



Roommate Guidelines

There are many benefits to having roommates in college. However, living with others during COVID-19 presents some unique challenges and considerations. Here are some tips to help you navigate staying healthy while sharing your living space. It is important to have open conversations about the below information with your roommate now and throughout the year.

Keeping Your Space Clean

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects daily (e.g., tables, countertops, light switches, doorknobs, faucet and cabinet handles, smartphones, laptops, remote controls, etc.).
- If you share a bathroom, remember that sinks could be an infection source. Totes or caddies can be used for personal items so they don't touch the bathroom countertop; bring your tote back to your personal space rather than leaving it in a shared bathroom.
- Each person should use their own hand or face towels.
- If you share a sleeping space, arrange beds so that you have as much space between beds as possible. Consider sleeping facing away from one another. Even sleeping in opposite directions (head to toe) could create extra distance.
- If sharing food or drinks, use separate serving dishes or cups (e.g., rather than sticking your hand into a bag of chips, pour an individual portion into a bowl).
- If you do come in contact with shared surfaces or items, wash your hands thoroughly afterwards.
- Practice basic hygiene, including handwashing. Wash your hands every time you enter your residence.



Face coverings are required in parts of campus



Physically distance yourself from others



Regularly wash your hands

For the most updated information...

visit the Housing and Residential Life website at miami.edu/housing

For University updates, visit coronavirus.miami.edu

If you are feeling sick...

find out how to contact Student Health Services at miami.edu/shs-covid

Reminders

- Make sure to watch for guest policy updates as the policy may change throughout the year.
- Wearing a face covering and physical distancing is strongly suggested when in common spaces within your residential area.

Roommate Guidelines FAQs

Can my friends come over to hang out at my place? How can I socialize while physical

In general, limiting people in your residence to just your roommates helps to slow the spread. This might seem challenging, but it will limit your close contact exposure to others outside of your living space. Examples of locations outside of the residence halls are gliders, Hecht/Stanford Bridge, Lakeside Village Patio, The Foote Green, the intramural fields, the Arboretum and local parks.

I feel like my roommate's behavior is putting me at risk. What can I do?

Conflict may arise with roommates for many reasons, including disagreements over safety and cleaning precautions related to COVID-19, having guests in the living space, or doing things outside of the home that are not physically distanced. We encourage you to have a proactive conversation with your roommates to set expectations and to confront one another when concerns arise.

Residents should complete their online roommate agreement, which you will receive from your RA or CA. If issues arise, contact your RA/CA to assist with providing support and mediation as well.

Whether you live on or off campus, you can also use 'Canes Care for 'Canes to submit an anonymous report.

What do I do if someone I live with gets sick?

Students should contact Student Health Service if they have symptoms of COVID-19, have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID-19 outside of Student Health, or if they have any other COVID-19 medical questions. Students should then follow guidelines provided by Student Health.

My roommate was told to quarantine or isolate. Does that mean I have to do this as well?

When someone is told to quarantine, it may be because they have been in close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19. If directed to isolate, a person has tested positive for a contagious disease. If your roommate is directed to quarantine or isolate, please visit the Student Health Services website or call for more information.

Can we host/attend a party or large gathering?

This one, unfortunately, is a no. Many clusters of infected individuals have resulted from parties or social gatherings. It is possible to spread COVID-19 even when an individual has no symptoms. Social life won't be like this forever, and the less social gatherings we do now the sooner we can get back to how social life was before COVID-19.

Keep in mind that everyone you will encounter will have a different risk tolerance. They could have a condition that puts them at higher risk of getting seriously ill with COVID-19 or live with someone who does. People at high risk for severe illness need to follow extra precautions. You can help protect the most vulnerable by wearing your mask, keeping your distance, and washing your hands often.

