

2021-2022 COVID-19 Student Compact

The Occidental College COVID-19 Student Compact outlines the expectations and guidelines all students are required to follow for the 2021-2022 academic year. As we navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, the College has created supplemental policies which address personal responsibility and enforcement of additional requirements associated with the pandemic. In doing so, we strive to be clear with students about what pandemic-related behaviors are expected of them, and hold students accountable for their behavior for the safety and well-being of the entire Oxy community.

Students are central to Oxy's sense of community and culture of care, and have long been leaders in advocating for policies that promote the well-being of the community as a whole. The fact that there have been so few COVID-19 cases at Oxy speaks eloquently about the way students, as well as staff and faculty on campus, have stepped up to the challenges posed by the pandemic and have looked out for each other with real care and empathy.

The COVID-19 Student Compact supplements the existing Code of Student Conduct. Students who are in possible violation of the Compact will follow the process outlined in the 2021-2022 Code of Student Conduct. Potential violations of the COVID-19 Student Compact will correlate to the following existing rule and regulation: *(r) Violation of other College regulations, rules, or policies.*

Similar to any potential violation of the Code of Student Conduct, the College may institute interim measures (e.g. change of housing assignment) if a student's behavior poses a substantial and immediate threat of harm to the safety or well-being of an individual or members of the campus community. Due to the potential threat of the pandemic, students found responsible for any violation of the COVID-19 Student Compact and/or the Code of Student Conduct may be subject to a higher level of sanctions than in previous terms, that include, but are not limited to, removal from college housing.

As the national and local landscape of COVID-19 continues to evolve, guidance, expectations, and requirements will be adjusted. College officials, including those at the Emmons Wellness Center, may provide additional expectations regarding to COVID-19 that reflect the latest guidance from county, state and federal health officials. Students will be notified of any updates to this guidance via email, and are expected to regularly check College email for all important updates.

1. If a student is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or has been exposed to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, they must contact Emmons Wellness Center during business hours or the Oxy Crisis Helpline immediately at 323-341-4141. The helpline is available 24/7/365. Students are to follow all instructions of Emmons medical staff or of the Helpline staff.
2. Students must adhere to all College expectations regarding COVID-19 testing coordinated through Emmons Wellness Center. This may include full participation in testing and preventative protocols that play an essential role in protecting the health and safety of the entire community.

3. Wear a mask at all times in all spaces on campus, with the exception of your personal room. Masks are only required in outdoor spaces if you are in a large group or crowd. In circumstances where students interact with College staff inside the residence hall, and/or their personal room, students (and College officials) must also wear a mask.
4. Students must use hand sanitizer or wash hands upon entering all campus buildings. Convenient sanitizer dispensers have been installed in buildings throughout campus.
5. On-campus students may not have off-campus guests visit in residence halls or rooms. Outdoor spaces, including the Quad, should be used while interacting with off-campus guests. This policy will be monitored through the academic year, and students will be informed if and when off-campus guests are permitted in residence halls or rooms.
6. For the beginning of Spring semester, students will not be permitted to visit other residence halls; they will only be able to access their residence hall. Additionally, students will not be permitted to congregate in indoor residence hall lounges. These policies will be closely monitored throughout the beginning of the semester, and REHS will inform students if and when we are able to revert back.
7. On-campus students may have no more than two (2) on-campus guests in their residence hall room at any given time. 2 is the maximum number of guests for all room sizes (singles, doubles, triples, triangles, and quads). On-campus guests are encouraged to wear their masks when visiting other student rooms.
8. Students are not permitted to eat indoors. Within the residence halls, students are only permitted to eat in their personal room. This policy will be monitored through the academic year, and students will be informed if and when indoor dining is permitted.
9. Lounge, outdoor, classroom, and building furniture will be pre-arranged to best promote safety; students are not permitted to move or alter furniture.
10. Students must provide accurate and truthful information to College staff regarding COVID-19 symptoms. This may include daily temperature checks and symptom screenings.
11. As a reminder, underage drinking and/or use of illegal drugs (including marijuana) is not permitted on campus.
12. Students under isolation will move to a designated isolation room. They are prohibited to leave their room unless there is an emergency such as a fire alarm or a request for medical professionals. Students must contact Emmons Wellness Center, Campus Safety, or REHS if they have any questions, or have a request to leave isolation.

Evaluation of Violations (adopted from Reed College)

Reported or observed behaviors believed to be violations of required public health guidelines will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. A representative of the Office of Student Conduct, with possible consultation with Emmons Wellness Center, will assess the reported or observed behaviors and meet with students to discuss infractions. The Office of Student Conduct is also responsible for determining if a violation occurred and appropriate sanctions based on the severity or repeated nature of an incident.

The matrix below outlines several examples of violations and potential sanctions, and is meant to serve as a guide only; the Office of Student Conduct has full discretion in assessing violations and assigning sanctions that ensure the safety of students and the greater community.

Level	Description	Examples (including, but not limited to)	Potential sanctions
Minor	First time documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors determined to have had minimal public health impact on the community	Forgetting to wear a mask Nonobservance of public health behaviors in combination with other violations of the code of student conduct (e.g. trespassing)	1st Time: Warning 2nd or more times: Censure, Probation, Loss of campus privileges, Removal from campus housing
Moderate	First time documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors determined to have had significant actual or potential public health impact on the community Repeat documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors following previous documentation and response to minor violations	Repeated and/or willful instances of a minor violation Continued and/or willful nonobservance of public health behaviors in combination with other violations of the code of student conduct (e.g. trespassing, underage drinking, illegal drug use) Violation of guest policy	1st Time: Censure, Loss of privileges/access to campus resources 2nd or more times: Probation, Removal from Campus Housing; Loss of campus privileges

	Knowingly failing to follow a public health instruction specific to the individual		
Severe	<p>First time documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors determined to have had grievous actual or potential public health impact on the community</p> <p>Repeat documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors following previous documentation and response to minor violations</p> <p>Repeated knowing failure to follow public health instruction specific to the individual</p>	<p>Repeated instances of a minor or moderate violation</p> <p>Not following College expectations if tested positive for COVID-19</p> <p>Failure to participate in COVID-19 testing protocol</p> <p>Failure to remain in quarantine or isolation housing</p> <p>Egregious nonobservance of public health behaviors in combination with other violations of the code of student conduct (e.g. underage drinking, illegal drug use, hosting on-campus parties)</p>	<p>Any time: Removal from campus housing, Disciplinary probation; Loss of campus privileges</p>

Last updated: January 12, 2022