Dear USF residential student,

As the university prepares for the beginning of the Fall 2021 we are taking precautions to return in a safe manner. Students who will be living in USF Housing on the St. Petersburg Campus will be required to undergo a COVID-19 health screening before checking into USF Housing. The Wellness Center will be conducting the health screening in the USC between 9 AM and 4 PM. The health screening will consist of questions related to symptoms of COVID-19 and a student’s risk for becoming infected with the COVID-19 virus. Some students may be asked to schedule a test for Covid-19 at the time of check in.

When you arrive at the health screening location, you must wear a mask. We ask that students only enter the health screening locations but, if necessary, especially if you are a minor (under 18 yo) one parent or legal guardian could accompany you through the health screening.

It is advised to have the following items with you for the health screening:

- A photo identification. Your USF ID, a driver’s license or passport can be used.
- Hand sanitizer
- If you have received a Covid-19 Vaccination, please bring your Covid-19 vaccination card

As you prepare to move into USF Housing, I strongly recommend that prior to your arrival, you and your parents or guardians have a conversation on what your plan will be if you are informed that you must quarantine due to a high-risk contact or isolate due to a positive Covid-19 diagnosis. Please note that students required to quarantine must leave campus for up to ten days.

What if I traveled internationally in the last 10 days?

Residents who have traveled internationally in the last 10 days are required by federal mandate to quarantine for 7 days and test with a Covid PCR test around day 5. A resident can be released from quarantine only after the lab results are returned. If testing is not performed, then quarantine would need to continue for a full ten days. If you are required to quarantine due to recent international travel, you must quarantine off campus except in special circumstances for arriving residents who are minors (under the age of 18).

What happens if I am asked to complete a COVID-19 PCR test?

Residents who are screened by the Wellness Center and are informed that they need a COVID-19 PCR test will be directed to the testing facilities on site.
When and how will residents receive the results of their nasal self-swab COVID-19 PCR test?
Residents will receive their test results through the patient portal that can be set up at the time a resident checks in for COVID-19 testing.

What happens if the results of a resident’s COVID-19 PCR test are positive?
If a resident’s test results come back positive, they will be notified by the Wellness Center and placed in isolation on campus as space is available. Learn more about the isolation process here.

Do I need to be retested if I have already tested positive for COVID-19?
Residents who have tested positive from May 31, 2021 and later (12 weeks or less) will not be required to be retested. However, these residents will be required to show proof of their positive test results. Proof of their positive test results will require a paper print out stating the date of the test and the test results. The paper print out will be collected at the Health Screening and will not be returned to the residents. Positive Covid-19 PCR and Positive Covid-19 Rapid Antigen test results are acceptable proof of infection. Antibody test results will NOT be accepted.

What if I have been fully vaccinated, do I still need to be tested for COVID-19?
As part of the health screening process, a Wellness Center representative will evaluate your COVID-19 risk exposure and advise if testing is necessary.

What do I do if I am isolating on my move in date because I tested positive for COVID-19?
Residents who are isolating because they have tested positive for COVID-19 during the move in time period should not come to campus until their 10 day isolation is completed. Residents should contact Wellness Center at (727) 873-4422 press option 2 to inform of their positive test result and schedule a telehealth appointment to be cleared to return to campus. The medical providers will inform USF Housing that the student will be returning at a later date.

What do I do if I am quarantining because I have been in contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19?
Residents who are quarantining because they have been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 during the move in time period should not come to campus until their 10 days of quarantine is completed. Residents should contact Wellness Center at (727) 873-4422 press option 2 to inform of their quarantine and schedule a telehealth appointment to be cleared to return to campus. The medical providers will inform USF Housing that the student will be returning at a later date.
What do I do if I feel ill at the time of check-in?

A resident who feels ill on the day of move in should not come to campus. The student should contact Student Health Services (SHS) at (813) 974-2331 or (813) 445-4976 to schedule a telehealth appointment for further advice before returning to campus.

What happens if I will be checking in after business hours?

Any resident checking into USF Housing after 5pm will have to complete a health screen questionnaire at the time of check in. Wellness Center will review the questionnaires the next business day and will contact the student directly if there is any required action necessary.

Will I be able to schedule an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccination?

YES. At the time of check-in, residents may schedule an appointment to be vaccinated with either the Pfizer 2 dose vaccine or the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) 1 dose vaccine. Vaccines will be administered at the Wellness Center free of charge. We strongly encourage all students to be vaccinated to protect themselves and the community.

What if I have questions about COVID-19 testing?

Please contact the Wellness Center at (727) 873-4422 option 2

Please contact USF Housing concerning any questions about move in dates and times.

Respectfully,

Joseph A. Puccio, MD, FAAP

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