

Return to Halls Plan

In order to ensure a safe and healthy start to the spring 2021 semester for all members of the USF community, all residential students must take the following steps in preparation for returning to the residence halls in January.

Limiting Exposure Beginning January 1, 2021

In addition to following CDC guidelines for safe and healthy behavior throughout all of Winter Break, residential students must limit exposure to all others beginning on January 1st. This includes limiting contact with others, maintaining a 6-foot distance between oneself and others at all times, and wearing a face covering when in the presence of others.

Limiting exposure in this way will greatly reduce the risk of students returning to campus infected with COVID-19, ensuring a safe and successful start to the semester.

Required Testing Upon Campus Return

Upon returning to campus, all residential students will take free COVID-19 rapid antigen test.

All residential students must test negative before entering the residence halls. **A student who tests positive will return home to isolate for a minimum of 10 days.**

To greatly mitigate the risk of a positive test result, students are encouraged to get tested at home within 72 hours prior to return.

Extended and Scheduled Return Days

In order to provide more flexibility for students traveling back to campus, the residence halls will re-open 24 hours early.

Residents must return to campus during one of the following days and times in order to ensure testing is available:

- Monday, January 11 @ 12 - 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 12 @ 4 - 9 p.m.

Return & Testing Instructions

Students may return to campus for testing and entering the residence halls anytime on Monday, January 11 @ 12 - 4 p.m. OR Tuesday, January 12 @ 4 - 9 p.m.

Upon return to campus, residents must go to North Campus Gym for testing before entering the residence halls. The COVID-19 rapid antigen test takes approximately 2 minutes to administer, and results are given in 15 minutes. Allow additional time for waiting to receive your test.

Residents who receive a negative test result will be given a wrist band. Only students with a wrist band may enter the residence halls.

Common Questions

- 1. I have tested positive for COVID-19 and have completed my isolation period. Do I still need to be tested?** If you have received a positive test result since October 11, 2020, you may present proof of this test result at check-in in lieu of a rapid test. You must still check in at North Campus Gym before entering the halls.
- 2. I am traveling a long distance from home to campus. Are there any options available for on-campus isolation if I test positive?** To request an on-campus isolation space if you test positive upon return, email reslife@sf.edu by January 4th with an explanation of your extenuating circumstances. No isolation spaces will be available for a student who does not submit a request prior to return.
- 3. What if I get a false positive result?** If you receive a positive result to the rapid antigen test and are asymptomatic with no known exposure, you can overturn the positive test result with a negative PCR test. You must isolate away from campus until your negative PCR test result is received.

If you have questions about these expectations, please email reslife@sf.edu or call Residential Life at (260) 399-8101. Please note that the university is closed December 21-January 3.