

## Mars Hill University Fall 2020 Move-In Information

### WHAT TO BRING

In addition to your personal items, please consider bringing the following items to make your stay in the residence halls more comfortable:

- Appropriate bedding
- Shower curtains (for apartments)
- Toilet paper (for apartments and suites)
- Kitchen supplies for apartments (pots, pans, tableware...)

All students should be prepared with their own:

- Thermometer
- Acetaminophen and/or over-the-counter cold and flu supportive medications
- Cloth face coverings
- Hand soap
- Hand sanitizer
- Cleaning supplies to keep personal items disinfected (phone, computers, headphones, etc.)
- Extra towels, linens, clothes (if access to laundry services is limited for cleaning and sanitization purposes)
- Extra trash bags, etc.
- Food & basic supplies for two weeks

### MOVE-IN DETAILS

Below is the timeline and details about move-in.

<b>Student Group</b>	<b>Move-in Date/Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
First-Year students	September 3 and 4, 2020	Ferguson Math and Science Center
Continuing Students	September 5 and 6, 2020	Ferguson Math and Science Center

### FIRST-YEAR STUDENT CHECK-IN INFORMATION

As mentioned earlier, the health and safety of our students and members of their families is paramount. As such, additional safety measures have been implemented for our move-in process.

<b>Date of Birth</b>	<b>Move-in Date</b>	<b>Move-in Time Option 1</b>	<b>Move-in Time Option 2</b>
January-February	September 3	September 3 12:00pm-1:30pm	September 3 8:00am-9:30am

March-April	September 3	September 3 2:00pm-3:30pm	September 3 10:00am-11:30am
May-June	September 3	September 3 4:00pm-5:30pm	September 3 8:00am-9:30am
July-August	September 4	September 4 8:00am-9:30am	September 4 2:00-3:30pm
September-October	September 4	September 4 10:00am-11:30am	September 4 12:00-1:30pm
November-December	September 4	September 4 3:30-5:00pm	September 4 8:00-9:30am
Commuter Students	September 4	September 4 12:00pm-1:30pm	

- Students must choose from one of the two move-in date/time options based on their month of birth.
- All students and families will report to Ferguson Math and Science Center. All guests of the student will have their temperatures taken before entering Ferguson.
- Once students arrive and check in, they will be directed to their residence hall.
- There will be only one entrance and one exit in the residence halls, which will help with the flow of traffic.
- In an effort to limit the amount of people in the residence halls, only two members of a student's family may be in the residence hall at the same time. Other family members may wait outside under the available tents.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be readily available at the entrance of our residence halls.

## CONTINUING STUDENT CHECK-IN INFORMATION

In our continuing effort to maintain safety, we have instituted the following procedures for returning student check-in. We have staggered returning students by their last name. Students will have two check-in times from which to choose based on their last name.

Last Name	Date 1 Option	Date 2 Option
A-G	September 5: 8:00am-9:30am	September 6: 10:00-11:30am
H-M	September 5: 10:00am-11:30am	September 6: 12:00-1:30pm
N-S	September 5: 1:00pm-2:30pm	September 6: 2:00-3:30pm
T-Z	September 5: 3:00pm-4:30pm	September 6: 8:00am-9:30am

- Continuing students must choose from one of the two move-in date/time options based on the first letter of their last name.
- All students and families will report to Ferguson Math and Science Center. All guests of the student will have their temperature taken before entering Ferguson.
- There will be only one entrance and one exit in the residence halls, which will help with the flow of traffic.

- In an effort to limit the amount of people in the residence halls, only two members of a student's family may be in the residence hall at the same time. Other family members may wait outside under the available tents.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be readily available at the entrance of our residence halls;
- As a safety precaution, students may not switch roommates.

