

## 2020-2021 COVID-19 Student Compact

The Occidental College COVID-19 Student Compact outlines the expectations and guidelines all students are required to follow for the Spring 2021 Semester. 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 2020-2021 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.

### **Expectations for ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS:**

- a. 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.

- b. Students must adhere to all College expectations regarding COVID-19 testing coordinated through Emmons Wellness Center. This includes full participation in testing protocols that play an essential role in protecting the health and safety of the entire community. Emmons will monitor all student testing, and students who fail to complete proper testing three times will be subject to removal from campus housing.
- c. Wear a mask at all times in all spaces on campus, with the exception of your personal room. Masks are required in outdoor spaces, with the sole exception of eating. 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.
- d. Students must practice social distancing at all times, both indoors and outdoors.
- e. Students must use hand sanitizer or wash hands upon entering all campus buildings. Convenient sanitizer dispensers have been installed in buildings throughout campus.
- f. On-campus students are prohibited from attending social events in off-campus houses hosted by Occidental students.
- g. On-campus students may not have off-campus guests in residence halls or rooms. Guests are defined as anyone not formally assigned to the room, which includes other Occidental students. Outdoor spaces, including the Quad, should be used while hosting off-campus guests while observing social distancing.
- h. All students will be assigned to use a bathroom in their community. Within their residence hall, students are required to only use the bathroom to which they are assigned.
- i. Residential Education and Housing Services (REHS), in consultation with Emmons Wellness Center, will institute a guest registration program for on-campus students when it is safe to implement based upon COVID-19 in Los Angeles. Once approved, residents are permitted to register one on-campus guest per week to visit their individual residence hall room. Students will be given online access to a guest registration form, and will be required to complete this form each week. All students and their guests must wear masks at all times, and guests are not permitted to use the bathroom on the floor/community they are visiting. REHS and Emmons staff will announce when this program begins, and will closely monitor throughout the semester. This privilege may be revoked at any time based upon L.A. County guidance and/or if this privilege is violated. Outdoor spaces are always available for socially distanced socializing.
- j. Lounge, outdoor, classroom, and building furniture will be pre-arranged to promote social distancing; students are not permitted to move or alter furniture. Lounge furniture has been arranged for use by individual residents; lounges and common areas cannot be

used to host guests,

- k. Bathrooms assignments and use in residence halls will be designed to promote social distancing. Students must follow all instructions regarding bathroom access and use.
- l. Students must provide accurate and truthful information to College staff regarding COVID-19 symptoms. This includes daily temperature checks and symptom screenings.
- m. As a reminder, underage drinking and/or use of illegal drugs (including marijuana) is not permitted on campus.
- n. Social gatherings not sponsored by the College, which includes parties in the residence halls, are not permitted anywhere on campus, including residence halls.
- o. Students must observe safety expectations outside of the residence halls. Outdoors, students are expected to socially distance and wear a mask at all times. Students are only permitted to not wear a mask when eating.
- p. Students under quarantine or isolation will move to a designated single-occupancy isolation room that contains a private restroom. They are prohibited to leave their room unless there is an emergency such as a fire alarm or a request for medical professionals.

#### **Expectations for OFF-CAMPUS STUDENTS:**

- a. Off-campus students must follow all [L.A. County Health and Safety Guidelines](#) (e.g. wear masks in public, avoid large gatherings and direct contact when in public, sanitize, etc.)
- b. Off-campus students are prohibited from hosting parties or social gatherings to help protect not only their own health but that of vulnerable members of the surrounding community. This guidance will be reviewed as L.A. County guidance evolves, and students will be notified if this expectation changes.
- c. Off-campus students are prohibited from hosting events with on-campus students.
- d. Off campus students are strongly encouraged to participate in on-campus surveillance testing through Emmons Wellness Center. Students who wish to access campus for any reason (Tiger Takeout, work, programs, fitness, socialization) are REQUIRED to be part of the surveillance testing protocol. This includes committing to getting tested several days per week, completing the daily health check, and all other community health protocols. Failure to attend testing, including missing a single test without notifying

Emmons and pre-arranging a make-up test within 24 hours, will revoke campus access for the remainder of the semester. Students must email [Emmons@oxy.edu](mailto:Emmons@oxy.edu) to be added to the off-campus student testing schedule.

- e. Off-campus students are permitted to visit outdoor spaces on campus, which includes Tiger Takeout from Dining Services. Students are prohibited from visiting academic buildings, residence halls, or athletic facilities.
- f. Off-campus students are asked to be mindful of medical emergency services. Do not create a situation where you put stress on the system by engaging in reckless or high-risk behavior.
- g. Students are strongly suggested to practice cohort living with single rooms and separate bathrooms.
- h. Off-campus students are asked to create or revise a housing or community agreement to negotiate how all roommates will follow health and safety guidelines.

**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
<b>Minor</b>	First time documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors determined to have had minimal public health impact on the	Forgetting to wear a mask  Forgetting to not properly socially distance	1st Time: Warning  2nd or more times: Censure, Probation, Loss of campus privileges, Removal

	community	<p>Non-approved social gatherings</p> <p>Nonobservance of public health behaviors in combination with other violations of the code of student conduct (e.g. trespassing)</p>	from campus housing
<b>Moderate</b>	<p>First time documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors determined to have had significant 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>Knowingly failing to follow a public health instruction specific to the individual</p>	<p>Repeated and/or willful instances of a minor violation</p> <p>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)</p> <p>Violation of guest policy</p> <p>Off-Campus Students not complying with L.A. County guidelines</p>	<p>1st Time: Censure, Loss of privileges/access to campus resources</p> <p>2nd or more times: Probation, Removal from Campus Housing; Loss of campus privileges</p>
<b>Severe</b>	<p>First time documentation of nonresponsive, noncompliant behaviors determined to have had grievous actual or potential public health impact on the community</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</p>	<p>Any time: Removal from campus housing, Disciplinary probation; Loss of campus privileges</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>COVID-19 testing protocol</p> <p>Failure to remain in quarantine or isolation housing</p> <p>Off-Campus students hosting a party or social gathering</p> <p>On-Campus student found in attendance at an off-campus gathering</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>	
--	---	---	--

*Last updated: January 11, 2021*