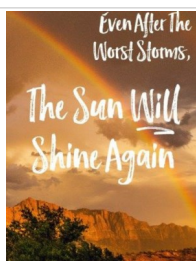


HOUSING @ RIC



What will housing look like in Fall 2021?

We know this is the big question on everyone's minds! While we don't have a crystal ball into the future, we can tell you what we are planning for, hoping for, and "preparing for just in case". Read on for answers to your most frequently asked questions.

Here's What You Need To Know:

We've compiled a list of questions that we think you'll have.

Q: What will housing actually look like next year?

A: While its too early to know EXACTLY what housing will look like next year, we are planning to increase our resident numbers over the Fall 2020 capacity we had, but still remain at a reduced capacity compared to a typical year (about 50%). The plan is to have every student be assigned to a single room, and share a toilet, sink and shower with no more than 4-5 people. We do hope to be able to have most policies go back to normal, but do reserve the right to implement safety measures (such as COVID testing, limited guests, social distancing, space capacities, mask wearing, etc.) should we be required to by the Rhode Island Department of Health.

Q: Will we be allowed to have outside guests in the residence halls next year?

A: That is the plan! However, if it is deemed unsafe to allow outside guests into the community spaces, we reserve the right to make that determination.

Q: Will we have weekly COVID testing that is required of resident students?

A: We just don't know yet. We will have to make that determination over the summer.

Q: When will we have answers to these questions related to mandatory policies for residents?

A: In the summer months we will look at the current data related to the pandemic, and make a determination regarding policies. You will be notified of these policies and will have a chance to change your mind regarding housing.

Q: If I would like to live on campus next year, what should I do?

A: If you would like to plan to be in housing next year, returning and incoming students will need to pay a \$200 housing deposit by **May 15th**. Housing deposits after this date will be accepted on an "as available" basis. Directions on how to make your housing deposit can be found here: <http://www.ric.edu/residential-life/Documents/HowtoPaytheHousingDeposit.pdf>

Q: What if I submit the housing deposit but change my mind as new information comes out over the summer? Will I be able to get my housing deposit back?

A: As we get closer to the August opening, we will know more about the state restrictions and guidelines being placed on Rhode Island college campuses. Over the summer, we will share this information, and communicate a date in which you will be able to pull out of your housing/dining contract with no penalty, and you will be able to get your housing deposit back. Should you decide after that deadline that you no longer wish to have housing, you will not receive your housing deposit back. We will give you at least a 2 week timeframe to make your decision.

Q: Will I be able to choose who I live in the same suite with?

A: Absolutely. The first step will be to submit your housing deposit. After the May 15th deadline we will send you a Housing Selection Form so that you may indicate your housing preferences. Our Assistant Director of Housing Operations, Peter Gibb, will work one on one with you to try to meet your requests as much as possible and ensure that you are happy with your assignment. We know this is not how housing assignments usually go, and we want to help you as much as possible.

Q: What will Move-In Day look like?

A: We will be spreading move-in days out to occur over the course of several days to allow some social distancing, as well as give you more time to transition back to campus before classes begin. You will be able to sign up for a time and carts will be available to help you move your belongings. Please note: There may be a restriction of 2 people to help you move in, and masks will likely still be required. There may also be a health screening from Health Services upon your arrival. More specific information on move-in procedures will be announced in the summer months.

Q: Could there be more changes to policies in housing than what is listed here?

A: We have tried to be as upfront as possible with expectations for fall housing. At this time, these are our expectations. As this is a fluid situation, we will continue to monitor the situation and should we need to, will make additional changes for your safety and well-being. At all times, we reserve the right to make changes should it be deemed necessary to do so.

Q: Will everyone who wishes to live in housing in the Fall be able to?

A: We are expecting that we will be able to house all who wish to next year. Should the pandemic take a sudden turn for the worse, and we need to make adjustments to our housing capacity, we will need to prioritize housing for students with extenuating circumstances, who need accommodations, and live the furthest from campus.

Q: I have questions about dining. Where would I go for that?

A: The most up to date information regarding dining can be found on the Donovan Dining website. <https://www.ricdining.com/>

HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

Housing Assignments: Contact Peter Gibb pgibb@ric.edu

General Questions: housing@ric.edu or 401-456-8240