



HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH
COLLEGES

Campus Opening

COMMUNITY STANDARDS ADDENDUM

Spring 2021



HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH
COLLEGES

Our Community Responsibility: COVID-19 and Public-Health Informed Policies

Protecting the health and safety of our faculty, staff, and students and minimizing the potential spread of disease within our community, while maintaining a rigorous learning environment, is of the utmost importance to Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

As a student at the Colleges, your experience on-campus may differ due to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus or similar public health crisis (“COVID-19”). As we continue to provide *Community Standards* that promote the safety of the community, it’s important to outline supplemental policies and guidelines which may have evolved in response to COVID-19. As always, we will attempt to update you with information about specific health and safety guidance important for our residential students, especially as the situation evolves. **You are responsible for complying with the rules, policies and regulations contained within the Community Standards, as well as this supplemental COVID-19 and Public-Health Informed Policies Section.** In addition, any additional laws or ordinances not listed herein are required to be followed and we require that you stay abreast of evolving recommendations through the Center for Disease Control (CDC), New York State Department of Health, and Ontario County Department of Health. By electronically signing this document or by matriculating at the Colleges this fall, you acknowledge that you have read this document and the materials referenced herein, that you understand the risks posed by COVID-19, and that you agree to comply with our *Community Standards*, of which this addendum is a part.

Health and Safety Regulations

In addition to the standard health and safety policies as outlined in the Community Standards, all students are required to comply with all health and safety laws, orders, ordinances, regulations and health and safety guidance adopted by the Colleges as it relates to COVID-19 as well as state, federal, and local mandates related to COVID-19. This guidance will evolve as the public health crisis evolves and students and their families should continue to monitor evolving health and safety guidance issued by the Colleges but also guidance issued by local, state, and federal entities and health agencies. Such guidance may include, but is not limited to:

- social distancing,
- limitations on mass/social gatherings,
- wearing a face covering,
- following posted entry/exit directions,
- COVID-19 diagnostic and surveillance testing and contact tracing (including before or upon arrival to campus),
- disinfection protocols,
- limitations on non-HWS guests into residence halls and student to student visitation between residence halls,
- quarantine and self-isolation requirements,
- and other best practices released by the CDC, New York State, or Ontario County.

Personal Health and Well-being

As part of this community, you taking personal responsibility for your health and well-being directly contributes to the well-being of the community. All community members will be required to, based on the schedule to be published:

- Monitor for the symptoms of COVID-19 and report to FLH Hubbs Health Center if you experience fever of 100.4 F (38 C) or higher, dry cough, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste or smell; this includes submitting the [daily] screening form;
- Stay home if you feel ill or after exposure to someone who is ill or who has tested positive for COVID-19;
- Wash your hands often with soap and water and use hand sanitizer;
- Consider getting vaccinated for the flu in the fall;
- Keep clothing, belongings, and personal spaces clean. Wash clothes and cloth face masks regularly;
- Complete a Daily Health Screening and participate in testing and contact tracing to preserve the wellness of the community.

Resources

The CDC, New York State Department of Health, and Ontario County Department of Health maintain websites containing important information about the spread of Coronavirus and COVID-19. You should review this information before you arrive on campus and regularly throughout the semester as these resources may change or be updated.

- CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- N.Y. Dept. of Health - <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>
- Ontario Co. Public Health - <https://www.co.ontario.ny.us/1802/Coronavirus-COVID-19>

Social Distancing and PPE

Maintaining social distancing and wearing appropriate PPE helps mitigate the risk of community spread of COVID-19. The Colleges have provided each student with washable, cloth face coverings. Students will be required to:

- Maintain appropriate social distancing, at least 6 feet when possible, especially in academic and administrative settings or the presence of other members of the community;
- Wear an appropriate face covering and other protective gear as directed by the Colleges, particularly when social distancing isn't possible, in classrooms, administrative, and academic buildings, as well as Scandling. Wear a face covering in SAGA or any dining area except when seated **and** eating. Residential students are required to wear face coverings when in common areas of buildings, including hallways, and exits and entrances.

Quarantine, Self-Isolation, and Residential Re-assignment

Not all of the Colleges residential rooms or residence halls are appropriate for self-quarantine or self-isolation. In those situations where a student is recommended to self-quarantine or self-isolate, the Colleges may require students to move to alternative housing arrangements as needed, including off-campus.

In addition, the Colleges may need to reduce density within residence halls at any given time, or be required to reduce all residential operations if directed by governmental authorities. If possible, the Colleges will provide alternative housing on-campus if it is required to reduce density within halls. If it is required to reduce all residential operations, the Colleges will be in prompt communication with students about check-out requirements.

