Greetings Fellow Pacer:

On 8 July 2020, I sent out the first of a series of communications updating all Pacer Residents to help you prepare for your return to University Housing in August. As I have said many times over the last several months, we are truly living in unprecedented times and the health, safety, and welfare of our entire community is the UofSC Aiken’s top priority. As such, we continue to prepare for the 2020-2021 academic year. UofSC Aiken University Housing continues to work on completing plans for your arrival in August, including measures designed to help mitigate the possible spread of the COVID-19 virus.

We are confident that reducing the risk of COVID-19 is the shared responsibility of every member of our community, including our residential students. Please take some time to review all of the information in this letter, as it will help you prepare for your return to campus in August.

Summer University Housing Communications

This is the second in a series of three communications that will be sent out to fall 2020 residents. You should expect another as follows:

- End of July: An Email as well as a packet of information mailed to your permanent address, including vital information that you will need to bring with you when you move into Housing

Move In Dates and Process

As part of the university's COVID-19 mitigation strategy, Housing Move In will be conducted over four days, Friday, 14 August through Monday, 17 August.

Each resident will be assigned a date and time for Move In. As part of the university’s overall COVID-19 mitigation strategy limiting the number of residents in each building, as well as each apartment or suite, will help to ensure social distancing and minimize opportunities for community spread. University Housing will be providing the specific date and time to each resident in the mailing that will come out in late July. If there are conflicts about the assigned time, University Housing will attempt to accommodate a change, while ensuring that the COVID-19 mitigation strategies are maintained.
Housing Agreement Addendum

University Housing is issuing an Addendum to the UofSC Aiken Housing Agreement to provide you with greater detail about how these changes may impact your residential experience in the coming year. You can find this document linked here. Additionally, the letter that explained the Addendum is available for your review here. Please take the time to carefully review each item to make an informed decision about living in residential housing for the 2020-2021 school year.

There may be additional modifications needed as the year progresses and we track the impact of COVID-19 on our residential community and campus. As always, we will endeavor to update you with timely information about specific health and safety guidance important for our residential community.

Meal Plan Changes

If you want to make a change to your Meal Plan, you may do so through your Self-Service Carolina until August 9, 2020. Should you wish to make a change to your Meal Plan, please do so prior to August 9, 2020. Meal Plan options and requirements may be found on the University Housing website here.

Parking Decals

There is ample and close parking to all University Housing residence halls. Please know that all student vehicles must display parking decals for the upcoming academic year; they are now available. The parking decals can be obtained from the University Police Department Office between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. University Police will also be open during Move In Weekend. Come by before Move In Day to get a jump start on the fall semester.

Carolina Card

Residents may choose to obtain their student picture ID at the University Police office prior to Move In Day. This will allow you to avoid the rush. Please contact the University Police Department Office at 803-631-3319 to set up an appointment. (Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.) University Police will also be open during Move In Weekend.

Early Arrival Requests

Early arrival dates are only granted for university related activities, such as participating in the Leadership Retreat, serving as an Orientation Pacer Setter, or being required to return for athletic training. Please complete your request on the form which is linked here. The deadline to submit the Early Arrival Request Form is Monday, August 3, 2020.

Please know that University Housing will verify that you are an approved participant in a University sponsored event that would require your early arrival for fall 2020. All residents who are approved for early arrival will be notified at the email they have provided on the early arrival form no later than Friday, August 7, 2020. All approved residents will be provided information on the check in date, time, and processes in that email.

What to Bring, What not to Bring, and What to Bring for COVID-19

University Housing has developed a list of items that are recommended for all residents to bring and not to bring when they return to camps in August. Please look over the list which is available on the University Housing website on the What to Bring page, which is linked here.
Please pay particular attention to the recommended COVID-19 items that you should bring with you when you move in, including masks, cleaning supplies, and other items that would not normally be on your packing list. These will be very important to you, as masks will be required in most common spaces, including in classrooms, while you are on campus in the fall.

**Housing Application and Room Selection**

If you or a friend have not already complete a Housing Application or selected a room, there is still time to do so. A step-by-step guide for both processes may be found on the University Housing website at: [https://www.usca.edu/housing](https://www.usca.edu/housing)

**Single Room Requests**

Any currently assigned resident who requires a single room due to health problems related to COVID-19 must contact Dr. Claudette Palmer at [ClaudetteP@usca.edu](mailto:ClaudetteP@usca.edu) in the Office of Disability Services and provide documentation as soon as possible. Once approved, residents will be assigned to singles rooms. Please note that the cost of a Double-as-a-Single for is $3,659.00. Once assigned to a single room, this rate will be applied to your university bill.

If you wish to make a single room request, you may do so by emailing Housing@usca.edu your first and last names, your USC ID, and your mobile phone number should we need to contact you.

Should you be assigned to a single room, you will be notified of your new assignment via email.

**UofSC Aiken COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies**

University Housing has been working diligently as part of the university community to implement COVID-19 mitigation strategies. These include:

- Providing Diagnostic Testing throughout the year
- Educating Students about the Virus
- Establishing an Isolation Plan for residents diagnosed with COVID-19
- Contact Tracing in Partnership with SCDHEC
- Encouraging Personal Responsibility, including Requiring Mask Usage in Common Areas
- Social Distancing in Common Spaces and changes in Lounge and Study Room Usage
- Updated Cleaning Regimes

For more information on these mitigation strategies, please check out our Be Pacer Ready page at: [https://www.usca.edu/pacer-ready](https://www.usca.edu/pacer-ready)

**COVID-19 Testing before Move In**

- All residential students must obtain a COVID-19 test as close to return date to campus as possible, however, a test should not be taken more than 10 days prior to the return to campus. Medical documentation of negative test results should be brought with the student to housing move in.
- Students testing positive prior to returning to campus will not be allowed to move into housing until after the minimum 10 day isolation period off campus. Once the student shows no signs of COVID-19 symptoms, including no fever for at least 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, the student will be provided a new date and time to move into University Housing. Students who test positive must notify University Housing at Housing@usca.edu, that they will need to check in at a later date and time. University Housing will coordinate a new date and time to check in and will provide this information to the student via email. Any student who has tested positive should contact his or her advisor to make arrangements to learn remotely through their quarantine period.
• If a student does not undergo a test prior to move in, student will be required to go to the Convocation Center prior to moving into their dorm room to get tested and then maintain a self-quarantine in their dorm room until results are obtained. Self-quarantine protocols will be provided to those residents at the time of move in.

Additional Information on Where to Find COVID-19 Testing
• SC DHEC test sites may be accessed at: https://www.scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-screening-testing-sites or check with your home state or community's health department.
• The Department of Health and Human Services has partnered with a number of national chains to create a network of no cost test sites (https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/community-based-testing-sites/index.html).
• Your personal health care provider may also direct you to testing resources. Mail-in tests are available via LabCorp https://www.pixel.labcorp.com/at-home-test-kits/covid-19-test and Quest (https://www.everlywell.com/products/covid-19-test/).
• Augusta University Health is also option https://www.augustahealth.org/expresscare/covid-19-virtual-screening

Questions
We look forward to your return. If you have questions, please e-mail the University Housing and Residence Life office at housing@usca.edu.

I am confident that we will have a great fall semester. And although our day-to-day practices have changed some over the past several months, we know that we will all be working together to ensure that we have a fun and safe semester at UofSC Aiken.

Pacer Proud,

Director