



Return to Campus Life – University Housing (Lisle)

University Housing has established a plan and safety protocols to **Protect our Flock** in the nest! The health and well-being of our students, staff and faculty is our top priority and will require steadfast vigilance of the protocols in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and protect our entire community. Our residents represent a unique community from across the country who will share experiences, memories, and spaces. We must all commit to our Healthy Hallmarks Pledge and strictly follow residential rules if we want to maintain a physical connection to campus life.

This plan has been developed by professional guidance from members the COVID-19 Response Team (“Response Team”), in addition to guidance and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), American College Health Association (ACHA), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) and (Illinois Board of Higher Education) IBHE.

The Response members include staff and faculty in the following areas: University Housing, Student Health Services, Student Affairs, Athletics, University Police, Benedictine’s Public Health Academic Program, Facilities Management and Dining Services.

Housing Capacity: Lisle

Overall, we have **reduced occupancy in our Residence Halls (Jaeger/Ondrak) by 25 percent** to accommodate safe distance amid the pandemic.

Double Occupancy is standard, and Single Occupancy is an option: The university understands some resident students may prefer a single room accommodation option. By reducing occupancy, we are able to have more singles than in a typical year. **Students can email housing@ben.edu to request a Single or Double.**

Founders’ Woods apartments have single bedrooms and shared bathrooms.

Isolation and Quarantine Procedures

Self-Quarantine is used to separate and restrict the movement of **well** persons who may have been exposed to a communicable disease to see if they become ill. These people may have been exposed to a disease and do not know it, or they may have the disease but do not show symptoms. Quarantine can also help limit the spread of communicable disease.

Self-Isolation is used to separate **ill** persons who have a communicable disease from those who are healthy. Isolation restricts the movement of ill persons to help stop the spread of certain diseases.

Isolation/Quarantine Spaces and Considerations

BenU has designated temporary spaces on campus for isolation and quarantining purposes and are identified as Care Rooms. Developed protocols have been made available to all individuals involved in the management of Care Rooms and its procedures.

Ideally the ill/exposed student should return home for quarantine or isolation, but we realize that may not be possible.

A portion of housing will remain offline and clean for use as a quarantine and isolation space in the case of illness.

- The designated Care Rooms are physically separated from other residential student rooms.
- Care Rooms will have private bathroom facilities and be stocked with a Care Room package that includes cleaner solution, paper towels, hand sanitizer, garbage bags, and bath tissue.
- Members of the Response Team will be appropriately trained and on-call to assist students with their personal needs (medication pickup, delivery of hygiene supplies, etc.).
- The Response Team will monitor students remotely on a daily basis.
- Food delivery from Benny's dining staff will be arranged in collaboration with The Response Team.
- Counseling Services and/or Campus Ministry will be available remotely to students in isolation or quarantine as needed.
- Students should continue academic activities remotely. Temporary academic accommodations can be requested [HERE](#) or email ace@ben.edu.
- Transportation resources will be made available upon request to and from the location if medical care is needed.
- Custodial and maintenance staff are provided with and required to wear appropriate PPE (as per CDC guidelines) when cleaning or entering isolation and quarantine spaces (available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-faq.html>).

At any time, the University may request or require a resident to leave Benedictine if a resident's continued presence in the housing community poses a health or safety risk for community members, or if Benedictine is unable to accommodate a temporary Care Room on campus. Residential students are required to comply with requests to leave their assigned space due to COVID-19 or other public health emergency. Failure to do so is a violation of the residence hall policies.

In the event a student must quarantine or isolate on-campus the following steps will occur:

1. Members of the Response Team will work with the DCHD to complete contact tracing to determine if roommate(s) or others have been exposed and will also need to be quarantined or isolated.
2. A member of the Response Team will identify a temporary Care Room space and assist the ill or exposed student with move coordination (if transportation is required).
3. Students will be provided with a personal Care Room package.
4. The student will self-monitor daily and a member of Response Team will check in remotely with the student daily.