- **For students who are in quarantine**, students are not to leave their room unless it is to shower or use the bathroom. Meals will be delivered to the student's room via contactless delivery. Students will be required to check-in daily with FLH Hubbs Health Center via TeleHealth. If a student is not feeling well or symptoms worsen, they will contact the FLH Hubbs Health Center immediately to assess risk and agree to follow all recommendations of the FLH Hubbs Health Center staff. If outside of business hours, residents will contact Campus Safety to get in contact with urgent care.
- **For students who are in self-isolation**, students are not to leave their room unless it is to shower or use the bathroom. Meals will be delivered to the student's room via contactless delivery. Students will be required to check-in daily with FLH Hubbs Health Center via TeleHealth. If a student is not feeling well or symptoms worsen, they will contact the FLH Hubbs Health Center immediately to assess risk and agree to follow all recommendations of the FLH Hubbs Health Center staff. If outside of business hours, residents will contact Campus Safety to get in contact with urgent care.

Social Gatherings

In response to the Governor's executive action of no social gatherings over 50 people, no social events will be approved for 2020-2021. This includes a hiatus of the spontaneous events policy; this means no social gatherings or spontaneous gatherings of any kind can occur. In addition, except for educational or Colleges'-sponsored events coordinated by the Colleges, no Colleges'-sponsored programs, events or meetings (such as a club meeting) may occur with over 25 people in attendance and physical distancing must be possible. In co-ops and Greek housing, this also limits sit-down ability for meal gatherings when social distancing isn't possible.

Guests and Visitation

The Colleges are complying with the CDC's and New York State's requirements to reduce the density of the residential community. To ensure we reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19, the Colleges are limiting visitation to the Colleges' residence halls, apartments, and small houses for 2020-2021 this includes:

- Outside of move-in and move-out procedures, only HWS community members may be in their residence halls, small houses, and apartments. Non-HWS and off-campus student visitation is not permitted.
- Parents and family members are welcome to visit HWS and Geneva this fall but we ask that when they do, that they not enter residence halls and that they do a self-wellness screening before stepping on campus. Visitors from states on the New York quarantine list at the time of visit would need to follow quarantine guidelines.
- Visitation between residence halls will be limited to approved activities for this academic year.

These visitation directives may feel overly cautious and we recognize the impact peer-to-peer relationships have on community development. However, while we are not only attempting to decrease the density of residence halls, we are also conscious of how visitation may inadvertently spread the novel coronavirus through contact, surface areas, doors, etc. from one residential community to another.

Traveling Away from Campus and Geneva, NY

The Colleges will not restrict students from moving around the City or Town of Geneva during the fall semester unless instructed to do so by health authorities, but will require that when they do so, they follow all state and local regulations including wearing face coverings as required. To protect the health and well-being of the entire community, once students are in Geneva, they should not leave the region (defined as one hour's driving distance from campus) before the end of the semester unless it is on a school-sanctioned trip. Students who do travel further or on an overnight stay off campus may be required to undergo additional testing or quarantine/isolation. It is the student's responsibility to follow any federal, state, or local health guidelines related to travel, including requirements related to self-isolation and quarantine when returning from certain areas.

Potential Outcomes to Violations

To ensure the health and safety of the Colleges' community, and the wider Geneva community, in response to a violation of the Community Standards or the COVID-19 directives included in this document, based on the severity of the violation, the Colleges may:

- Issue a written warning and require a community impact conversation with a Peer Mentor,
- Place a student on social probation or deferred suspension,
- Separate a student from the residential community,
- and/or require a withdrawal from the Colleges (suspension).

On the 2nd violation, it is likely the student will either be separated from the residential community or be required to withdraw for the remainder of the semester. A similar process and outcome is likely for organizations failing to abide by these policies.

Egregious Violations

Students should also be aware that egregious or intentional violations of these policies will not be tolerated. Egregious or intentional violations of these policies include but are not limited to:

- hosting a gathering, event, or party in a residence (on or off-campus) or in the area (hosts are defined as the student(s) and/or clubs or organizations assigned to the room, suite, apartment, or house, or otherwise responsible for organizing or conducting the gathering);
- not following directives regarding quarantining or isolating when required to do so.

If there is a reasonable basis to believe that a student's conduct has intentionally posed a significant health or safety threat to one or more members of the community (e.g., intentionally coughing in another's face, intentionally spitting on another person) the Colleges will take immediate action to address the health or safety risk that the conduct has created. This immediate action may include the student's removal from campus and the denial of access to all or specified educational programs or activities on a temporary or permanent basis.

Personal Responsibility is Community Responsibility

It's important to be positive, attentive and helpful to members of the Colleges' community who may be in need of support. If you or someone needs assistance or support, the Colleges' Counseling Center is available by calling 315-781-3388, as well as the Hobart and William Smith Deans' Offices and the Office of Campus Life.