To: All residential students  
From: Richard Mason, Assistant Vice President for Campus Life and Sophia Chaknis, Executive Director of Housing & Residence Life  
Subject: Important updates for students living on-campus  
Date: August 25, 2021

With move-in just a few weeks away, we are writing to provide some important updates and reminders pertinent to living in our residential communities this fall. Please take a few minutes to read through this message carefully to ensure that your arrival on campus goes smoothly.

Based on guidance from the CDC, Chicago Department of Public Health and experts at UChicago Medicine, Housing & Residence Life (HRL) has implemented several actions regarding student vaccination status and living arrangements in the residence halls:

- We will be housing unvaccinated students in single rooms and not with other unvaccinated or vaccinated students in multi-occupancy rooms. HRL will be assigning all students (including new and returning) who have a vaccination exemption, for medical or religious reasons, into single-occupancy rooms. Those students who are in the process of being vaccinated and those who have received a temporary exemption will be assigned rooms based on the normal assignment process and will not be required to occupy single rooms. As vaccination status is not the only reason why students may choose or be assigned to a single room, we ask that all residents be considerate and not make assumptions about vaccination status based on a student’s room type.
- Additionally, in keeping with travel guidance from the CDC, unvaccinated students traveling to Chicago from domestic or international locations will need to, (i) get tested for COVID-19 one to three days prior to travel to Chicago; (ii) get tested three to five days after their arrival date; and (iii) will need to complete a seven-day self-quarantine upon their arrival, regardless of their test results. Fully vaccinated students traveling to Chicago from international locations will need to, (i) get tested for COVID-19 one to three days prior to travel to Chicago; and (ii) get tested three to five days after their arrival date.
- Any unvaccinated student who arrives in Chicago early to self-quarantine off-campus will not have to quarantine once they move into their residence hall. These students may have to show University officials proof of their arrival date in Chicago, details about their off-campus quarantine location, and proof that they took a COVID-19 test three to five days after arriving in Chicago.
- The University will also require COVID-19 arrival testing for all students living in the residence halls. The arrival test for all students and the test three to five days after arrival on campus for students traveling as described above will be coordinated through the University’s asymptomatic Surveillance Testing Program.
- As required by the City of Chicago, we ask that students wear a face covering when in common areas of their residence hall.
- Reminder: as previously announced, all students must comply with the University’s COVID-19 vaccine-related requirement. Students who have not submitted proof of vaccination or do not have an approved exemption are ineligible to live in on-campus housing and are not
permitted on campus. Please visit the UChicago Student Wellness [immunizations webpage](#) for more information on how to comply with this requirement.

Additional details on arrival testing and the activities students will be able to participate in during the self-quarantine period will follow. Please be sure to regularly check your University email account for these updates.

We will continue to expect all students to be thoughtful in their communities and adhere to these practices to promote everyone’s health and safety and help decrease the spread of COVID-19. We are grateful for your cooperation and look forward to welcoming you back to campus.