

# RESIDENCE STANDARDS ADDENDUM

Updated: January 2022



As students settle into their new home at Trent University, Housing Services is working diligently to provide all students with a safe place they can learn, make friends, achieve their goals, and feel a part of the campus community.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the way in which we interact and build community within our residences has changed in order to reduce health risks and protect your safety. To maintain the safety of all residents and staff, the precautionary measures in this addendum are in place until further notice. As we progress into the year, the University will be in consultation with public health, and government authorities to evaluate the measures and modify them as necessary.

The Housing Services team has developed a multitude of ways to safely get involved with others in your community, get support, and have fun. By working together, we can overcome the challenges posed by COVID-19 and keep each other safe. If you have any questions about these measures, please speak with your Don or Residence Life Coordinator.

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## COVID-19 Precautionary Measures Policies

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### Guests

To support physical distancing, residents are not permitted to host guests in their residence room or apartment. Until further notice, this includes students within their College residence.

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### Residence Common Spaces and Social Gatherings

Residence common spaces in traditional style housing have specific room capacities posted to support physical distancing. Any social gatherings in common spaces must abide by the posted capacity. Common spaces within suites are not permitted to host social gatherings at this time. All residents are also subject to all provincial guidelines regarding gathering capacity outdoors. Eating or drinking is not permitted in common areas.

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### Physical Distancing

All residents must maintain a physical distance of 2 meters (6 feet) from one another. Directional signage has been placed in some areas of campus to assist with physical distancing.

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### Hand Hygiene

Students need to practice good hand hygiene while living in residence. Good hand hygiene means regularly washing your hands with soap and warm water or hand sanitizer by rubbing your hands together (palms, between fingers, and the back of your hand) for at least 20 seconds. To support this measure, Housing Services has installed handwashing signage and additional hand sanitization stations throughout the residences

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### Bathroom Assignments

Personal hygiene is important to maintaining a healthy residence community. Shared bathrooms will be labeled, and each residence room will be assigned a designated bathroom to limit the number of individuals sharing these amenities. A sticker on the back of your bedroom door will indicate a designated bathroom number for your use. Residents (and any guests) are required to use the bathroom assigned to them.

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### Signage

To support the health and safety of the residence community, signage has been posted throughout campus. All residents are required to adhere to the signage posted throughout residences and the University.

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### Masks

We have a shared responsibility to keep each other safe through wearing a non-medical mask. Masks are required while indoors in shared common spaces on campus, and outdoors where physical distancing is not possible. In shared bathroom areas, when students cannot wear a mask (e.g., when brushing teeth or showering), students are required to practice physical distancing. Students are strongly encouraged to bring masks with them when they move into residence. Some students may not be able to wear a mask due to medical reasons. As such, Housing Services requests that students who are unable to wear a mask for medical reasons notify housing services at [residence@trentu.ca](mailto:residence@trentu.ca). Accommodations will be made to support individual circumstances and may include the provision of face shields. Please see the accessibility and unique needs policy for more information about the accommodations process.

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## Students Arriving from Outside of Canada

In accordance with the Government of Canada Quarantine Act, students that are arriving to Trent University from outside of Canada may be required to quarantine. Students who need to quarantine should contact Trent International for further information. Quarantine in residence for internationally travelling students is not available at this time.

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## Daily Self-Assessments

The University requires that all students, staff, and faculty working or living on campus complete a daily self-assessment using the provincial self-assessment tool which can be accessed through the Trent Mobile app. Residence students are asked to complete their daily self-assessment in advance of leaving their room each day. If the result of the self-assessment requests a student isolate, students are asked to contact Housing Services following the exposure and illness reporting policy.

Trent University will rely on Public Health to do contact tracing should there be a campus-related case, and we are jointly developing a response protocol and communication plan in that event. It is strongly recommended that members of the campus community download the Government of Canada contact tracing app - COVID Alert, to help in the efforts to limit the spread of the virus and prevent future outbreaks. The app uses codes to provide notification if you have been near someone who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and does not track your location or access your personal information.

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## Exposure and Illness Reporting

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever (feeling hot to the touch, a temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius or higher)
- Chills
- Cough that's new or worsening (continuous, more than usual)
- Barking cough, making a whistling noise when breathing (croup)
- Shortness of breath (out of breath, unable to breathe deeply)
- Sore throat
- Difficulty swallowing
- Runny, stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Lost sense of taste or smell
- Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
- Headache that's unusual or long lasting
- Digestive issues (nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain)
- Muscle aches
- Extreme tiredness that is unusual (fatigue, lack of energy)
- Falling down often

It is the responsibility of students to report any symptoms of COVID-19 (not related to seasonal allergies or pre-existing medical conditions) to a member of the Housing Services team (e.g., Don, RLC, or don on call) to ensure that necessary measures can be taken to reduce the spread of illness. Once notified by the student, Housing Services will request that students complete the provincial-self assessment tool which can be accessed through the Trent Mobile App and conduct a series of screening questions to determine the next course of action. Students that may be ill or have been exposed to COVID-19, may be required to relocate to an isolation area.

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## Isolation

Working with Public Health, Housing Services has developed an isolation protocol for those students that may have been exposed to COVID-19 and/or are experiencing any symptoms.

Housing Services has designated specific self-contained areas of residence as isolation areas for those students living in traditional style housing. Students needing to self-isolate and living in suite style residences may be required to do so in their suite.

If a student believes they may have been exposed to COVID-19 and/or is experiencing any symptoms, upon notification from the student, Housing Services will make arrangements for the student to self-isolate and have a COVID-19 test.

Students in isolation are not able to leave the isolation area or have any visitors. Upon entering an isolation area students will be provided personal protective equipment to be worn outside of their bedroom to access washroom facilities, menus and ordering sheets for daily food service delivery, and the contact information for the Housing Services Quarantine & Isolation Coordinator.

Students are expected to monitor their symptoms and report any changes to the Housing Services Quarantine & Isolation Coordinator during their regularly scheduled check in meetings.

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## Room Transfers & Relocation

Room transfer requests have been suspended until further notice to reduce the risk of spreading illness. Exceptional circumstances that pose a risk to student safety may be considered as an emergency relocation.

**Please note:** In alignment with Section 20b of the Peterborough Residence Agreement and 17b of the Durham GTA Residence Agreement (The Resident shall not do or permit anything to be done in the Room or in the College Residence which: causes danger to the Resident or anyone in the College Residence or University), willful infringements against these guidelines will be considered acts that deliberately jeopardize the safety of others. These actions will be followed up in accordance with the Community Support System (see p. 29 in the Peterborough Residence Guidebook and p. 19 in the Durham GTA Residence Guidebook).