

The University of Rio Grande & Rio Grande Community College is committed to the safety and health of our students. We have taken great steps in minimizing the potential spread of disease within our community through additional sanitization, social distancing, and health screenings. As a residential student, COVID-19 will impact your housing experience as Rio continues to make public health-informed decisions. The below guidelines will be applicable to residential students and are incorporated into the residence hall policies. These guidelines may be updated or altered as the public health crisis evolves.

- 1. Cleaning.** Rio has adopted advanced cleaning protocols for campus buildings, including residence halls. Halls will be routinely sanitized by housekeeping and residence life staff. Students will be responsible for upholding cleanliness standards and regular health and safety checks will be completed by staff members.
- 2. Health and Safety.** All students must take their temperatures prior to attending class. If the student's temperature is above 100.4, the student should notify their professor(s) and make arrangements to complete an out of class assignment for the day. Any student who has knowingly been exposed to someone infected with COVID-19 must notify the campus nurse, Marlene Childers, at childers@rio.edu and follow Rio's protocol for quarantine. Screening materials will be available in each residence hall.
 - a. Goodie Bags.** Every residential student will receive a "goodie bag" at check-in that will contain a thermometer, sanitizer, a Rio neck gaiter, and other related items.
- 3. Single-Occupancy Housing.** Rio has made the decision to switch to single-occupancy housing for the upcoming school year. This decision will minimize the risk should someone on-campus test positive for COVID-19 or be exposed to the virus. Students currently in housing may be reassigned in order to de-densify the residence halls. Suite-style housing will remain in place, and quads will transition to double rooms. There will be no upcharge for single rooms; all students will be charged at the traditional double rate. If a student chooses to remain with a roommate in a traditional double, they will be required to sign a waiver acknowledging additional protocol.
 - a. Amenities:** All rooms will come with standard amenities for their respective room type. As some of our rooms are traditional doubles or singles, amenities may vary. Traditional double rooms come standard with two sets of furniture; single rooms come with one. Please contact housing@rio.edu to confirm your room type. Amenities typically offered in single rooms (fridge, microwave, etc.) are only guaranteed to students who 1) originally requested a single room, 2) were placed into a traditional single room, or 3) were placed into a Wellness suite.
- 4. Quarantine/Isolation.** At any time, Rio may require students to isolate or self-quarantine in their current room or in another location on campus. A student must isolate for at least 10 days if they test positive for COVID-19. Isolation will require students to temporarily relocate to Moulton Hall, which is serving as our isolation building. A student must quarantine for at least 14 days in their current housing assignment if exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. If under isolation/quarantine, a student will have regular screenings with the campus nurse. If a student fails to isolate/quarantine, they may be removed from campus. A removal from campus does not constitute a termination of the housing contract.
 - a. Option to Return Home.** A student placed in isolation or quarantine will have the option to return home for their designated time frame.

COVID-19 Residence Life Protocols

- 5. Facial Coverings.** Facial coverings must be worn on campus when six feet of social distance cannot be maintained. In residence hall spaces this includes, but is not limited to; hallways, lounges and bathrooms. Coverings should also be worn if visiting another student's room (if social distance cannot be maintained). Efforts to maintain social distance in outdoor settings should also be made. Failure to wear a facial covering when social distance is not maintained may result in disciplinary action.

 - a. Inability to Wear a Facial Covering.** If you have a documented ADA disability and believe you may qualify for an exemption, please contact Stephanie Alexander, Accessibility Coordinator, at alexander@rio.edu.
- 6. Limit of Guests and Gatherings.** To reduce the risk of exposure, Rio is prohibiting residential students from having overnight guests, unless the guest is another residential student at Rio. Only residential students will be permitted in the residence halls. Residence Life staff will also enforce a limit to the number of students able to gather in communal areas in the residence halls in accordance to social distancing guidelines.
- 7. Dining Services.** Dining Services will remain available to residential students during their normal operating hours. Hallmark, our dining services provider, will follow state requirements for food service vendors. This may include social distancing, no self-service, and a limit to the number of guests allowed in the cafeteria at one time. There will be no reduction in services available to students and guests.
- 8. Check-In Procedure.** In an effort to maintain social distancing on campus, residential student check-in will be structured so that residence halls remain free of congestion. This process will include specified times for students to check in on move-in day, a limit on the number of family members/friends accompanying a student, and a health screening upon arrival. New Student Move-In is scheduled for Thursday, August 27th and Returning Student Move-In is scheduled for Friday, August 28th. Students in even numbered rooms must check in between 11am – 2pm on their assigned day; students in odd numbered rooms must check in between 2pm – 5pm on their assigned day. If a student is a fall athlete they should contact their coaching staff for additional information.