Dear student,

We appreciate your patience as we have worked to define what Fall 2020 semester will look like on the California Lutheran University campus. COVID-19 has presented us with unforeseen challenges, and staff have worked hard to structure the best possible student experience for Fall 2020. As such, we are writing today with various updates regarding our anticipated residential life and student life experiences for the Fall semester.

The guiding principles behind these decisions are the health and safety of our campus community. While we look forward to welcoming students to campus this Fall, it is of the utmost importance that the health and safety guidelines outlined in the Cal Lutheran Compact are followed in order to limit the transmission of COVID-19 on campus. All students, faculty, and staff will be expected to electronically sign the Cal Lutheran Compact acknowledging their part in helping to keep our campus community safe.

As we are experiencing a high volume of calls and emails, we ask that you please read this communication in full before reaching out with questions.

Housing and Residence Life

Housing Capacity

In order to foster a safe residential environment, Cal Lutheran will be further reducing our residential capacity throughout campus for the fall semester. We have committed to ensuring that each student has their own bedroom, and no more than three students are sharing an in-suite bathroom throughout our residential communities. Our residential capacity will be as follows:

1. Grace Hall and Trinity Hall: three students per suite
2. Mogen Hall and Kramer Court: two students per suite
3. Old West, Pederson, Thompson, Mt. Clef: two students per suite
The New West complex and University Houses will not house any students for the Fall 2020 semester. Instead, these spaces will be held for quarantine or isolation spaces for students exposed to COVID-19.

**Housing Assignments Process**

We understand that students and families have significant decisions to make regarding living on-campus. In order to accommodate each student, we have lifted our residency requirement and are offering no-penalty housing cancellations through August 21, 2020. However, if you decide to cancel your housing assignment prior to that date, we ask that you please communicate that with the Residence Life staff as soon as possible.

**If you know at this time that you would like to cancel your fall housing assignment, please click here to do so.** Students who are still registered for housing beyond July 24, 2020 will be contacted by Residence Life staff with instructions on the housing assignments process during the week of July 27, 2020.

Please note that if after July 24, 2020 we have more students registered for housing than beds available, we will prioritize student housing assignments for the student populations specified below.

1. Incoming first-year and transfer students
2. International students
3. Students with extenuating circumstances who cannot live elsewhere
4. Out-of-state students

Commuter-eligible students and students with a fully virtual course schedule may be asked to cancel their housing contracts in order to allow space as needed.

**If you do plan staying on campus, please read the following:**

1. Students currently assigned to suites in the New West complex or the University Houses will be reassigned to other residential suites on campus if they require on-campus housing for the fall semester.
2. If students are assigned to the Global Leaders Community or STEM Living Learning Community, we will have to reduce capacity in those halls. They may have to be reassigned if we have more students than spaces. We will be in touch with these students regarding this process or changes that may arise.
3. **We hope to have housing assignments available to students by August 10, 2020.** We will do our best to keep roommate pairings together when possible, and accommodate hall preferences as stated on housing applications and the housing waitlist. Please be patient as we rework room assignments and wait until after August 10th to reach out with questions or concerns.
4. In order to live on-campus, you must be enrolled in at least 12 academic units at Cal Lutheran.

**Updated Policies for Living on Campus and 2020-2021 Room and Board Costs**

1. Students are not permitted to host any guests, including other residential students, in their residence hall suite. ONLY residents of that suite are allowed.
2. Social interactions with other students must take place outdoors while maintaining physical distancing. Common areas within the hall (lounges, kitchens, etc) are reserved only for the residents of that specific hall. For example, if you are assigned to Afton Hall, you can only be in Afton Hall.

3. Face coverings must be worn at all times except for when you are within your residence hall suite. However, students will be required to wear a mask if/when staff need to enter the suite (such as Facilities, RAs or other Residence Life staff, Housekeeping, Campus Safety, ITS).

4. **Students not abiding by these or other university policies, or not complying with expectations outlined in the Cal Lutheran Compact, are at risk for immediate removal from housing.** Students will not be offered refunds for housing or meal plan costs if they are removed from housing due to university policy violations.

**Isolation and Quarantine Procedures**

If a student is exposed to or tests positive for COVID-19, they will be expected to quarantine or isolate accordingly. Isolation and quarantine are defined as follows:

1. A student will be in **isolation** if they have tested positive for COVID-19, or are showing symptoms of COVID-19. Students must remain in isolation until at least 10-14 days after symptoms started and all symptoms must be improving and must have had no fever for at least 3-days.

2. A student will be in **quarantine** if contract tracers identify that the student has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Students will remain in quarantine for 14-days after exposure and will receive routine COVID-19 tests during the two-week period.

While in isolation or quarantine:

1. Students will be provided with a private bedroom and bathroom.
2. Students will not be able to leave their room.
3. Meals will be delivered to students in their residence.
4. Students will receive daily Health Services check-ins and other support via Zoom.

