COVID-19 Student Conduct Guidelines

Occidental College’s Code of Student Conduct strives to be educational in its approach, not punitive. 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 hold students accountable for their behavior for the safety and wellbeing of the entire Oxy community.

This COVID-19 Student Conduct supplements the existing Code of Student Conduct. Students who are in possible violation of the COVID-19 Student Conduct Expectations will follow the process outlined in the 2020-2021 Code of Student Conduct. Potential violations of the COVID-19 Student Conduct Expectations will correlate to the following existing rule and regulation: (i) Failure to comply with the reasonable directions of College Officials, including but not limited to Campus Safety officers and residence hall staff, acting in performance of their duties. This also includes failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested.

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. Students found responsible for any violation of the COVID-19 expectations may be subject to sanctions that include but are not limited to removal from college housing.

The following are expectations Occidental students living in on-campus housing must follow during the 2020-2021 academic year:

a. If a student is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or have 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 or the Helpline.

b. Wear a mask at all times inside a residence hall, with exception to your personal room. Additionally, there may be times where students will interact with college officials inside the residence hall and/or their personal room. In these interactions, students must also wear a mask.

c. Students must practice social distancing at all times, both indoors and outdoors.

d. Students must use hand sanitizer or wash hands upon entering all campus buildings.
e. On-campus students may not have guests in residence halls or rooms. Guests are defined as anyone not formally assigned to the room, which includes other Occidental students.

f. Lounge, outdoor, classroom, and building furniture will be pre-arranged to promote social distancing; students are not permitted to move or alter furniture.

g. Bathrooms assignments and use will be designed to promote social distancing. Students must follow all instructions regarding bathroom access and use.

h. Students must provide accurate and truthful information to college officials regarding COVID-19 symptoms. This includes daily temperature checks and symptom screenings.

i. Underage drinking and/or use of illegal drugs (including marijuana) is not permitted on campus.

j. Social gatherings involving four or more individuals, of any nature, which includes parties, are not permitted anywhere on campus, including residence halls. Students may congregate in groups outdoors, as long as everyone is practicing social distancing and wearing a mask.

k. Students under quarantine may not leave their room, except to use the restroom and seek medical care. Students under quarantine will receive instructions on how to request meals from the College.

l. Students under isolation are not to leave their room for any reason. Students under an isolation order will move to a designated single-occupancy isolation room that contains a private restroom.

m. College Officials, such as Emmons Wellness Center, may provide additional expectations regarding COVID-19. Once shared, these expectations are to be followed in addition to those listed above.

Last updated July 20, 2020