



COLLEGE OF
MOUNT SAINT VINCENT

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

From: Madeleine Melkonian, SVP for Admission and External Relations

Date: March 24, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Madeleine Melkonian'.

Subject: Important Updates from the College of Mount Saint Vincent

Dear Students,

Of all of the challenges you may have imagined your senior year and college search would present, I'm confident the coronavirus pandemic was not among them. Indeed, this is a challenge larger than any of us could have foreseen, with news regarding the spread of this disease in our area and around the country—and new public health advisories and guidelines—being released around the clock.

While we are all deeply concerned, this is also a time that makes me proud to be a part of the Mount Saint Vincent community, where we are navigating the challenges we face together with extraordinary determination and goodwill. Everyone has been singularly focused on our highest priority: ensuring the health and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff, as well as prospective students, families, and their high school communities.

I want to share with you important updates about how the College will move forward over the days and weeks ahead in response to these challenges. On March 12, the College moved all lecture classes online and will continue online coursework through the balance of the semester. Students who live on campus and could go home did so at that time; those who needed to remain living on campus were welcomed to do so, and our residence life team, facilities and dining services, and security staff are ensuring that they are healthy and well cared for.

In addition, all on-campus events, including admission events, have been canceled through mid-May. This includes group and individual tours, on-campus interviews, and our Accepted Student Day scheduled for March 29 and Last Look Weekend scheduled for April 26.

At this time, we are planning to hold several smaller Accepted Student Day events during the summer, when we hope the danger of gathering in groups and spreading illness have passed. We hope you will join us for what will be a celebration of you, our accepted and enrolling students and families, and enjoy some time with Mount Saint Vincent faculty, student leaders, and staff on our beautiful campus. We will send an invitation soon.

We also recognize the coronavirus pandemic is putting a strain on families' resources, and many are understandably concerned about the impact this may have on their finances and paying for college. We appreciate that these are difficult times and we want to do whatever we can to reduce the stresses you



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may face. In an effort to help alleviate your concerns, we are extending the deadline for making your Enrollment Deposit to June 1.

In the meantime, please know we are here to help as you are going through both the challenge of this pandemic and trying to make a decision about where you will attend college next year. While we can't visit with you in person just now, we are creating lots of resources for you to connect with us over the days and weeks ahead. In addition to checking your Student Portal for important updates, we invite you to visit our [Accepted Student pages](#) on our website to:

- get details on upcoming live and virtual events for admitted and enrolling students;
- connect with your admission counselor;
- get an inside look at the College from current students, faculty, and administrators;
- connect with other admitted students on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter;
- schedule a phone or virtual meeting with a financial aid counselor;
- and much more!

We'll be adding resources that we hope you'll find helpful all the time, so check back often.

We remain optimistic that [circumstances surrounding the coronavirus](#) will improve while we are operating in this way. As of now, please be sure to let us know how we can help you over the days ahead. We're grateful to you for your collaboration and patience as we all continue to move through these difficult times together, and hope you and your family stay well.