

## Fall 2020 Student Housing FAQs

### FALL 2020 MOVE-IN

#### **When will *Groovin' at Move-in* take place?**

*Groovin' at Move-in* will take place August 15-21, 2020. The available options are 8:00 am -12:00 pm and 12:00 pm -4:00 pm. Each student will self-select a move-in appointment that works best for them within the Student Housing Portal. Student Housing will notify students via Ole Miss Gmail when move-in appointment selection is available.

#### **What will *Groovin' at Move-in* look like this year?**

*Groovin' at Move-in* will look very different this year. Instead of being assigned a move-in day based on building and/or floor, each student will select their own appointment time to move into their room between August 15 and August 21. In addition, each student will be allowed to have no more than 2 guests helping them move in. All students and guests will need to wear face coverings and adhere to social distancing guidelines. Volunteers will not be available to assist students and guests with moving personal items.

#### **Will there be an early move-in option for individuals?**

No. It is imperative that every student have a move-in appointment during August 15-21. Students who arrive without a move-in appointment will not be permitted to move-in. No individual move-in requests will be accepted.

#### **What if I am a part of an approved early move-in group (i.e., Band)?**

If you are part of an approved early move-in group, you will receive instructions from Student Housing about moving in with your group. You can also reach out to your group to be sure you are on their list of approved group members.

#### **What if I cannot move into my room during August 15-21, 2020?**

Students who cannot move into their room between August 15-21, 2020 can utilize the weekend before classes begin (Saturday, August 22 and Sunday, August 23) to move in to their assigned residence hall.

#### **What if there are no appointments left on my preferred move-in date?**

Student Housing has created an appointment-based move-in process that takes into consideration the number of people able to move in at one time. Unfortunately, we cannot add more students to an appointment time once it is full, and we cannot add more appointment times to a specific day. You will need to select the time that works best for you from the available appointment options.

#### **Can I change my move-in appointment?**

If it is 24 hours or more before your move-in appointment time, you can login to the Student Housing Portal and select a new appointment time that works for you. You must first cancel your previously selected time before selecting a new appointment time. If you are less than 24 hours from your move-in appointment, you are unable to change your time in the Student Housing Portal. In the event of an emergency within 24 hours of your move-in appointment, contact Student Housing at [housing@olemiss.edu](mailto:housing@olemiss.edu).

#### **Can I book 2 appointments back-to-back to create a longer appointment time?**

No. Students are only able to sign up for one move-in appointment time.

**What do I need to bring with me for *Groovin' at Move-in*?**

Students will need their Ole Miss student ID to check in. In addition, every student and guest will need a mask or face covering. To promote health and safety, we encourage students to bring their own utility cart/dolly for moving personal belongings.

**Will moving vans and trailers be allowed at *Groovin' at Move-in*?**

As in years past, moving vans and trailers will not be permitted during scheduled *Groovin' at Move-in* appointment times. Only vehicles that fit in standard parking spaces will be allowed in parking lots on campus. The Jackson Avenue Center parking lot adjacent to campus will be available for parking and unloading of moving vans and trailers.

**Do my roommate and I each need our own appointment time?**

Yes, each student will need to schedule their own appointment time. Students will not be permitted to move in without having their own appointment time.

**Can I swap move-in appointments with another student?**

No. Each student must have their own move-in appointment time which is attached to their account in our housing management system. This allows each student to be checked in to their room and provides access to their room on their student ID.

**ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION****Will students living on campus have roommates?**

Yes, students will have roommates for 2020-21. For those students who feel a private room is necessary due to a COVID-19 concern, Student Housing will be accepting COVID-19 Private Room Requests through the Student Housing Portal. A limited number of private rooms will be available on a first come, first served basis. Private rooms may not be available in all communities. [Private Double housing rates](#) will apply.

**Can students still room change within the Student Housing Portal?**

In order to open the move-in appointment selection process, the room change option must be closed in the Student Housing Portal. We want to be cognizant that students and families need to make travel plans for move-in and therefore **we are closing the room change process within the Student Housing Portal on Friday, July 10 at 4:00pm CT**. If you are interested in selecting a new room or building, please do so before July 10 at 4:00pm CT.

