

## Winter Break & Spring 2021 Student Housing FAQs

### WINTER BREAK

#### What do I need to do before leaving for break?

Students were sent an email on November 13, 2020 with specific instructions for checking out of their building for winter break. Specific steps include:

- Close your windows
- Open blinds and curtains to allow sunlight into the room (except for ground floor rooms)
- Unplug all appliances (including micro-fridges)
- Take your trash out
- Turn off your lights
- Take any personal items needed
- You must swipe your ID card at the front desk when you leave (even if you are coming back in January, all students must swipe out for the semester).

**Defrosting micro-fridges:** We ask that for this long break period that you unplug and defrost your fridge in your room. We recommend that you start 24 hours before you leave and place a towel under the unit as it defrosts to catch the water which drains out. We also recommend you leave the doors open to air dry over the break and remove the towel before leaving.

#### Do I officially check out for break?

In order to secure our buildings for winter break, it is important that each student scans their Ole Miss student ID at the front desk to officially check out when they leave for the break.

#### Which buildings remain open for winter break?

Campus Walk Apartments, Northgate Apartments, Luckyday Residential College, Residential College South, Residence Hall 1, Residence Hall 2, and Residence Hall 3 remain open for break.

#### How do I make sure I have access to my room if my building remains open for winter break?

Students who live in buildings that remain open for break and plan to stay on campus past noon on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, will be checked out of their fall housing assignment (which will remove their ID access) effective November 25, 2020 at noon.

We are asking all residents to complete Express Check-in through the Student Housing Portal in order to gain access to their spring semester assignment. If your building remains open during winter break you will have the ability to complete Express Check-in, if you are on campus, beginning at noon on Wednesday, November 25, 2020.

To complete Express Check-in, please log into the Student Housing Portal and select 'Express Check-in' from the red menu bar. From there you will select your spring housing assignment, acknowledge the updated contract addendum, complete the attestation statement, and then check yourself in.

#### Which buildings close for winter break?

Burns Hall, Crosby Hall, Deaton Hall, Hefley Hall, Martin Hall, Minor Hall, Pittman Hall, Stewart Hall, and Stockard Hall close for winter break. Students who live in these buildings have the option to request break housing by submitting a Break Housing Request in the Student Housing Portal. Additional charges apply for break housing.

**What is break housing?**

For residents of buildings that close during break, Student Housing provides an option for break housing. Students interested in housing during winter break should submit the Break Housing Request form in the Student Housing Portal.

- On-campus Option: Break housing will be provided in an empty single room within one of the contemporary halls that remain open for break. Contemporary halls include an in-room bathroom but do not include linens. Rate: \$32.22 per night
- Off-campus Option: Break housing will be provided at the Hampton Inn on Jackson Avenue with single occupancy. This option includes all amenities offered by the hotel. Rate: \$89.00 per night

If you do not have a safe place to go during break and are unable to afford the break housing rates, please contact U Matter: Student Support & Advocacy at (662) 915-7248 or [umatter@olemiss.edu](mailto:umatter@olemiss.edu).

**Will quarantine/isolation housing be available over winter break?**

Yes. If you are taking advantage of the free asymptomatic testing before you go home for winter break, Student Housing is providing isolation and quarantine housing for students who test positive. If you test positive for COVID-19 and need isolation or quarantine housing either prior to or during winter break, please contact your front desk.

**Which front desks will be open during Winter Break?**

Front desks at RH2 and RC South will be open 24/7 during winter break. Front desks at RH1 and Campus Walk will be open from 8:30am to 12:30am daily except for December 24-26, 2020.

**SPRING 2021 MOVE-IN****When do the buildings reopen for spring semester?**

Burns Hall, Crosby Hall, Deaton Hall, Hefley Hall, Martin Hall, Minor Hall, Pittman Hall, Stewart Hall, and Stockard Hall reopen on Sunday, January 3 at 12:00 pm CT for students enrolled in winter intersession. Students can return to their buildings anytime between January 3, 2021 and the beginning of spring semester.

**When can new spring students move in?**

Spring semester move-in for new students is Friday, January 15, 2021 at 10:00 am CT.

**Do I need a move-in appointment for spring semester?**

No, move-in appointments will not be utilized for spring semester.

