University Approved Housing Operation Plan

The below mentioned UAH organization has provided the following information regarding operational guidelines related to Covid-19. The guidelines incorporate social distancing when appropriate and other guidance that is provided by the University, State and Local governments, and the CDC.

It is important to recognize these guidelines and initial implementation plans are likely to evolve as facts develop in the house, on campus and in the community. The objective is to remain up to date on best practices and implement them as soon as practicable. Version as of July 16, 2020.

UAH Name: Beta Alpha Chapter of Kappa Alpha Order

Initial screening and facility preparation: All members and residents will be screened using at a minimum the questionnaire found on the Campus Screen App. under the supervision of an officer of the chapter, or if new to MST, by campus staff. If a resident fails this screen, he will be directed to Student Health Services for additional screening or testing prior to being allowed to move into the house. Move in will mimic campus plans beginning August 15-17 to provide a seven day on campus-wide quarantine phase for all students, and residents will be scheduled so there is no more than one person moving in at a time in each wing.

In addition the 10 HVAC units are scheduled to be upgraded to provide UV light treatment to improve filtration of pathogens in recycled conditioned air. Hand sanitizer stations will be in place at the 5 main entrances to the house.

Sanitation and Cleaning: All residents will participate in a daily or weekly rotation of duties to include:

- Common areas: CDC recommended disinfectant will be applied in the morning in common areas, after meals (when common meal areas are utilized), and after study hours. Particular attention will be given high traffic areas including study tables/chairs, and knobs/handles at points of ingress and egress and light switches. The facility will be deep cleaned once per week as per its routine procedures. The chapter president and house advisor will jointly develop a duty list and schedule to accomplish the requisite cleaning.
• Kitchen and Dining Areas: The initial plan is to have all meals plated for individual servings for the first 3 weeks of the semester (and week 0) using disposable utensils and implements. Residents will take their individual serving to their individual room and then dispose of waste based on a set schedule.

After this initial period an assessment will be made which may include using the dining room in shifts while maintaining social distancing and cleaning between shifts. Each time the dining room is used, the tables and chairs will be sanitized with disinfectant. The kitchen will be cleaned after each meal by no more than 5 residents, each wearing masks. Once a week the kitchen will be deep cleaned per usual house maintenance.

• Bathrooms: Occupancy in the larger common bathrooms in each wing will be limited to no more than 6 residents at a time. The sink areas, commodes and other common use facilities will be cleaned twice per day – once in the morning, and once in the afternoon/evening as member class schedules permit. This schedule may evolve depending upon changes in usage patterns (e.g. the introduction of intramural athletics, etc.).

Shared and common spaces

Everyone who enters the house will have their temperature checked using a touchless thermometer at the point of ingress. Members are expected to take their temperature daily and report any temperature recording over 100 degrees or any symptoms listed in the Campus Screen App to their wing captain and contact Student Health Services for additional review, screening, and recommended actions. The alumni advisor and representatives from the housing corporation will conduct periodic zoom meetings with the chapter leadership and wing captains during the first three weeks to assess and provide advice to the chapter on how symptom monitoring is occurring and if there are any trends.

All residents and guests are expected to wear masks in common areas including hallways. This requirement will be gradually relaxed based on symptom monitoring results. An exception to this requirement would be on the occasion that the dining room is eventually used for eating meals. Common sense will be applied within common bathroom areas and will be largely controlled by limiting occupancy. Each common area will have a maximum occupancy sign visibly posted geared toward maintaining at least 6’ distance between people. Shared use equipment such as games, A/V devices, laundry machines etc. will be disinfected before and after each use.
Sleeping

Most sleeping rooms are combined with study areas for two men. Two of these rooms are paired with a shared lounge area to be shared by the 4 residents. This grouping is considered like a family where masks will not be required within this space by those living in that space. A larger family area exists upstairs where there are 8 residents which share a common lounge. In each case the spacing of beds will be at least 6’ apart and residents will be encouraged to sleep head to toe when practical.

Visitors

Visitors include vendors (including those involved with meal preparation), study guests, and social guests. All visitors are expected to have their temperature taken with a thermometer before entering and wear masks in common areas. The mask requirement for visitors may be relaxed in time if justified by symptom tracking and other data that may be available. Each visitor will include their name, phone number and email address, time of arrival and departure and resident responsible for their visit for contact tracing. There will be two locations where this data will be recorded: one in the foyer and one in the entrance to the kitchen. This data will be kept until one month after the end of the semester or the house closes, whichever comes first. All visitors are expected to use hand sanitizer upon arrival which will be provided.

There will be no social guests or study guests until after week 0 (August 17-23). After this period, study guests and social guests will be welcome in the common areas provided they wear a mask, take their temperature upon entry and adhere to occupancy limits as posted. After the third week of school (September 11) an assessment will be performed which will include health trends for the house, campus, and city of Rolla. If supported by data, this visitor policy may be gradually relaxed.

Social Policy

The house will not have any social events until after the end of the third week of school (September 11). After this period the plan is to follow guidance from the Student Health Services which is to start slow and stay low. Any social event within the property following that time will be based on an assessment similar to that used for visitors mentioned above in this document and in accordance with the house adopting a comprehensive hosting plan. As a member of IFC, the house is subject to community social guidelines and will not host any events which are contrary to those guidelines.
The house leadership has also determined that it will not host any events which include alcohol for the Fall semester due to alcohol’s deleterious impact on an individual’s ability to make safe and healthy decisions impacting themselves and others. Individuals of age will be permitted to have alcohol in their room in accordance with NIC and IFC policies.

In addition non-essential travel will be strongly discouraged through the third week of school (September 11). This is to limit the introduction of new risks brought into the house from other locations.

Quarantine and Isolation Plan

The President of the active chapter shall appoint three wing captains (North, South, Upstairs) to 1) encouraging residents to take temperatures and check for other symptoms, 2) monitor for social distancing, and 3) serve as the liaison between the active chapter and its leadership with Student Health Services for any affected resident.

In the event a resident tests positive for Covid 19, the student will be expected to follow the directions of Student Health Services which will likely require isolating under the care of a physician in either a University provided health care facility or return home until recovered and cleared to return to school.

Those residents that experience any symptom including a temperature above 100 degrees or any of the other symptoms identified in the Campus Screen App during their daily checks should inform their wing captain and contact Student Health Services immediately. Student Health Services shall perform additional screening and perhaps testing and inform the affected student what steps they should follow which may involve quarantine and perhaps isolation.

If this individual cannot reach Student Health Services due to the time of day, the student shall quarantine onsite until the student is in communication with Student Health Services. One 2 man bedroom will be available to quarantine up to two impacted residents with plans to provide plated meals if needed. Special considerations will be developed to facilitate bathroom/showering, and laundry use to facilitate an effective quarantine. Other options such as quarantine in their own bedroom along with roommates (who may also be impacted) may make sense under certain circumstances, but these actions will only be taken if recommended by Student Health Services. All of the activities involving quarantining will be at the direction of Student Health Services and all residents are expected to comply with their instructions.


Expectations of all individual residents

The house and its residents are expected to work collectively to achieving and improving the foregoing standards including cleaning, contact tracing, social distancing, and contribute to the care and wellbeing of those needing help. Daily temperature checks, hand washing, facility sanitizing, mask wearing, and seriously accepting the present challenge as the new normal is expected of all.

The chapter president and/or the house advisor is available to discuss these guidelines and address additional concerns if there are any.