5. The Response Team will provide COVID-19 local testing sites and information to symptomatic students. The student is required to complete testing requirements outlined by the Response Team within the assigned time frame and electronically submit the results www.ben.edu/healthform.
 - Asymptomatic quarantined individuals on campus can be tested through our Surveillance Testing program via Loop Medical. The process will include scheduling a test, calling upon arrival and Loop will administer test while student is in vehicle. Symptomatic individuals will still need to utilize local testing sites.
6. Regardless of meal plan, students should plan to receive 3 meals daily on weekdays, 2 meals daily on weekends. Meals and BBuck\$ will be deducted from active meal plan. Students should contact dining@ben.edu to opt out of meal plan delivery.
7. Coordinate return to campus assignment upon clearance of the following:
 - For students in quarantine, who have **not exhibited symptoms, but were exposed to COVID-19**.
 - Students will stay in quarantine 14 days from last exposure.
 - While in quarantine, student will self-check temperature twice per day and watch for symptoms of COVID-19.
 - If symptoms develop, student will contact Student Health Services immediately.
 - Student Health Services or a member of the Response Team will check in virtually with students in quarantine to ensure that they do not need additional treatment.
 - Students in quarantine not exhibiting symptoms but were exposed to a COVID-19 positive case should get tested seven (7) days into the quarantine.
 - For students who have **tested positive for COVID-19** and are in isolation.
 - Students will stay in isolation for a minimum of 10 days from testing positive if there are no symptoms. If experiencing symptoms after testing positive for COVID-19, student will stay in isolation for 10 days from the appearance of symptoms. Isolation ends after 10 days and symptoms are improved and has remained fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever relief medication.
 - Student Health Services or a member of Response Team will check in virtually with students in isolation to ensure that they do not need additional treatment.
8. In the event students are unable to go home to quarantine, the following guidelines will be followed.
 - University Apartments (Founders' Woods, Lisle):
 - All residents in the unit will be required to quarantine or isolate and self-monitor (see above for quarantine and isolation specific guidance).
 - Residence Halls:
 - Students will move from their assigned room to one of the designated quarantine/isolation rooms (see above for quarantine and isolation specific guidance).

Should the need of isolation and/or quarantine exceed available Care Rooms, other considerations may include designating a specific bathroom within apartment or floor as a quarantine only use.

University Housing & Residence Life– Preparing for Spring 2021

Move in/Return to Campus

University Housing will open for the spring semester on Saturday, January 16 and Sunday, January 17. Students who are not exempt from testing will be tested by Loop Medical upon arrival to campus before going to the residence halls to check-in. Keys will not be distributed and access to housing assignment will not be approved until testing has been completed. Residents will be expected to quarantine in their assigned housing until results are received. Test results can take up to 2 days.

Due to the testing requirement for return to stay, residents will not be allowed to move in any earlier than Saturday, January 16.

Move in schedule and requirements

- Residents are expected to self-quarantine at their permanent residence for 14 days prior to campus arrival.
- Copy of health insurance must be sent to the University by January 15 [HERE](#).
- Rice Center will be the designated check-in location for reentry testing.
- All residents must supply proof of a COVID-19 lab test taken within 7 days before scheduled move in date and supply confirmation of a negative test result. Results can be provided in either format:
 - Bring paper copy of results to the Loop Test check-in location
 - Email in advance to covidtesting@ben.edu , [Liz Velez](#), [Nate VanRaden](#), or [Marco Masini](#)
- New and returning students who are required to test will be assigned a move in day and time that falls after scheduled test with Loop Medical. Testing will be conducted on each day from 7am-10am. Students will be notified when the Loop Medical Portal opens.
 - Look for more information the first week of January. The Move-in times are expected to run from 10am-5pm.
- Residents who are identified as non-exempt from COVID-19 testing must test on arrival and will be notified.
- Residents who are exempt from COVID-19 testing (see Exempt from Testing criteria) will be notified and will be scheduled to move in between 8:30-10am on Sunday, January 17.
- Key distribution for check in will be held in the following locations:
 - University Housing Office (Krasa Center) – Jaeger Residents
 - Ondrak 1st Floor Lounge – Ondrak Residents
 - Founder's Clubhouse – Founders' Residents
- Specific information and communication will be issued during the first week of January to support both our new students moving in and our students returning to their residences in a **reservation-only, staggered schedule that will span a 2-day period.**