**Will students be allowed to change rooms after move-in?**

Once students move into their assigned room this Fall, room changes will be limited to emergency situations only. Students can speak to their building Community Coordinator (CC) or Graduate Community Director (GCD) for more information.

**HOUSING CONTRACT & POLICY INFORMATION****Will students be exempt from the residency requirement given COVID-19 concerns?**

No, students will not be automatically exempt from the residency requirement due to COVID-19. For students seeking an exception to the Freshman Residency Requirement, information about the Student Housing Appeals process can be found [here](#).

**Why do I need to sign an addendum to the student housing contract?**

The COVID-19 Contract Addendum addresses health & safety protocols, adjusted policies, and overall changes to the 2020-2021 Student Housing Contract due to COVID-19. The provisions contained in the COVID-19 Contract Addendum were not included in the Student Housing Contract students began signing in September 2019. It is important that every student understand their role and responsibilities, as well as necessary adjustments made to Student Housing policies and protocols, due to COVID-19.

**Will the cost of living in student housing be altered given the adjusted Fall 2020 schedule?**

The Student Housing Contract outline room rates for a semester or term schedule, rather than a specified number of days.

**Will students be permitted to have guests?**

Visitation and overnight guests will be prohibited at the start of the fall semester. Limiting the number of people in the residential communities is integral in limiting the spread of COVID-19 and maximizing student safety. Guests will be permitted to visit in the main lobby areas of each residence hall, but will not be allowed into the living spaces or on residential floors. This includes all guests regardless of gender and extends to all hours of the day and night.

As public health concerns lessen, visitation and guest privileges will be reestablished in a phased approach, gradually increasing the number of permitted guests and the hours of their stay while offering students more flexibility in line with local health recommendations. Updates to the visitation and overnight guest policies will be sent to students via Ole Miss Gmail when changes occur.

**What should I do if I decide not to attend Ole Miss?**

If you have already decided not to attend Ole Miss, or if you decide not to attend Ole Miss prior to move-in, you need to submit a cancellation form in the Student Housing Portal by selecting Online Forms from the red menu bar, then selecting Contract Requests from the dropdown menu, and finally selecting Cancellation from the dropdown menu. Students who do not enroll at Ole Miss and notify Student Housing via online cancellation prior to move-in will not be held financially responsible for fall housing charges.

**HEALTH & SAFETY****What are CDC best practices that students should observe when living on campus?**

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. To prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, the CDC recommends everyday preventive actions, including:

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses.

**What is being done to prepare the residence halls, given COVID-19, for a safe and healthy environment?**

The Department of Student Housing has increased the cleaning and sanitizing of all campus housing facilities. Before move-in, all campus housing buildings will be cleaned and disinfected (all touchpoints, flat surfaces and public restrooms) in preparation for Fall move-in. We have implemented an enhanced cleaning schedule for all public areas within Student Housing.

**Will I be required to wear a mask in the residence halls?**

Yes, you will be required to wear a mask while in the lobby, lounges, hallways, and other public areas of the building. You will not be required to wear a mask while in your room if you can safely social distance from your roommate.

**What if I don't have a mask?**

Student Housing will provide each student living on campus with a reusable, washable mask at move-in.

**What do I do if I feel sick or have symptoms of COVID-19?**

If you develop symptoms such as fever, cough and/or difficulty breathing or have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19, stay home and call [Student Health](#) or your local primary healthcare provider. At this time, your healthcare provider will determine if you need to be tested for COVID-19 based on guidelines from the CDC and the Mississippi State Department of Health. Please note that many people will have only mild illness, and these patients can be managed at home without the need for hospitalization or visits to emergency rooms. For additional information, you can also contact Baptist Memorial Hospital's 24-hour hotline, 866-941-4785 or the Mississippi State Department of Health's 24-hour COVID-19 hotline, 877-978-6453.

**What is being done for quarantine/isolation housing?**

Student Housing is working with other campus units to develop Isolation housing spaces for students who test positive for COVID-19. We will coordinate with University Health Services if a student living in on-campus housing will need to move to an Isolation housing location. Information regarding Student's Housing's protocols for quarantine and isolation will be provided in the COVID-19 Contract Addendum.