



Dear residential students,

We are still very much looking forward to having everyone back next month for the start of the 2020-2021 academic year at Hiram College. We appreciate your patience as we navigate this evolving situation! I want to provide a couple of updates and reminders on our plans for student arrivals and housing.

New student housing assignments go out August 7

All new students to Hiram will receive their housing assignment on August 7 via your Hiram email account. We know you are anxiously awaiting this information, and we want to send it out as quickly as possible. Just a reminder that almost all new students will be living in a single room in either Whitcomb, Miller, the Quad, or Henry Honors Hall.

Move-in Days

Below is the move-in schedule with group assignments based on the first letter of your last name and whether you are a returning student or new student. We have staggered move-in days to allow for social distancing and minimize the amount of guests in the residence halls. We will also be conducting symptom screening as the first step of check-in, so no early arrivals can be accommodated this year (sorry!). Please plan to arrive on the day you have been assigned. Sign-up times will be announced in a few days, but students should plan to arrive on your scheduled day sometime between 9 am and 3 pm.

Returning students:

Tuesday, August 25 — last name beginning with A - H

Wednesday, August 26 — last name beginning with I - P

Thursday, August 27 — last name beginning with Q - Z

New students:

Friday, August 28 — last name beginning with L - Z

Saturday, August 29 — last name beginning with A - K

Sign-up for a specific move-in time

We've already determined the day you can move in to your residence hall (see above), but we need to know what time you'd like to come. We will be doing symptom screenings for every student as they come to campus, which means we need a specific time for your arrival. The

sign-up form will go out this week via email, so make sure to check your email regularly and sign up for a time to stop at the health center, then check in to your room. Students should plan to arrive on your scheduled day sometime between 9 am and 3 pm.

Reminder of 14-day quarantine

As we noted earlier this summer, in the 14 days prior to your arrival on campus, you are required to do a “quarantine.” This means you must stay at home as much as possible, separate yourself from others outside of your immediate family, and monitor yourself for symptoms daily.

If you must leave your home for essential activities, you should follow these strict guidelines during quarantine:

- Always wear a face covering when outside your home.
- Sanitize or wash your hands with soap for a minimum of 20 seconds before you leave home; use hand sanitizer frequently while out of your home, and apply hand sanitizer one last time before entering your home.
- Wash the clothes you wear outside of your home as soon as possible upon your return. Avoid shaking them to prevent spread of any virus particles. Wash your hands with soap immediately after handling dirty clothes.

Items that you should bring to campus

In addition to what you typically bring to campus, you should plan to bring these extra items with you to school this year:

- Thermometer (you will need to screen your temperature every day before leaving your room)
- Lysol/Clorox/other sanitizing wipes (for daily cleaning of high-touch surfaces such as doorknobs)
- Face coverings (you will need to wash reusable face coverings after 1 day of use; Hiram College will provide a face covering to each student when you check in, but it is good to have several and rotate them). Additional face masks will be available for purchase at the bookstore.
- Fever-reducing medicine (such as Ibuprofen/Advil, Aleve, or Tylenol/acetaminophen)

Develop a Family Plan before you head our way

We are pleased to tell you that we have not experienced any COVID-19 cases on campus as of this writing. Even with that good news, we must be prudent and plan for a situation that might be much less positive. As college officials contemplate what we will do if another outbreak occurs, we are asking our students and their families to do the same. Towards that end, be sure you and your parents or guardians think about and answer carefully these questions:

- (A) Where would you go if Hiram College moved to remote instruction and needed to close its residence halls?
- (B) What would you do if you tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and had to leave campus? Where would you go? How would you get there? How long could you stay? While we are making every effort to keep the campus safe, we have limited isolation spaces on campus for any students who might test positive.

Furniture will need to stay in rooms

Once you get to campus, visit the health center, and check into your room, you may notice two of everything even though you are living by yourself: two beds, two desks, two dressers, two chairs, etc. All of the furniture that is in your room currently must stay in your room. Please plan accordingly!

Information for Fall athletes

All of us at Hiram were really disappointed in the news that our athletic conference needed to suspend competition for the fall semester. While the decision is understandable and necessary, we know how much hard work our varsity athletes put in to prepare for a season. Having said that, fall athletes (men's and women's soccer, women's volleyball, and football) were originally scheduled to move in August 20 and 21. With the suspension of intercollegiate competition in our athletic conference until December 31, fall athletes are invited to check in to their residence hall during normal check-in times for students listed above.

Any fall athlete who made plans to move in on their original date that cannot be changed, may fill out the form to request to move in on their original day of August 20th and 21st. ***There are only a limited number of early arrival spots for fall athletes***, since every student will need to stop by the health center first for a symptom screening and other information. Fall athletes should only request an early arrival on August 20 or 21 if they cannot change their previously scheduled plans. Please be aware that meal service on campus will not start until Sunday evening, August 23. The Fall Athlete Early Arrival Request Form can be accessed [here](#).

More information

Last Thursday we hosted a Zoom call with key Hiram administrators about our re-opening plans. Click [here](#) for a recording of that meeting.

This Thursday July 30 at 7 pm, we are hosting another zoom meeting about athletics, hosted by Athletic Director Todd Hibbs and some coaches. You will need to pre-register [here](#) if you would like to attend.

We will also hold a Zoom call in early August with faculty and administrators to discuss the academic plans.

Let us know if you have any questions and we will try to answer them as quickly as possible!

Sincerely,

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