## **MOVE-IN PROCESS**

- Residents will check in during their chosen designated check-in time.
- Housing and Residence Life will work with the Student Health Center to create a symptom self-assessment tool. All residents and guests must complete the symptom self-assessment tool before arriving on campus. Anyone who fails the self-assessment should stay home and our office will coordinate a later arrival for you. If a guest fails the self-assessment, he or she should refrain from coming to campus.
- All residents and guests will have their temperatures checked on the day of move in;
- All residents and guests are required to wear masks while indoors, except in their students' residence hall rooms. Residents and guests should also wear masks when outdoors, if they cannot engage in physical distancing. (Students and their guests should bring masks to move-in day for this purpose.) *Students will be also provided with an MHU mask at check-in;*
- All students and guests should maintain a distance of at least 6 feet or more.
- Elevators will have a one-person capacity.
- Elevators and entry and exit door handles will be sanitized regularly; however, students and guests are encouraged to wash their hands regularly.
- Students should pack essential and necessary items - clothing, cleaning supplies, academic/course materials, etc...

## **IMPORTANT GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS**

Faculty and staff have been working diligently to help minimize risk and keep students feeling comfortable once they are here. The guidelines below include many important changes for our residents to ensure a safe and productive living and learning environment for all. Students are asked to pay attention to communications, signage, and any other information they receive up to arrival and throughout the semester.

### ***Campus Guidelines***

- Students, faculty, and staff must wear masks at all times on campus, unless they are able to engage in appropriate social distancing. Students should clean their masks after one day of use (either wash in laundry, hand wash, or boil for 5 minutes). Clean masks should be stored in a closed zip-loc plastic bag.
- Students, faculty, and staff are expected to complete daily self-assessments to monitor any symptoms before leaving their homes/rooms/apartments. The self-assessment tool will be provided prior to students' arrival on campus.
  - Students who believe they may be ill and need to be assessed, should first call the Student Health Center at 828-689-1243. Someone there will perform the assessment over the phone.

- Students, faculty, and staff must not leave home (their rooms) if they fail the self-assessment or are feeling ill.
- Any student, faculty member, or staff member who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test must self-isolate until cleared by a medical professional.
- Any student, faculty member, or staff member who is exposed to another person with a positive COVID-19 test while not wearing a mask or social distancing, *may* be expected to self-isolate for two weeks. This could include moving to Carter-Humphrey Guest House in order to protect the community.
- Students, faculty, and staff must maintain a 6-foot distance from others and follow any identified travel patterns on campus and inside campus buildings.
- Social gatherings should follow state and local guidelines. The university will share specific limitations with the MHU community through official channels based on those guidelines.
- Any student with an immuno-compromised condition should contact their medical provider for guidance on additional prevention strategies and should make an individual decision about their own safety.
- Students are expected to follow the direction of any faculty or staff member in relation to these stated expectations.
- As always, students are expected to act civilly and respectfully in their communications with others.

Additional information on protecting yourself and others is available on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>.

***Additional Residence Hall Policies due to COVID-19:***

While the university will work diligently to keep the spaces on campus clean, students should recognize that a certain level of risk is present when sharing a space with another student. Students are encouraged to reach out to facilities or residence life staff if they observe that cleaning items are missing or depleted. To help prevent any possible spread, students in residence halls with more than one communal bathroom on a floor may be assigned a bathroom for the year.

It will be especially important this year for students to follow the cleanliness guidelines below that are outlined in the Student Handbook. Facilities staff will be cleaning in the residence halls Monday-Friday between the hours of 6:30am-3:00pm. There will also be additional staff that will disinfect the communal bathrooms throughout the days.

“Residents are expected to take reasonable care in maintaining the cleanliness of their rooms, apartments, and suite bathrooms. In addition, students are expected to not litter in public areas (inside or out) of the buildings or parking areas.... Students are expected to take their trash out at least once a week, keep the floor free of items so that an individual can walk around safely in the room without tripping over items on the floor, wash clothes/towels/sheets at least every 2 weeks, wash dishes daily, sweep/dust/mop weekly, clean toilets/showers/sinks weekly. Although every building has housekeeping staff, residents should not expect these staff to do more than regular maintenance of the common areas. Failure to meet these guidelines may result in residential life disciplinary action and/ or relocation. The housekeeping staff will deep clean bathrooms in suites and kitchens in apartments when it is deemed an emergency by the housing staff. This extra cleaning

charge will be billed to all suite members assigned to the unit” (Mars Hill University Student Handbook, p. 92).