**How do I check in for spring semester?**

We are asking all residents to complete Express Check-in through the Student Housing Portal in order to gain access to their spring semester assignment. Express Check-in should be done once the student is on campus.

To complete Express Check-in, please log into the Student Housing Portal and select 'Express Check-in' from the red menu bar. From there you will select your spring housing assignment, acknowledge the updated contract addendum provision, complete the attestation statement, and then check yourself in.

**Can I bring people with me to help me move in for spring semester?**

New students for spring semester can bring up to two (2) guests with them to assist with the move-in process. All individuals will need to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing.

**What if I cannot move in prior to the start of spring semesters?**

You can move in during the first week of classes as well. Student Housing will be monitoring the arrival of all students with a spring housing assignment. If you have not arrived by the first day of classes, you will be contacted to ensure you will still be attending Ole Miss and living on campus.

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

Room changes will be allowed for spring semester beginning on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 9:00 am CT. Students can speak to their building Community Coordinator (CC) or Graduate Community Director (GCD) for more information.

**Can I have a single room for spring semester?**

Students who are assigned to a room without a roommate can submit a Privatization form in the Student Housing Portal. Student Housing staff will review the request and determine if the request can be approved. Students living in Campus Walk, Northgate, or in quad single, private double, suite single, or single rooms cannot privatize.

**I am a new student for spring or a student who had an approved housing appeal for fall and am returning for spring, when can I choose a room for spring semester?**

Room selection for spring semester opens on Monday, November 30, 2020 at 9:00 am CT. Incoming new students or students returning after having a housing appeal approved for fall semester only can self-select their rooms in the Student Housing Portal at that time. Students who want to live with a specific roommate should self-select a room and then send an email to [housing@olemiss.edu](mailto:housing@olemiss.edu) with a request for the room/roommate they prefer.

**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](#).

**Will the cost of living in student housing be altered given the adjusted Spring 2021 schedule?**

No, housing rates will not be adjusted. The Student Housing Contract outlines room rates for a semester or term schedule, rather than a specified number of days.

**If all of my classes are online, am I still required to live on campus?**

Students whose courses are completely online for Spring 2021 can submit a housing appeal for the spring 2021 semester through the Student Housing Portal beginning on January 27, 2021 at 9:00 am CT. The deadline to submit a housing appeal is February 11, 2021 at 12:00 pm CT. Each request will be evaluated by the Student Housing Appeals Committee. Course schedules will need to be verified after the tenth class day of spring

classes. For students seeking an exception to the Freshman Residency Requirement, information about the Student Housing Appeals process can be found [here](#).

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

Visitation and overnight guests will be prohibited at the start of the spring 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.

If public health concerns lessen, visitation and guest privileges may 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.

## **CANCELLATION**

### **What should I do if I decide not to attend Ole Miss (and I lived on-campus in the fall)?**

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 [Request to Vacate](#) 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 Request to Vacate from the dropdown menu. Students will also need to arrange to remove all of their belongings from their room and officially checkout with a Student Housing staff member. Students who do not enroll at Ole Miss for spring semester, who officially check out of their room and notify Student Housing via online Request to Vacate prior to the first day of spring classes will not be held financially responsible for spring housing charges.

### **What should I do if I decide not to attend Ole Miss (and I am a new student for spring semester)?**

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. New students for spring semester 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 spring housing charges.

### **I am not attending Ole Miss for spring semester. Why are their housing charges on my bursar account?**

Student Housing may not know that you are not attending Ole Miss for spring semester. Please be sure you have submitted a Request to Vacate (if you lived on campus for fall semester) or Cancellation (if you are a new student for spring semester) form in the Student Housing Portal. If you lived on campus for fall semester, please be sure you have notified your building Community Coordinator or Graduate Community Director that you have left and will not be attending so they can process your Room Condition Report and send it forward for final checkout processing. Housing charges are not removed from a student's account until all paperwork is complete and forwarded to Operations.

## 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). 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 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 has developed quarantine and isolation housing spaces for students who test positive for COVID-19, or have come in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Student Housing will be offering quarantine/isolation housing during the winter break. For more information on quarantine/isolation housing please [click here](#) to visit our website. Additional links can be found on our home page.