Interim Policy Concerning Students Residing in Baylor Provided Self-Isolation Housing During COVID-19

I. Scope of Authority

This interim policy outlines behavioral expectations for students residing in Baylor provided self-isolation housing. Student-athletes may receive additional or different directives from health care providers working with the Baylor Athletic Department, and if so, they must follow those directives, including any directive to isolate. Students are expected to comply with all directives related to this interim policy. Behavioral expectations will be enforced under the Baylor Student Conduct Code. Baylor has deemed it appropriate during the COVID-19 Pandemic to provide a limited number of self-isolation housing units, which are off campus, to students who have tested positive for COVID-19 and cannot return home or to another safe location to isolate. Baylor provided self-isolation housing units will be considered an extension of the Baylor campus while used for this purpose and all Baylor policies will apply during the use of this facility. Alcohol, tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and other prohibited items on the Baylor campus apply to the self-isolation housing space.

This policy adopts the CDC definition of isolation in relation to COVID-19. The CDC defines isolation in relation to COVID-19 as follows: “isolation is used to separate people infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, from people who are not infected. People who are in isolation should stay home until it’s safe for them to be around others. In the home, anyone sick or infected should separate themselves from others by staying in a specific ‘sick room’ or area and using a separate bathroom (if available).” ([https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html))

II. Notification

If a student residing in on-campus housing takes a COVID-19 test, of their own initiative, at an outside medical facility, they must report the results of a positive test immediately to the Baylor Health Center by emailing health_services@baylor.edu or calling 254-710-1010.
III. Assignment to a Baylor Provided Self-Isolation Housing Unit

Students, who are not able to return home or to another safe location to isolate, will be placed in self-isolation housing as capacity allows in coordination with Campus Living & Learning, and the Baylor Health Center.

Such housing will, as appropriate, be required of any student who lives in on-campus housing, and tests positive for COVID-19. Such housing will be provided, based on availability, at no additional room cost to the student (students may, however, incur other living expenses such as food which they are responsible for).

Once a student tests positive and receives confirmation of the test result at an outside medical facility, as previously stated in this interim policy, they must immediately notify the Baylor Health Center by calling 254-710-1010. If the Baylor Health Center or My Labs Direct administered the test, the student will receive further instructions by secure message under this interim policy. Upon being notified of the student’s positive test, the Baylor Health Center will provide the student with written directions regarding the requirement to self-isolate. Plans to return home or self-isolate within University housing will be discussed in conjunction with Campus Living and Learning officials. Written communication may occur through Baylor email and by secure message from the University’s Health Portal. The written notice will be sent to the student at his or her Baylor email account and will constitute full and adequate notice of the implementation of this interim policy. As stated in University policy, each Baylor student is personally responsible for checking his or her Baylor email on a regular and recurring basis for receipt of official University correspondence. The University reserves the right to use other forms of communication (text message, local or home mailing address etc.) as deemed necessary.

Any student requiring the use of Baylor University provided housing will be assigned a Self-Isolation Contact Staff Member who will serve as a point of first contact and work with the student to answer questions the student may have related to the self-isolation housing requirements. In addition to the Self-Isolation Contact Staff Member, the student also may be contacted by, or may reach out to, other University offices who may provide support or guidance as appropriate. Such offices may include Campus Living & Learning and the Baylor Health Center. When communicating with other offices via e-mail, the student is encouraged to copy their Self-Isolation Contact Staff Member if they are comfortable doing so.

If the student does not have transportation, the Baylor Health Center and other departments will work with them to provide transportation to Baylor University provided housing.

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IV. Behavioral Expectations for Students Residing in a Baylor Provided Self-Isolation Housing Unit

a. Length of Stay

Upon being placed in Baylor provided self-isolation housing, the Baylor Health Center will determine the appropriate length of stay in isolation housing. Baylor officials will consult CDC guidelines concerning quarantine and isolation and/or other appropriate guidance in determining the appropriate length of stay. Students in self-isolation housing with a positive COVID-19 test must remain in residence in the Baylor provided self-isolation housing unit until the end of the determined period. The student may not return to any Baylor campus location or facility until cleared to do so.

b. Isolation Behavioral Expectations

During the determined length of time that a student resides in Baylor provided self-isolation housing, the student must follow this isolation protocol. The student may not leave the Baylor provided self-isolation housing unit, except in case of emergency and must contact their Self-Isolation Contact Staff member to make them aware of the emergency. If the student is on a meal plan through Baylor dining services, Baylor will coordinate with the student to deliver meals. If the student is not on a meal plan, the student will be provided with resource information for grocery or meal delivery to be furnished at their own expense. If a student wishes to exercise, they must do so within the Baylor provided self-isolation housing unit and may not do so outside. If a student chooses to have food, groceries, supplies, etc., delivered, via a personal acquaintance or via a third-party service, they may do so at their own expense and such delivery must be contactless and there must not be any physical interaction between the student and the person delivering the goods. A student may not have any guests at any time in their Baylor provided self-isolation housing unit. Additional expectations may also be provided depending upon the specific housing unit that is provided. Any such additional guidance provided is to be assumed to have the same authority as guidance specifically outlined in this interim policy.