Spring 2021 Health & Safety Guidelines

Several guidelines and policies will be in place and outlined here, the Return to Campus Guide, and the University Housing Resident Handbook. These are meant to ensure the safety of our students and the staff members who manage campus housing and dining services. Some of these expectations and recommendations include:

- **All residents should self-quarantine for 14 days prior to arrival.**
- The semester will begin with no guests allowed in University Housing through February 1, 2021. Once that period has passed, University Housing will communicate when the 2020-2021 guest policy will resume. This means that residents may not visit other residents during this time.
- Residents are encouraged to remain on campus and limit unnecessary travel off campus during the first 14 days (2 weeks).
- Residents are encouraged to utilize Benny's to-go option for take-out only during the first 14 days (2 weeks).
- Face coverings are required in all public areas within University Housing including lobbies, elevators, bathrooms, laundry rooms, stairwells, common lounges, and hallways.
- Some stairwells within Ondrak and Jaeger Halls will be designated as one-way traffic and/or appointed for quarantined residents.

Health & Wellness Screening, Reporting

All resident students will be subject to screenings and surveys to ensure the health and wellness of our community.

- All new spring residents will receive a Welcome Kit to provide direction on COVID-19 protocols, Housing Policies, Self-Assessment requirements. The kit will also include thermometer, a BenU branded mask and hand sanitizer.
- We require all residents to complete a daily self-assessment when on campus.
 - ATS Daily Screening Submission [HERE](#) or go to <https://ben2.atsusers.com>.
- All students who are ill or exposed to COVID-19 positive individual must submit the Student Absence Reporting Form [HERE](#) or go to www.ben.edu/coronavirus/index.cfm.

Student Health Services

- **Student Health Services, located in the Krasa Student Center, room 116,** is available to students to provide comfort and supportive nurse care. In addition to helping residents with concerns around COVID-19 symptoms, exposure or testing, Student Health Services is there for all health & wellness questions as we know that students may develop a variety of illnesses or health concerns.
- Student Health Services will support the education of all residents on the proper protocols for self-monitoring, cleaning/sanitizing and social distancing.
- **All students who move into University Housing at BenU must have a valid insurance card and understand their benefits and provider information.** Copy of health insurance must be sent to the University by January 15 [HERE](#). We recommend families discuss with students their personal plan-of-action for managing a potential exposure or illness. Student Health Services is available to support that plan.

COVID-19 Testing Program & Requirements

Our surveillance testing program and efforts will continue in the spring 2021 semester in partnership with Loop Medical. All students who are not exempt from testing must take 2 tests, one prior to arrival and the other on the day of move in.

Once the semester begins, the scheduled testing day for non-exempt residents is currently planned for Wednesdays. Frequency of Surveillance Testing is subject to change; however, all non-exempt residents are expected to schedule testing via Loop Medical's Patient Portal during the spring semester.

Surveillance Testing

Non-Exempt - Students who have not tested positive within a 90-day period are NOT exempt from the testing requirements.

Exempt - Students who test positive for COVID-19 during the spring semester are exempt from weekly surveillance test requirement for a 90-day period. Exempt dates will be communicated and confirmed by a member of the Response Team. **Exempt students must upload documentation of positive results to www.ben.edu/healthform if test was conducted off campus.** Results must be documented and on file.

Reentry to Campus

Non-Exempt Residents - Students who have not tested positive within a 90-day period are **NOT** exempt and the testing requirements upon reentry to housing is applicable. Students must supply a negative COVID-19 test (lab-based PCR test) taken within 7 days prior to scheduled move in date.

