

# **New Mexico Tech Residential Life COVID-19 Infected Resident Plan**

## **Purpose:**

This document shows the steps the Residential Life department will take if we know/believe a resident on campus is infected with COVID-19. Residential Life will work in collaboration with other departments: Facilities, Health Center, Dean of Students, Auxiliary Services, NM Department of Health COVID-19 Hotline (855-600-3453), and others we deem necessary to help residents get the proper care they need.

## **Scenario 1: Residential Life is informed that a student has left the State of New Mexico and returned.**

1. If the resident has left the state and returned, they will be required to self-isolate in their room for at least 14 days if they are symptom-free.
2. The Dean of Students office requires all students leaving the state and returning to campus to notify Tech at least 24-hours prior to the planned departure notify Tech of their intended plans by completing and saving, the [Criteria for Leaving New Mexico and Returning to Campus Form](#) then emailing it to deanofstudent@nmt.edu.
3. For more information regarding NMT's guidelines see Criteria for Leaving New Mexico and Returning to Campus. The resident and Residential Life will also follow steps # 2-7 below in Scenario 3

## **Scenario 2: Residential Life is informed that a resident has come in direct contact with someone who tested positive or traveled to a hot spot area in-state and returned**

1. Residential Life will inform the resident to follow DOH and CDC guidelines to get tested for COVID-19.
2. The resident will be placed in isolation for 14 days, if they exhibit no symptoms of COVID-19, and have a negative COVID-19 test or clearance letter from their medical provider then they can resume normal activities.
3. The resident and Residential Life will also follow steps # 2-7 below in Scenario 2

### **Scenario 3: Residential Life is informed that a resident has COVID-19 symptoms**

1. Residential Life will inform the resident to follow DOH and CDC guidelines to get tested for COVID-19.
2. Residential Life will immediately inform the appropriate NMT administrator
  1. Undergraduate Student: Dean of Students Dr. Peter Phaiah
  2. Graduate Student: Graduate Dean, Dr. Aly El Osery
3. If a student has roommates, suitemates or apartment mates we will have them follow DOH and CDC guidelines to get tested for COVID-19.
4. Residents will be required to stay isolated in their room/apartment until they have received COVID-19 test results.
  1. If a student lives in a building with community bathrooms they will be allowed to leave their room to use the bathroom facilities only. They will be instructed to wipe down surface areas they contacted.
5. Residential Life staff will inform Chartwells (575-835-6710) that meals will need to be delivered to the residents room/apartment.
6. Residents of the building will be notified there is a potential case of COVID-19 in their building.
7. The resident will provide Residential Life with a letter of health clearance or their test results.
  1. If they have a health clearance or tests results are negative, they will be able to go back to their normal function (e.g. social distancing, face masks, proper hygiene, etc.).
  2. If tests results are positive see Scenario 3
7. See #6-9 below in Scenario 3 for needed notifications.

### **Scenario 3: Resident tests positive for COVID-19**

1. The resident will be relocated to either a vacant apartment in Mountain Springs or to a hotel space reserved for positive COVID-19 students.
  1. The resident will be told to only bring essential items with them as they are quarantined.
  2. If the resident cannot transport themselves, Socorro County will transport them.
2. The resident will be told they must quarantine in their new living space for at least 14 days, be symptom-free, and have a medical release from their physician before they are permitted to come out of quarantine. If the resident is asymptomatic or only has minor symptoms then they may remain in their accommodation. If the resident has severe symptoms and needs to be hospitalized, see scenario 4.
3. Custodial staff will enter the room/apartment after the resident has been relocated to sanitize the living space and any communal areas the resident visited. Here are the steps they will follow:

1. Close off area where a positive COVID-19 resident has been.
2. Turn on HVAC system to allow outside air. (Or open windows)
3. Wait at least 24 hours.
4. Send in COVID custodial team to clean/disinfect the area
5. Once disinfection is complete, the area is open to the occupants.
4. Residential Life staff will inform Chartwells and Auxiliary Services that meals will need to be delivered to the resident's room/apartment.
5. The resident will need to work collaboratively with NMDH and NMT staff to help trace direct contact or potential exposure they had with other individuals.
6. Residents are encouraged to continue their school work if possible during their time of quarantine.
7. Residents are also encouraged to email their faculty and teaching assistance to notify them that they are currently under quarantine and need to receive their work assignments. The student is also encouraged to log onto the [Dean of Students Website](#) and complete an [Absentee Notification Form](#) so the Dean will help communicate and verify the student is under quarantine.
8. It is the students responsibility to effectively communicate with all parties (e.g. instructors, work supervisors, etc.) and make-up their work.
9. Residential Life will provide the Dean of Students Office (DOSO) with the contact information of any resident students being isolated or quarantined. The DOSO will coordinate daily contact and wellness checks with these students, as well to ensure compliance.
10. The student's Health Care Providers or Department of Health [HQ5] should also be in contact with these residents for follow-ups.

#### **Scenario 4: Resident is hospitalized**

1. Custodial staff will enter the room/apartment after the resident has been sent to hospital to sanitize the living space and any communal areas the resident visited. They will follow procedures set in Scenario 3.
2. With permission, family of the resident will be notified.
3. The resident will be allowed back to their campus housing when the hospital staff state it is safe to do so. If the hospital releases the student, but they are not symptom-free and have not received a negative test result, the resident will follow steps in Scenario 2 above.
4. If student decides to not return to on campus housing they will receive a partial refund on their room and meals