

# COVID-19 Community Living Guidelines

## Introduction

In response to COVID-19 and the global pandemic, The Washington Center has instituted policies and procedures that safeguard and promote its expectations of professionalism and integrity. The COVID-19 Community Living Guidelines cover the expectations of our participants and residents, and it outlines a framework for fostering mutual respect and support among all members of the TWC community. The Community Living Guidelines serve as a guide for making informed decisions and for all participants to understand their rights and responsibilities during their time with The Washington Center. TWC may have reason to change or amend COVID policies and guidelines during a resident's stay. In this case, the Office of Housing and Community Life will communicate current guidelines to all residents impacted by the changes.

Upon acceptance into a Washington Center program, all participants must adhere to the following expectations to foster a productive learning and professional environment for all TWC community members.

Every person who will be residing at TWC's Residential Facilities or living independently in Washington, D.C. and participating in-person in any aspect of our program is required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and to have received their booster (if eligible) prior to their arrival to Washington, D.C. The CDC defines "fully vaccinated" as two weeks after receiving the second dose of the two-dose vaccine (Pfizer/Moderna) or two weeks after receiving the single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. A booster dose is required eight weeks following a dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and five months after receiving the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna. TWC's Housing & Community Life department will require that a copy of your COVID-19 vaccination card be shared with our office as verification of your status (upload vaccination card onto Canvas) before you arrive in Washington, D.C. Failure to do so may impact your ability to live in TWC housing. In some cases, medical exemptions may be approved with appropriate documentation submitted in writing. Please note, approved exemptions may have an impact on a resident's housing options. The Washington Center has focused on ensuring that our community remains safe and healthy during this pandemic and believes full vaccinations are necessary to ensure our community continues to be well and thrive in their Washington, D.C. experience. TWC's full vaccination policy can be found at [www.twc.edu/twc-covid-vaccine-policy](http://www.twc.edu/twc-covid-vaccine-policy).

Given the rise of the COVID-19 variants and the ability of the vaccinated to carry and spread the virus and experience breakthrough infections, TWC may require the community population (vaccinated and unvaccinated) to be tested during the term of stay. If a resident gets a positive test result, we will isolate/quarantine that resident and work with them to confirm results and provide support and resources.

Residents also acknowledge that violations of COVID-19 safety and health guidelines may result in their immediate removal from The Washington Center's Residential and Academic Facility. Conduct meetings to finalize sanctions will be scheduled within 24 hours of the reported violation 7 days per week.

## COVID-19 Community Living Guidelines

COVID-19 Community Living Guidelines will supersede TWC's normal Code of Conduct and Community Living guidelines if or when any of these policies may conflict.

- a. Residents must be fully vaccinated and have received a booster shot (if eligible) before moving into the RAF. If a resident becomes eligible to receive the booster while staying with TWC, they are required to receive their booster within two weeks of becoming eligible and providing TWC with a copy of their updated vaccine card.
- b. All residents should regularly monitor themselves for symptoms and are required report if they have symptoms or risk factors (such as exposure to a positive case) to TWC. TWC will instruct and advise residents on next steps of isolation, tracing, testing, and medical care. Residents must report symptoms and risk factors by emailing [housing@twc.edu](mailto:housing@twc.edu).
- c. Apartment Cleanliness: TWC Residents are expected to disinfect and clean their apartments, particularly shared spaces, each week. TWC officials may complete apartment inspections at any time to ensure the health and safety protocols are being taken seriously.
- d. Common Area Access and Utilization: Residents and guests will be expected to wear mask covering their mouth and nose fully in all enclosed public spaces of The Washington Center's Residential Facility including but not limited to the fitness center, computer lab, offices, and classrooms. TWC requests that residents and guests fully mask when interacting with TWC building staff, including Concierge and Security. Masking will be required at any in person events/programs held at the RAF. TWC recommends N95, KN95, KF94, or double masking as recommended face coverings. Buffs, gaiters, and bandanas are not permitted.
  - Common Area Occupancy Limits and Restrictions: The following occupancy limits will be in place for spaces within the RAF and residents will be required to sign in and out with the Concierge for contact tracing purposes:
    - Masking is required in classrooms at all times.
    - The fitness center will be limited to six residents at any one time and masks will be required at all times in the facility.
    - Masks are required at all times while using the Computer Lab.
    - The patio at the RAF will be limited to gatherings that adhere to Washington, D.C.'s current social distancing/gathering guidelines.
    - The elevators at RAF will have a maximum capacity of four people at any one time.
    - Select classroom spaces will be available as socially distanced remote workspaces for your use between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., as your apartment will not have a desk (it will have a kitchen table and coffee table in the common area). Residents will be required to sign in and out at the front desk to use this space and there are disinfectant supplies provided.
- e. Gatherings: Residents will be expected to maintain TWC standards in physical social distance of 6 feet outside of their apartments.
- f. Guests: For the first two weeks of an individual's stay, they will not be permitted to have external guests. After the two-week period and for the remainder of the term of stay, 1 guest max per apartment resident (whether external guests or current TWC residents) will be

permitted in residential spaces, provided the total number of people per apartment (residents and guests) does not exceed 6. In cases where an apartment has a lower designed occupancy, the number of people per apartment may be no greater than 2 people over the designed occupancy limit. Residents may not have external guests for more than 2 consecutive nights in a 7-night period. Once a guest leaves, residents must wait 7 days before hosting additional guests. Non-TWC guests will be required to submit proof of COVID vaccination and booster (if eligible) before being approved to enter the residential facility. External guests must also show proof of negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of arrival at the RAF. TWC residents will have to register guests 72 hours in advance by emailing [concierge@twc.edu](mailto:concierge@twc.edu), [housing@twc.edu](mailto:housing@twc.edu) and copying all roommates and apartment mates on the email. A copy of a guest's vaccination card and proof of booster (if eligible) must be included in the email as well as the dates and duration of the guest's stay. Upon arriving to the RAF, guests will have to show their government ID. There will be no exceptions. Residents should consult with their apartment-mates prior to seeking approval from Housing for any guests. No guest is allowed to stay at the RAF until written approval from Concierge and/or the Housing and Community Life team. Should levels of positive COVID-19 cases rise in the community, TWC and the Housing and Student Life team may decide to suspend or revoke guest privileges, should the health and safety of the community necessitate the change.

- g. Any resident who tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate and follow the timelines as directed by medical professionals and TWC HCL Staff. Due to the unique nature of TWC's RAF, guidelines and directives may differ from local guidance.
- h. If TWC requires testing for COVID-19 during a resident's stay at the RAF or affiliated property, all residents will be required to participate in that testing per the directives of The Washington Center.
- i. Violations: Due to the impact on the safety and health of our community, residents found responsible for violations of our COVID-19 protocols will not be granted an appeal under TWC's processes. Because of the severity of the violations, residents should be prepared for sanctions and outcomes of COVID policy violations to result in the immediate removal from the RAF.
- j. All residents must sign TWC's Assumption of Risk document upon moving into the RAF and submit a copy to TWC via the Canvas Learning Management System.

The Washington Center is committed to providing a living environment that is safe for all residents. To this end, The Washington Center reserves the right to change or amend any COVID policies at any point during a resident's stay. The Office of Housing and Community Life will provide residents with the most up-to-date information as it becomes available. To inquire about current policies for the time of your occupancy in the RAF, please contact Housing and Community Life at [\*\*housing@twc.edu\*\*](mailto:housing@twc.edu).