The university has developed a robust contact tracing plan, and several staff members have received professional training for contact tracing. Health Services will maintain records of contact tracing, and students will be notified by Health Services if they may have come into contact with a COVID-positive individual. Please note that our quarantine and isolation protocols may change based on public health guidance.

**International Students and U.S. Students Living Overseas**

Per CDC regulations, students traveling from outside of the U.S. are required to quarantine for 14-days upon arrival. International students and U.S. students living overseas who have a Fall 2020 on-campus housing assignment and who are traveling to CLU from overseas can expect to quarantine on-campus in the New West complex upon arrival to the U.S. Students will not be permitted to leave their rooms, and all meals will be delivered to them. Further information regarding arrival dates and travel logistics will be communicated by the Office of International Students & Scholars.

**Meal Services**
Ullman Dining will reopen with a “meals to-go” model for students. Specified traffic patterns and physical distancing markers in Ullman Dining will direct students in order to minimize physical contact. At this time, we anticipate that Jamba Juice and The Habit will remain closed for the fall semester. Students will have until September 11, 2020 to modify their meal plan if desired. Students living in standard residence halls will still need to hold one of our full meal plans. Further information on meal plans can be found here.

Spring Semester Housing

Our ability to house students on campus for the Spring semester will be determined by the state of the pandemic as we move into the winter months. If it seems like we can safely house students for the spring semester, we will announce a Spring semester housing application in late fall. Please continue to check the Cal Lutheran COVID-19 website and the Residence Life website for more information.

Res Hall Programming

Even with students returning to campus this fall, the semester will undoubtedly look much different than in years past. In-person programming will be largely absent in the residence halls until it is safe to host gatherings of any size on-campus. However, we intend to employ all of our Resident Assistants will and offer virtual programs and regular check-ins with residential students via Zoom and other virtual platforms. Our priority is to have RAs to more consistently and effectively support their residential population, which will be crucial to student success during this difficult time.

Student Life

The Office of Student Life is committed to providing opportunities for engagement, community building, socialization, and development. All areas of Student Life will continue offering multiple ways for students to stay involved and connected. These areas include: Wellness Programs; Recreational Sports; The Center for Cultural Engagement and Inclusion; The Community Service Center and Interfaith; Clubs and Organizations; Associated Students of California Lutheran University Government (ASCLUG); Graduate and Professional Student Council (GSPC); Leadership Programs; and Commuter Programs. Student Life has prepared both a virtual programming calendar and an on-campus programming calendar that will be offered as state and county health guidelines permit.

Samples of Virtual Programming Offerings

1. Esports: various leagues and tournaments will be offered throughout the semester
2. At Home Paint Night: sign-up and have a painting kit sent to your home, then log on for a virtual DIY paint night with your classmates
3. Curated Boxes: sign-up every month to have an identity specific box sent to you for an in-home cultural learning experience (examples include LGBTQ+, Native American, and LatinX boxes filled with food, crafts, artwork and more!)
4. Virtual Involvement Fair: log on to learn about all the ways to get involved at Cal Lutheran
5. **Virtual Civic Engagement Fair**: log on to find out more information about local organizations you can volunteer with, including Zoom meet and greets
6. **Trivia Night**: join the Center for Cultural Engagement and Inclusion for monthly trivia, winning team will receive a prize
7. **Virtual Interfaith Workshop Series**
8. Various ASCLUG & GPSC sponsored programs and events
9. Social Media Live Events, Games, and Contests

**Samples of On-Campus Offerings**

1. **Grab-n-Go service projects**: stop by a table to pick up a service project in a box
2. **Outdoor Movie Nights**
3. **Playlist in the Park**: come listen to various music genres in Kingsmen Park and grab a picnic lunch to stay or go
4. **Bi-scream Social**: pick up a pint of ice cream and learn about activism from Ben & Jerry
5. **Sunset Yoga/Pilates/Zumba in the Park**
6. **Commuter Curb-side Tabling Events**
7. And more!

**Clubs and Organizations**

All clubs and organizations are encouraged to continue meeting in a virtual format. Funding opportunities for virtual programming will be available.

**Conclusion**

Our return to campus will require that all students, faculty, and staff make significant changes to how we live, work, teach, and learn. Despite these challenging times, we remain committed to providing an engaging and fruitful learning experience for our students where they can continue to discover their purpose.

Our guidance and procedures may continue to change in the coming weeks as new state, local, and federal guidance becomes available. We ask for your continued support in ensuring that Cal Lutheran remains a safe and healthy environment for all community members. Please continue to check the Cal Lutheran [COVID-19 webpage](https://www.callutheran.edu/covid-19) for updates and additional information.

**Fall 2020 Housing Cancellation Link:** [Click Here](https://www.callutheran.edu/covid-19)

Stay well,

Residence Life Staff & Student Life Staff

reslife@callutheran.edu