Students who are within a commutable distance may also schedule their reentry test with Loop Medical if test is taken within 7 days before moving in and results are available on scheduled move in day. Loop's online appointment scheduler and availability for each location may vary. Students are encouraged to call and request an appointment for their desired date. Click [here](#) to schedule your test online **Loop Medical**.

Due to the rise in cases and testing nationwide, the turnaround time for testing sites may be delayed. Students are encouraged to seek clarification with any testing site to ensure reentry results are available to present on move in day.

Other COVID-19 test options could include a test with your primary physician or testing locations can be found here:

- [IDPH \(Illinois Department of Health\) Locations](#)
- [United States Department of Health - Nationwide Locations](#)
- [CVS, Walgreens, or any Urgent Care Centers - Midwest](#)
- [Additional Location Searching Tool – Nationwide Locations](#)

Exempt Residents - Students who have had a positive COVID-19 test within 90 days of scheduled move in date are exempt from reentry testing requirements. (**See Exempt Above**)

If a student is ill:

As resident students at Benedictine University you are never without help and support from your BenU community.

Quick Reference Response to COVID-19 for Students:

1. All Students, both resident or commuter, are required to conduct a daily self-check for COVID-19 or other flu-like symptoms prior to participating in classes or University events. Daily screening submissions must be completed through [Athletics ATS form](#).
2. If the student is experiencing COVID-19 or other flu-like symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, they are expected to quarantine or isolate at home or in their room and immediately complete the [Student Absence Reporting form](#).
3. **Student Health Services or a member of the Response Team** will review the **Student Absence Reporting** form and contact the student to determine next steps and a treatment protocol.
 - If needed, Student Health Services will notify the University Response Team and DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) to seek further assistance.
4. If the Response Team learns that a student has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been exposed to the virus, **the University has isolation and quarantine procedures in place**. Isolation and quarantine procedures will be explained to the affected student by a member of the Response Team. Contact tracing will be initiated and conducted the Response Team.
5. Students are required to respond to phone and email contact received from University staff and their community partners.
6. Emergency notifications will be made to the Benedictine Community as needed throughout the semester.

The BenU Six-Foot Residential Campus: General

The BenU COVID-19 Task Force Teams and our medical advisors have devised a detailed and well-informed approach to help residents safely navigate University Housing. Intensive cleaning protocols, 6-foot distancing, signage, masks, and adherence to the BenU Healthy Hallmarks pledge will be our collective 24/7 commitment to safety.

Specifically, residents will experience a newly planned residence experience to accommodate social distancing and ensure healthy habits:

1. **Daily Cleaning:** All residents will be educated on **cleaning protocols** by signage within their assigned apartments and during opening hall meetings.
 - Daily cleaning protocols will be supported by posters and signage in private rooms, common areas and throughout halls.
 - Staff and RAs will communicate frequently with residents to encourage compliance with daily cleaning protocols and waste disposal.
2. **Compliance:** Students will be responsible for upholding cleanliness standards. Regular health and well-being inspections will be completed throughout the semester by University Housing staff to ensure the safety of the residential community.
 - This expectation is covered in the Housing Health Policy Acknowledgement within the Housing Portal. Upon completion, students will receive a copy via email.
3. **Frequent Cleaning:** Facilities Management will engage staff in frequent cleaning of common areas and high-touch areas twice daily. (See Shared Spaces.)
4. **Increase in Hand Sanitizer Stations and Disinfectant Wipes:** Residents will be educated on location and availability of multiple cleaning resources throughout residence halls and campus.
5. **Indoor Air Quality Upgrades:**
 - Filters in all units have been upgraded.
 1. Air purifiers will be placed in each Founders' Woods apartment.
 2. In residence halls, air purifiers will be installed in hallways and common spaces.
 - Residents are encouraged to circulate fresh air whenever possible.
6. **Physical Distancing:** All medical advice suggests that maintaining a 6-foot social distance from others will help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Facilities Management teams will make accommodations to ensure spaces are marked and arranged to ensure residents maintain a safe, 6-foot minimum social distance.
 - Community bathrooms are appropriately marked for social distancing.
 - Floors will indicate social distance directions/traffic flow at common areas, entrances, restrooms, etc.

