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8-10-2021

## Coronavirus Update 8-10-21

The Coronavirus Planning Team

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**Tue 8/10/2021 4:31 PM**

Coronavirus Planning Contact Us [coronavirusplanningcontactus@sacredheart.edu](mailto:coronavirusplanningcontactus@sacredheart.edu)

Coronavirus Update 8-10-21

Dear members of the Sacred Heart University community,

As promised, we are sharing this year's version of the Pioneer Promise. While it remains a commitment to one another to follow protocols that will keep the community safe, it has been adapted to reflect fewer restrictions and procedures as we move toward more normalcy on campus. Just like last year, students, faculty and staff will be asked to sign the Pioneer Promise before the semester begins.

### **PIONEER PROMISE**

*"Wellness at SHU depends on YOU!"*

Sacred Heart University is a caring campus community. Every member of our community is expected to take a lead role in ensuring that we provide a safe and healthy environment that allows all of us to carry out our mission and our academic programs and activities moving forward. As Pioneers, this promise is an important opportunity for us to lead the way for ourselves and others within the larger community.

In doing so, we ask all Pioneers to *Promise* to:

- Protect themselves
- Protect their fellow Pioneers
- Protect our Sacred Heart community and our neighboring communities

We ask that everyone—students, staff and faculty—make this *Pioneer Promise* in the continued fight against COVID-19 and the recent rise in the delta variant that continues to claim the lives of many. The *Promise* continues for the 2021-22 academic year and will only end when we, as a community, have come through this pandemic together and helped to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The *PIONEER PROMISE* to Protect our Campus

Being a Pioneer is to be a member of our Sacred Heart community and to respect all of our Core Values, including the dignity of others, which requires us to go the extra mile to keep ourselves and all other Pioneers safe and healthy. In doing so, I promise to do all that I can to maintain positive hygiene, to keep our campus safe and to take part in the fight against the spread of COVID-19, and, in particular, the fight against the rise in the delta variant, in accordance with the University's policies and guidelines.

#### **Protect Myself**

*I Promise* to regularly monitor myself for COVID-19 symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing, muscle pains, sore throat or any loss of smell and/or taste and to use the Campus Clear application for tracking purposes. If I am experiencing any of these symptoms, I promise to report them to a campus medical professional and remain at home or in my residence hall room unless otherwise directed.

*I Promise to maintain all necessary personal hygiene including frequent hand washing with soap and water, as well as the frequent use of hand sanitizer*

### **Protect My Fellow Pioneers**

*I Promise to wear face protection indoors at all times and as otherwise instructed by campus guidelines.*

*I Promise to be vaccinated and/or tested in accordance with campus and state guidelines to protect our campus community.*

*I promise to accept the responsibility to secure appropriate housing for isolating/quarantining as required by the University within 24 hours after being notified of testing positive or possible exposure.*

### **Protect our Sacred Heart Community and Surrounding Neighboring Communities**

*I Promise to maintain appropriate logs of where I have been and with whom for purposes of contact tracing in order to protect our campus community and our surrounding neighbors.*

*I promise to practice appropriate social distancing and to wear face coverings as needed when I am off campus and in the outside community.*

**I promise to be accountable and to hold my fellow Pioneers accountable!**

### **Testing**

We have received a few emails from students who have found the costs of a PCR test prohibitive in their areas. We recommend that you consult with the Department of Health in your town to see if there are any facilities offering free or low-cost testing. In Connecticut, there are [some Walgreen locations](#) that are offering free testing. That may be true in other states as well.

### **Education During COVID Discussion**

SHU community members may be interested in an upcoming episode of WSHU's Join the Conversation series. Titled "Education during COVID: What We Know & Need to Know," the program will explore what we have learned in the past 18 months, the impact on daily lives and education of kids and the new challenges presented by the delta variant. The panel will consist of respected experts in the fields of public health, education and journalism. This free event will be Thursday, August 26, at 7 p.m. You will need to [register to get the link](#).

### **Town Hall Meeting**

We have received requests for a town hall meeting to talk about the fall semester. We are working on scheduling a meeting and will have more details in our message on Friday.

Thank you,  
The Coronavirus Planning Team

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*Please note: Given the unpredictability of the variants, we will continue to consult with and follow the guidance of the CDC, the Connecticut Department of Health and state and local health officials. We will all need to be flexible and understand that as we continue to work in the best interest of the University community, there will likely be*

*changes and updates. We also suggest that all students come to campus with preliminary plans in place should there be a need to return home for isolation, quarantining, etc.*

[SHU Coronavirus Website](#) | [Testing, Tracking, Treating & Tracing](#)

This message was sent to the following groups: !Campuswide-Students, !Campuswide-Employees