



EASTERN UNIVERSITY

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Fall 2020 COVID-19 FAQs for Students

1) Am I allowed to leave campus? What is essential travel?

To ensure the safety of our community, once the semester begins, Eastern University strongly advises students to refrain from non-essential travel until such time as they return home or move elsewhere after the fall semester has concluded. This means that students should refrain from travel Labor Day weekends or otherwise from the time they arrive at the start of the fall term until the time they depart at the end of the semester.

Essential travel is defined as leaving campus for a job, academic requirement (i.e. a field experience, internships, student teaching, clinicals, or practicum), health-related activities (i.e. trips to the pharmacy, doctors' appointments, urgent care visits, etc.), and emergencies. If you are unsure of whether an activity is essential, please check with your Resident Director.

Traveling home for the weekend is not considered an essential activity, so we strongly advise students to wait until Thanksgiving to return home.

Students will generally not be permitted to participate in university-sponsored travel in Fall 2020; a decision about Spring 2021 will be made in the mid- or late-fall term.

2) What do I need to do to demonstrate I'm COVID-free prior to moving in?

To demonstrate that you are COVID-free prior to moving in your residence hall, students must register for COVID testing on campus on your assigned move-in day. To register for testing on your assigned move-in day, visit: [EU COVID Antigen Test](#). Every student must test negative to enter the residence hall.

3) Where do I get a COVID test, and how do I pay for it?

Students can get a COVID test on their assigned move-in day. The cost of the test will be billed to your student account. To register for testing on your assigned move-in day, visit: [EU COVID Antigen Test](#).

4) Do the people who are helping me move in need to test?

No.

5) How many people can go into the dorm with me and how many can come and stay in the car? Can they take turns going in?

Students can bring 2 guests to campus to assist them with moving in. Only one guest is allowed in the building at a time. The guests can take turns going into the residence hall.

6) Are visitors allowed in the dorm rooms? What about other students?

Visitors from outside the Eastern community are not allowed in the residence halls. Eastern students are allowed 1 Eastern residential student visit in their room at a time. Commuters are not allowed to visit the residence halls.

7) Can my parents drop stuff off to me?

Parents may drop off items to the Welcome Center located in Eagle Hall. Due to visitation policies, parents are not allowed to visit the Residence Halls.

8) What happens if I test positive on move-in day?

If a student tests positive on move-in day, they must leave campus and return home. If the student has traveled out of state, by plane, bus, or train the student will be placed in quarantine housing on campus. Students with extenuating circumstances must confer with the VP for Student Development & Health Center Staff. Students are not permitted to return to the residence hall without negative test results.

9) What if I live too far to drive home if I test positive?

If you drove to campus you must return home. Limited quarantine housing is available and reserved for students who cannot return home due to extenuating circumstances or traveling by public transportation.

10) What happens if I test positive mid-semester? How will I get food and other things I need?

If a student tests positive, meals will be delivered by Sodexo. Students should pack an emergency COVID quarantine bag and place it where it can be quickly accessed.

The quarantine bag should include essential items such as pajamas, socks, underwear, towel, wash cloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, extra cell phone charger, list of important phone numbers written out, list of any allergies, 2 or more complete changes of comfy clothes; sweats, PJ, T's fleece throw, cough drops, Tylenol to bring fever down, and help with aches, Vick's Vap-O-Rub, Mucinex DM or Robitussin Cough & Chest Congestion, thermometer, body lotion, feminine or male hygiene products ,shampoo, hair brush, hair ties, prescription medication, tissues, snacks, hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray and wipes, masks, coloring book and crayons or a deck of cards.

11.) If I test positive will my roommate have to quarantine, too?

Yes. Quarantining is required for any student who has been exposed to and may be a carrier of the virus.

12) How will contract tracing work and can I opt out?

Contact tracing will activate when a student tests positive. Students will be tracked by the WiFi service while on campus. Students must participate in contact tracing.

13) If I test positive for COVID during the semester, will I be able to zoom into my classes?

Eastern University's standard practice, with any mid-semester illness, is to support the student's learning experience by providing access to course notes and materials missed during the illness. Notes and materials may be in written or audio-visual formats.

14) What if I decide to leave campus mid-semester because of COVID? Can I get a refund?

Students will receive room and board refunds if the University makes a decision to terminate campus housing and meal services during the course of the semester. If the student elects to withdraw from housing when the University's residential services are open, no refunds will be provided beyond our standard refund policy.

15) How do I see if my courses have been moved online? What if I do not want to take online classes?

Eastern University is offering a blend of on-ground, hybrid, and online courses during the Fall 2020 semester. Students can review and change their course loads through our [myEastern](#) portal by selecting the "Academic Plan-Registration" menu option, then selecting "Student Planning". Students entering Eastern for the first time this fall should contact their Admissions Counselor or the Registrar's Office to request course changes. Other students should contact their academic advisor for further assistance.

16) What happens if campus must shut down due to a COVID outbreak?

All courses offered by the University would be transitioned to an online format. Resident students would be required to exit the residence halls, although students facing extenuating circumstances may be allowed to remain in campus housing until alternative housing has been secured. Normal residential charges would apply in this case. Students are not permitted to remain in campus housing beyond the end of the semester.

17) If I test positive for COVID during the semester, how long must I wait until I can leave isolation and return to classes and normal residential life?

Students who test positive for COVID during the semester must remain in isolation for 14 days and test negative for COVID. Clearance for students returning to the Residence Halls and class must be provided by the Health Center medical staff at 610.341.5955. Commuter students returning to class must receive clearance from the VP for Student Development at 610-341-5823.

Effective August 12, 2020