Shared Spaces in Residence Halls – Community Bathrooms & Lounges

Face masks are required in all community lounges, hallways, and restrooms

Bathroom - Communal

- Each bathroom will have a maximum occupancy limit to ensure safe distancing supported by signage and barriers.
- Traffic flow will be directed by “exit only” and “entrance only”
- Each shared bathroom will be disinfected at least twice per day.
- Protocols are in place to ensure community bathrooms are stocked with soap, towels, and hand dryers.
- Residents must use personal totes to transport their personal items and limit contact with surfaces. Toothbrushes should never sit on sinks.
- Trash cans will be checked and emptied frequently for trash generated in bathroom. Residents must dispose of their personal food wrappers and trash in outdoor trash receptacles.

Lounges

- Access to community lounges and gathering places will be restricted to avoid unsafe gathering which can lead to the spread of COVID-19.
 - These recommendations are from DCHD and IDPH agencies.
 - Lounges will reopen on a phased schedule.
- Lounges will be clearly marked for social distancing, supported by signage and staff/RA communication with students.
 - A maximum occupancy limit will be communicated and enforced.
 - Furniture will be removed or staggered to accommodate safe social distancing.
 - Hand sanitizer stations will be frequent and visible.

Laundry Rooms

- Laundry rooms will have a maximum occupancy limit to ensure safe distancing, supported by signage and frequent communication.
- Laundry rooms will be cleaned twice daily by staff with a focus on disinfecting high traffic/high-touch fixtures, shared items, laundry machines and surfaces.
 - Disposable gloves and cleaning supplies will be available onsite.
 - Residents will be encouraged to clean/sanitize as extra measure of prevention to protect their community.
- As a high-touch, shared space, laundry rooms will be stocked with adequate cleaning/disinfectant supplies for public use before and after utilizing this shared space, to help prevent spread of COVID-19. *Note: laundry detergent will not be provided.*
- The CDC guidelines for doing laundry, maintaining the facilities, and handling of dirty laundry will be posted and shared with residents.

University Apartments - Common Spaces

Our goal is to emphasize the importance of precautionary measures through signage for guidance on the daily cleaning of commonly touched hard surfaces.

- All common spaces will have a maximum occupancy limit to ensure safe distancing, supported by signage and frequent communication.
- People who are sick, their roommates and those who have higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 should eat or be fed in their own room, if possible.
- Do not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups or eating utensils. Non-disposable food service items that are used should be handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water or in a dishwasher. [Wash hands](#) after handling used food service items.
- Use gloves when removing garbage bags or when handling and disposing of trash. [Wash hands](#).

Guests

The spring 2021 semester will begin with a temporary guest restriction and no guests allowed in University Housing through February 1, 2021. This means that residents may not visit other residents during this time. University Housing will communicate when the 2020-2021 guest policy below will resume.

2020-2021 Revised Guest Policy:

Guests on campus will be limited to Benedictine students. Guests outside of the Benedictine community are not permitted within University Housing. All visitors must comply with the same guidelines as our residents. A well-check, hand washing, face masks and social distancing are mandatory for all guests while in BenU housing. Each resident may have up to one guest visit their assigned room at any one time. All residents and guests must wear their BenU ID and must present it when asked by a University authority.

Compliance

At any time, the University may request or require a resident to leave Benedictine housing if a resident's continued presence in the housing community poses a health or safety risk for community members. Residential students are required to comply if public health is at risk with requests and leave their assigned space due if COVID or other public health emergencies. Failure to do so is a violation of the residence hall policies.

University Housing FAQs

A list of frequently asked questions related to housing can be found on the main Benedictine University COVID-19 FAQs page [here](#).