

Springfield College Community Agreement

Together, and in demonstration of our strong commitment to the Humanics philosophy of leadership in service to others, we will strive to protect our Springfield College community and the local community from the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

In accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and state and local health and medical professionals, Springfield College has created a plan for reopening and returning to campus. In many cases, we exceed the recommended guidelines from these entities and professionals in order to do everything possible to protect those who are most vulnerable to the serious consequences of the virus. One element of the return to campus plan is for each member of the College community to agree to a set of behaviors that will support keeping themselves, their peers, faculty and staff members, as well as the community beyond our campus safe. Thank you for your commitment to protecting yourself and the college, as well as our local communities.

If at any time after you have voluntarily returned to campus, you feel uncomfortable remaining on campus, please reach out to the Dean of Students, your Community Director, or your academic advisor. We will listen and discuss your situation with you and assist you as you make the best decision for your academic success.

Protect Myself/Protect Others

As a member of the Springfield College community, I AGREE to take active steps to protect the health and safety of every member of our campus and local communities in the midst of this global pandemic. I recognize my efforts keep me and those I live with safer and healthier. My success (personal, academic, and/or professional) is dependent on staying healthy and agreeing to shared behavioral changes that will keep me and other members of the college and local community protected from illness. I AGREE to invite others to participate with me by reminding them of their responsibility to our greater community.

I AGREE to protect myself, protect others, and the Springfield College community by doing the following:

1. Protect Myself

I will:

- Agree to be tested for COVID-19 upon my arrival to campus, and as requested throughout the semester.

- Monitor myself for symptoms of COVID-19 daily and report to the Health Center if I experience any COVID-19 symptoms. I will not be penalized for missing classes if I take this responsible action.
- Make the Springfield College Health Center my first point of contact for any symptoms related to COVID-19 if I am a resident student, and report medical treatment received off campus for COVID-19 symptoms to the Health Center if I am a commuter. Comply with all recommendations made by the Health Center and/or my medical provider.
- Take a viral test if I am experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, or if I have been contacted and notified I was in close contact with someone who has tested positive.
- Practice responsible hygiene by washing my hands frequently, especially after being in a public place, before touching food, and after using the bathroom. Use hand sanitizer at times when soap and water are not available. Wear a face mask or covering.
- Avoid touching my face, mouth, eyes, or nose.
- Avoid sharing food, drink, utensils, or similar items.
- Minimize touching surfaces in shared areas.
- Carry hand sanitizer, an extra face covering, and cleaning wipes in my bag/backpack. Make sure I have back-up supplies of these items.
- Avoid crowded rooms, elevators, public spaces, and off-campus locations where social distancing is difficult.
- Refrain from hosting any gatherings in my College-owned living space and promptly leave any gatherings or parties where social distancing is not possible. Remove myself from any gathering immediately upon the request of the Residence Life staff or Department of Public Safety.
- Keep track of my activities and limit my social contacts to a core group of friends to help protect me and assist with exposure (contact) tracing. Medical professionals and those researching the transmission of the virus recommend limiting contacts to no more than the same group of 6-8 people/friends per day.
- Exercise my right to request virtual, rather than in-person, meetings or interactions with individuals or departments.
- Respond promptly to calls or texts from contact tracers to enable tracking of the disease.
- Download and activate any required Springfield College approved public health applications.
- Check college email daily, and read all emails to stay informed about health and safety updates or responses to COVID-19.
- Respond promptly to messages from college staff who may be checking on my well-being or otherwise need my assistance.
- Develop a plan with my family before returning to campus for the possibility of my need to quarantine or isolate after returning to campus.

2. Protect Others

I will:

- Wear a face covering at all times when in public, outside the privacy of my own room/apartment, and in all campus buildings.
- Maintain appropriate social distancing (i.e., remain at least six feet from other people) at all times, especially in classrooms, labs, or in any shared indoor spaces.
- Respect and adhere to each individual's request for personal space and virtual, rather than in-person, meetings.
- Observe the posted public health modified occupancy limits of shared indoor spaces and follow any signage directing traffic patterns or other social distancing precautions.
- Bring a COVID-19 safety/cleaning kit with me to campus that includes face coverings, hand sanitizer, disinfectant, and wipes.
- Stay in my room/apartment and contact the College Health Center if I feel ill or after possible exposure to someone who is ill or has tested positive for COVID-19 and avoid contact with others until evaluated by staff at the Health Center.
- Adhere to daily contact limitations and limits on sizes of group gatherings. Currently, Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidelines allow for no more than 25 people (with face coverings) to gather. The size of group gatherings will change as the MA DPH guidelines change throughout fall, the College may also limit interactions if cases occur on campus.
- Respect social distancing signs, face covering requirements, barriers, and protocols intended to assure social distancing between campus community members on campus and when I am out in the local community.
- Adhere to the College restriction of one guest per resident in a College-owned room/apartment and refrain from having any visitors from off campus.
- Comply with established worksite precautions at my work study/on campus job location.

3. Protect the College and Local Community**I will:**

- Participate in testing and contact tracing as instructed to preserve community health.
- Adhere to isolation and quarantine instructions if I test positive for COVID-19 or if I am exposed to someone who has tested positive.
- Limit leaving my residence hall or College-owned apartment to attending in-person classes, tending to necessary college business, work, shopping and meals in Cheney Hall or pick up, health care, and outdoor activities/exercise.
- Limit my own personal travel outside of Springfield and surrounding communities and not host outside visitors.
- Acknowledge that travel beyond the Springfield area (except as required to commute to the campus for school or work), particularly out of state, may require me to follow additional public health measures such as observing a self-quarantine period.

- Carefully observe instructional signs and follow directions in both on and off campus locations.
- Serve as an active bystander for the well-being of myself and others by promoting social distancing and other health guidelines outlined by the College. Help others remember their responsibility and remind them to wear face coverings and keep appropriate distance to assure everyone's health and safety.
- Report concerns regarding compliance to expectations outlined in the agreement to my Community Director or Office of Student Affairs.
- Demonstrate social responsibility by following public health guidelines posted in local businesses and public places. Show compassion, care and respect for all members of the community.
- Comply with all safety guidelines recommended by my employer or internship/fieldwork site.

I understand SARS-Cov-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) is a highly contagious virus and it is possible to develop and contract the virus even if I follow all of the safety precautions above and those recommended by the CDC, local, state and federal health and medical professionals. I understand that although Springfield College is following the coronavirus guidelines issued by the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Public Health and other experts to reduce the spread of infection, I can never be completely shielded from all risk of illness caused by SARS-CoV-2 or other infections.

I understand that I may request to complete the semester remotely, understanding that the College may not be able to accommodate all requests. I will talk with my academic advisor before making a decision.

I have read, understand, and agree to comply with this Springfield College Agreement above. I further understand that I am subject to the policies in the Student Handbook as they relate to these expectations for my behavior.
