

## Letter from ECU Campus Living to All Residence Hall Students for Fall 2022

August 11, 2022

Dear On-Campus Resident,

Greetings from Campus Living, we are looking forward to your arrival. This email contains some important information regarding COVID-19 as you prepare for the start of the fall 2022 semester.

- **Before you arrive-** If you are not feeling well, we encourage you to test before you come to campus. If you test positive, please stay home until your isolation period ends. Please email Campus Living at [HOUSING@ecu.edu](mailto:HOUSING@ecu.edu) and contact your faculty to advise them of your delayed arrival. We will not have mandatory or voluntary testing for asymptomatic individuals on campus; testing will remain available by appointment at ECU Student Health Services.

**COVID-19 remains active in our communities** – It is likely that COVID-19 will have some impact on our lives during the fall. The exact impact is hard to predict, but as we have all navigated this pandemic over the past two years, we have learned that our wellness is best accomplished through both personal and community efforts. Please consider the following:

1. The best way to mitigate the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19, along with reducing the chances of serious illness and hospitalization is being fully vaccinated and boosted.
2. Masks are not required at this time, but you should feel comfortable wearing a mask on campus if you choose.
3. If you start to feel unwell, please wear a mask and contact ECU Student Health Services at 252-328-6841 to arrange a testing appointment. For general health related questions please contact [GotQuestions@ecu.edu](mailto:GotQuestions@ecu.edu).
4. If you test positive for COVID-19 you will need to return home for your isolation period. For those unable to return home or isolate off-campus, the University will allow you to isolate in your residence hall room (leaving only for food pick-up and medical care while wearing a mask). Students should wear a mask while using the restroom facilities or while in their rooms with their roommates. For roommates who do not have COVID, a limited amount of temporary space is available in another campus residence hall by request. To request one of these spaces, please go to your Neighborhood Services Office (NSO) during regular business hours.

As you make your plans to return to ECU it is important that you discuss with your family the possibility of needing to return home for a short period of time to isolate. The intention of this communication is to be transparent so you can anticipate any disruptions. Please begin planning for this possibility.

ECU administrators are also monitoring the Monkeypox outbreak and coordinating with state, local and UNC public health officials and colleagues. Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus and is in the same family as smallpox. While symptoms are

similar to smallpox, monkeypox is typically milder and rarely fatal. Monkeypox can spread to anyone through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact. Symptoms often begin with a flu-like illness accompanied by a rash, which may look like pimples or blisters. Additional information can be found on the [NC Department of Health & Human Services](#) website.

ECU is a special place, and we want you to enjoy your time on campus. The best way to ensure your semester remains minimally interrupted is to protect yourself and others through vaccination, boosting, and knowledge. If you have additional questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, please contact your health care provider or the providers at ECU Student Health Services. We look forward to your arrival and to having a great semester.

Sincerely,

Peter Groenendyk  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Campus Living  
East Carolina University