shared responsibility to promote and exercise safe and healthy habits.

Every member of the campus community is required to participate in the College's daily health screening measures and adhere to wearing a face covering or mask at all times. Students are discouraged from attending group events on or off campus where safety protocols are not being followed. If a student has a change in their health status, they are expected to provide timely and accurate information to the Office of Student Affairs.

Visitation between residence hall rooms is discouraged, and residential students will not be permitted to enter residential buildings other than their own. The maximum occupancy for a residence hall room is the occupancy of the room plus one (Example: single room - maximum occupancy of two; double room - maximum occupancy of three). Additionally, residents should maintain six feet of social distancing if welcoming others into their rooms and continue to wear face coverings or masks at all times. Group gatherings are prohibited. Outside visitors are not permitted in the residence halls (excluding those assisting with move-in during the above outlined period).

Violations of College policy and/or COVID-19 protocols may result in interim suspension from the residence halls and/or College pending a complete investigation and adjudication through the student conduct process as outlined in the Student Handbook.

We hope you will all be our partners in a safe and healthy 2021. We look forward to seeing you soon. Go 'Phins!

Sincerely,



Kelli Smith

Vice President for Student Affairs