

**RESIDENT PARTICIPATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
REGARDING COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (INCLUDING COVID-19)**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented student housing properties across the United States with a myriad of challenges in addressing this highly contagious virus. Individuals with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others, who may be far more vulnerable and have greater health risks associated with exposure to COVID-19. By taking steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, students have an important role to play in keeping the entire UTRGV community healthy and safe.

As a UTRGV student I understand that I must take steps to stay healthy, so that I can help protect others and promote a safe return to campus for the UTRGV community. With this understanding, I am committed to taking responsibility for my own health and to helping stop the spread of COVID-19.

UTRGV's highest priority is the safety of all members of its community – students, faculty, staff, and visitors. I understand and acknowledge that, by engaging in campus activities (e.g., attending classes, pursuing my education, living on campus, eating in dining halls, attending activities, participating in recreation, or other similar activities), I may be exposed to infectious diseases, including without limitation MRSA, influenza, or coronaviruses including COVID-19. I also understand and acknowledge that, despite all reasonable efforts by UTRGV, I can still contract COVID-19 or other infectious diseases, and that there is risk of serious illness or death associated with COVID-19 or other infectious diseases.

In order to reduce my risk, I agree and commit to being an active participant in maintaining my own health, wellbeing and safety, as well as the safety of others, by following all rules, expectations, and guidelines provided by the Department of Housing and Residence Life and UTRGV.

I also understand that, as more information becomes known, the department or the University may modify rules, expectations, and guidelines. I acknowledge and understand it is my responsibility to make every effort to keep myself informed of these changes and comply with them, to protect myself and the University community.

I promise and commit to protecting myself and the UTRGV community by:

- 1) Agreeing to testing for COVID-19 and potential subsequent self-quarantining if I am identified as a contact of anyone who had been determined to be positive for COVID-19.
- 2) Agreeing, if I test positive for COVID-19, to self-quarantine in a designated location until:
 - a) My symptoms have resolved, and
 - b) It has been at least ten (10) days since the start of my symptoms, and
 - c) I have a negative COVID-19 test result.
- 3) Timely reporting any known or potential exposures to COVID-19 to UTRGV.
- 4) Monitoring for the following symptoms:
 - a) Measured temperature over 100 degrees, or feelings of fever or chills
 - b) New or worsening cough
 - c) Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - d) Sore throat
 - e) Muscle pain or body aches
 - f) Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - g) Headaches
 - h) Loss of taste or smell

- 5) Should I develop the above symptoms, I will contact the Department of Housing and Residence Life staff and following staff instructions, which may include being referred to Student Health Services, tested for COVID-19 and self-quarantining while the test results are pending, or being evaluated by UT Health Rio Grande Valley and Student Health Services.
- 6) Staying at home if I am feeling sick or having respiratory symptoms.
- 7) Timely getting an influenza vaccination (unless an exemption is obtained under state law).
- 8) Participating fully and honestly with UTRGV staff for contact tracing to determine whom I might have potentially exposed to COVID-19.
- 9) Practicing physical distancing of at least six (6) feet as much as possible.
- 10) Wearing a face covering over my nose and mouth in all campus buildings, classrooms, libraries, laboratories, and outdoors when six-foot physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- 11) Frequently washing or sanitizing my hands.
- 12) Keeping my personal space, shared common space, and my belongings clean and disinfected.

I understand that COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus, and that it is possible to develop and contract COVID-19 even if I follow all of the safety precautions above and those recommended by the Department of Housing and Residence Life, UTRGV, the Centers for Disease Control, local health departments, or others, and that the risk of serious illness and death does exist. I knowingly and freely assume the risks, both known and unknown, from my participation in living on campus in university owned and managed student housing and campus activities, even if such risks arise from the negligence of others.

I understand and acknowledge that, although UTRGV is following guidance issued by the CDC and other experts to reduce the spread of infection, I can never be completely shielded from all risk of illness caused by COVID-19 or other infections

I have read, understand, agree, and commit to complying with the expectations and requirements identified above. I understand that signing this form is not required as a condition of living on campus.

By my signature below, I represent to UTRGV, the Department of Housing and Residence Life, and their employees and agents that (a) I am of sound mind, (b) that I have read this Resident Participation Acknowledgment Regarding Communicable Diseases (including COVID-19) and fully understand the agreements, expectations, and requirements contained therein; (c) I am voluntarily signing of my own free act and deed; and (d) no oral representations, statements, or inducement, apart from those stated above, have been made.

Full Name	UTRGV Student Identification Number
Student Signature	Date Signed
Parental Signature (for those under 18 years old)	Date
<i>Office Use Only:</i>	