- Students must maintain social distancing by staying at least 6 feet apart.
- Students are required to wear face coverings in any indoor spaces (except in their own residence hall rooms, while eating, or in other specifically designated areas/circumstances). Students are also expected to wear their face coverings when outdoors, if they cannot engage in appropriate physical distancing.
- No visitors will be permitted in on-campus housing.
  - Visitors include family members (after move-in day) and other MHU students who are not currently living on campus.
  - Residents visiting other residents must wear masks when entering other residents’ living spaces.
- Any student who exhibits potential COVID-19 symptoms and/or has a positive COVID-19 test will be required to move to a self-isolation room in Carter-Humphrey Guest House. Students who have a positive COVID-19 test will be encouraged to go home, if possible. Students should not refrain from sharing symptoms out of fear of isolation; rather, they are expected to ensure the safety of the community by appropriately addressing symptoms.
- Any student who may have been exposed to another student, faculty member, or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 may be placed in quarantine housing for two weeks.
- Students should clean their rooms and apartment common spaces (bathrooms, kitchens, high touch surfaces, etc.) regularly. Expectations for cleanliness will be higher than usual, and students are personally responsible for cleaning their living space.

### ***The Residence Hall Community Common Spaces***

- Housekeeping staff will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting the community common areas (lobbies, hallways, public bathrooms, and elevators); however, residents are expected to leave a space as clean as they find it.
- Residents should be flexible, as rules may change in common areas, and community programs will be limited to small gatherings when social distancing is possible.
- Residents who see people in areas that are small, like stairwells, should consider going one at a time.
- Elevators will be limited to no more than one person. Students living on second floors are encouraged to take the stairs.

### ***Apartment Common Areas (kitchens, dining rooms, laundry rooms, bathrooms):***

- Roommates should discuss expectations for other guests visiting the apartment or room. No more than six students should be in any apartment at one time (including the residents); no more than three students should be in any residence hall room at one time (including the residents).
- Roommates should discuss the cleaning expectations of the common areas and ensure that these areas are being cleaned regularly.
- Anyone who is not feeling well or who has a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, should eat in his or her bedroom to avoid contact with other roommates.

- Roommates should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, or eating utensils that have not been properly cleaned. Residents should consider purchasing disposable plates and cups. Any non-disposable food service items used should be handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water.
- Sinks and other high-touch counter spaces could be an infection source and should be avoided. Toothbrushes should not be placed directly on counter surfaces. Totes can be used for personal items, so they do not touch the bathroom countertop.

### ***Know Where to Get Information***

- Email will be the primary source of communication, so students should check their campus email daily. Other sources of information include websites, automated text messaging, newsletters, and flyers.
- Students who have questions or concerns about their residential experience, may contact Housing and Residence Life at 828-689-1253 or email [residence-life@mhu.edu](mailto:residence-life@mhu.edu).

### ***Additional Policies***

- As a reminder, students should review the student handbook for all other residence hall policies.
- The university reserves the right to amend the student handbook at any time without notice. Changes are particularly likely, given the evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic. Housing and Residence Life will notify students of these changes via their Mars Hill University email accounts and in-hall communication from the appropriate Housing and Residence Life team member(s). The student handbook does not grant any residents or guests any contractual rights, whether expressed or implied.

Housing and Residence Life is a critical component to many students' experience, and we are working to preserve that experience as much as possible. Mars Hill University will create an environment in which students can practice the safety guidance recommended by the CDC.

### **CLOSING INFORMATION**

Because we cannot predict what is to come, we ask that you please create a move-out plan with your family in the event the university must clear out the residence halls due to COVID-19. We encourage you to pack with this in mind, and to be thoughtful about what you bring to campus for the 2020-2021 academic school year.

If all goes well, the plan for closing for both the fall and spring semesters is as follows:

- For the *fall 2020* semester, residence halls are scheduled to close at 5:00pm on Tuesday, November 24, 2020.

For the *spring 2021* semester, residence halls are scheduled to close at 5:00pm on Monday, May 10, 2021. ***Students are required to move all belonging out of the residence hall room/common area and return their keys to the appropriate Housing and Residence Life staff member.***

Once again, were excited to welcome you back to campus. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach us at [\*\*residence-life@mhu.edu\*\*](mailto:residence-life@mhu.edu).