Pacers:

These are still unprecedented times due to the COVID-19 pandemic. First, I want to thank each and every one of you for helping to make University Housing a wonderful place over the past few months. You have worked with us in following the policies of our “New Normal” and I believe that we have had a successful semester. Thank you for that; it is appreciated.

Below you will find important information on what you will need to do, in order to return to campus in January 2021, and when you will need to return to campus.

Returning to University Housing in January

For the return to campus for the Spring Semester, University Housing will have two days to check back into Housing, Saturday, 9th and Sunday, 10th January 2021. Here are some important items that you will need to know so that your return to University Housing goes smoothly:

- The check in will be conducted between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm on both Saturday, 9 January and 10 January, 2021.
- Each resident will need to provide documentation of a **Negative COVID-19 Test** done no more than 5 days prior to the return to campus. More information on the COVID-19 Testing Requirement is below.
- Check-In for Spring Semester will take place at the tent on Leadership Drive, near the University Police Department and the Pacer Downs Office. The gates entering University Housing off the Bell Parkway will be closed until Sunday, 10 January 2021 at 5:00 pm; the [campus map](#) may assist you.

**COVID-19 Testing before Returning to University Housing**

**What if I am remaining on campus throughout the holidays?**

- Residents who have been approved to remain on campus until the start of the spring semester should plan to take a COVID Test at the SC DHEC COVID Testing site at the Convocation Center on Monday, 4th January 2021 or Wednesday, 6th January 2021 to ensure that you have the test results back before the first day of classes, which is Monday, 11th January 2021.
- The hours of testing are 1:00 pm to 6:30 pm, Wednesday through Monday.
- Please know that the testing site is closed on Tuesdays.

**What if a COVID-19 Test is not able to be done before returning to campus?**

- Please be aware that should you be unable to complete your COVID-19 test before returning to campus, there will be an option on-campus to be tested when you return.
• If residents are not able to get a test prior to returning to campus, they will be able to be tested at the UofSC Aiken Convocation Center from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm on both Saturday and Sunday, 9th and 10th January 2021; there will be no fee for the test, though residents will need to provide their UofSC Aiken Student ID.
• Residents will be required to go to the Convocation Center prior to returning into their dorm room to get tested. Testing documentation will be provided to you and you will be required to show this to University Housing staff, and then maintain a self-quarantine in your dorm room until results are obtained.
• Self-quarantine protocols will be provided to those residents at the time of move in.

What if a Positive Test Result comes back?

• Residents 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 24 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 and the UofSC Aiken COVID Coordinators at COVIDCoordinators@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 and professors to make arrangements to learn remotely through their quarantine or isolation periods.

Additional Information on Where to Find COVID-19 Testing

• SC DHEC test sites may be accessed at: https://scdhec.gov/covid19/find-covid-19-testing-location or check with your home state or community’s health department.

Final Thoughts

Again, thank you for working with us in these unusual circumstances. I do appreciate everything that you have done to make our fall semester successful and I am confident that you will help us make the end of the semester go well.

Should you have any questions about any of the items in this email, please speak with your Resident Mentor, stop by the desk or office in your community or building, or contact University Housing at 803.641.3790 or via email at housing@usca.edu.

One last reminder, the Office of University Housing and Residence Life will be closed from Thursday, 24 December 2020 through Monday, 4 January 2021. We will reopen at 8:30 am to serve you on that Monday.

My best for the holidays and see you in 2021!

Pacer Proud,

Kevin Michael Kerr, M.A., M.Ed.

Director