If a student needs medical attention or services provided by the Baylor Health Center during their time in self-isolation housing, they must contact the Baylor Health Center, via phone or e-mail, for assistance. At their discretion, the Baylor Health Center will provide further instructions to the student depending upon the circumstance. The Baylor Health Center may under this interim policy instruct the student to leave their self-isolation housing for the purpose of receiving medical care. While outside of a student’s Baylor provided self-isolation housing unit, they must wear a mask at all times, unless instructed otherwise by the Baylor Health Center, and follow all instructions provided by the Baylor Health Center.

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Each student is responsible for contacting their professors to maintain progress in their Baylor classes. Immediately upon being informed of the need to move into isolation housing, students must contact all of their professors to discuss how to keep up with missed assignments. Baylor faculty are not expected to provide virtual opportunities for classroom participation while a student is in isolation. Where available, some faculty may take advantage of live streaming and/or lecture capture, but whether or not such options are available will depend upon: 1) the classroom technology available in each classroom, and 2) whether or not the instructor chooses to use these forms of technology.

c. Respect and Care for Space

Each Baylor provided self-isolation housing comes fully furnished with amenities appropriate to the specific space. Amenities such as disposable dishes, cups and eating utensils may be provided by the University if warranted. The student is asked to keep in mind that it is a temporary space and to refrain from making any changes to the space or furniture. The student is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the space during their stay. If there is any damage found or excessive cleaning/maintenance required when the student moves out, the student may be charged for the cost of restoring the space. If the space has been reasonably maintained, the student will not be charged for the space to be cleaned after they move out.

In addition to care of the space, the student is also expected to reasonably maintain the space during the duration of their stay. Specific guidance will be given as to what those expectations are based upon the specific space. For example, the student will be expected to put their trash into a trash bag/s and instructions will be given as to how they are expected to dispose of such trash without leaving the Baylor provided self-isolation housing unit.

d. Directives of Property Management

Baylor provided self-isolation housing units are dedicated spaces contracted from third-party vendors and as such are not operated by Baylor University. Baylor will work closely with such vendors to share understanding and enforcement of this interim policy. A student residing in Baylor provided self-isolation housing is expected to comply with any directives given by the property management staff of the third-party vendor operating the Baylor provided self-isolation housing unit the student resides in.

V. Choosing to Live with Parent/Guardian/Immediate Family

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As previously outlined in this policy, a student assigned to self-isolation housing may not have any guests while in self-isolation housing, which includes close relationships such as parents/guardians/immediate family. However, if a student, in consultation with a parent/guardian/immediate family member, is able to stay with them instead of residing in self-isolation housing, they are encouraged to do so.

If choosing to self-isolate with a parent/guardian/immediate family member, the student should consider how they plan to safely self-isolate. Specifically, the student should have a means of private transportation (such as their own car or the parent/guardian/immediate family member being willing to pick them up in their car) by which they can travel to the parent/guardian/immediate family member’s housing. The student may not use any public transportation (such as, but not limited to, airlines, trains, buses, ride sharing, etc.) which would cause them to come in contact with anyone other than the previously identified parent/guardian/immediate family member. While in self-isolation at the residence of the parent/guardian/immediate family member, Baylor offices such as Campus Living & Learning, the Contact Tracing Team and the Baylor Health Center, may continue to contact the student and the student must remain in timely correspondence with them. The resources and services provided by Baylor that are mentioned under Section IV, subsection b., of this interim policy, such as meal delivery, will generally not be available to the student if they choose to live with a parent/guardian/immediate family member, during their period of self-isolation. Further, the student will not receive any refund on their housing contract or meal plan for lodging and meals they forgo while choosing to live with a parent/guardian/immediate family member during their period of self-isolation.

While in self-isolation at the residence of the parent/guardian/immediate family member, the student is expected not to leave the residence of the parent/guardian/immediate family member and to follow CDC guidelines for self-isolation. The student may not return to campus until they receive clearance from the Baylor Health Center.

VI. Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with this interim policy may be processed under the Student Conduct Code which could include interim removal from the Baylor campus, including the self-isolation facility, and classes as well as possible suspension or expulsion from the University. Students should understand that this interim policy has been implemented to protect the safety of the community.