



Clarkson™

Clarkson Commitment (Updated: 11/12/2020)

The University looks forward to students returning for Spring 2021. In order to make this a successful experience, all community members must do their part to decrease the risk of spread of the COVID-19 virus. **The ability to open up the University to begin the semester and minimize disruption of the academic experience during a global pandemic requires dedication from the entire University community.** Despite protective measures that may be implemented, having an open and engaged community inherently puts students, faculty, and staff at greater risk of exposure to the virus. **Among other things, it is critical that we remain mindful that individuals in the community who may be at increased health risk if they contract COVID-19,** including students, faculty, and staff, will be in the classroom, in residence halls, and all other areas of the community. Therefore, we each must be cognizant of our own actions and how our interactions can enhance or imperil not only our own health and safety, but also the health and safety of others in our community. Indeed, our Clarkson Commitment motivates us to do all that we can to create an environment where everyone has the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities available at the University.

I agree to comply with the following terms and conditions for Spring 2021.

I commit to protect the Clarkson community by:

- **Always wearing my face mask, which covers nose and mouth,** any time I am indoors (excluding in my assigned residence hall room/suite/apartment) including but not limited to hallways, bathrooms, academic spaces, study/lounge spaces, dining facilities, and fitness facilities, and any time I am outdoors while within six feet of another person. I will always wear my face mask when traveling in vehicles with individuals who are not within my family unit. I will always wear my face mask when individuals not in my family unit are present in my assigned room/suite/apartment.
- **Washing my hands on a regular basis,** especially after using the bathroom, touching common surfaces, and prior to eating/drinking.
- **Checking my temperature** on a regular basis and as directed and attending class virtually if my temperature is above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
- **Following all cleaning protocols** as adopted by the University from time to time, including cleaning surfaces after using them.
- **Following social distancing directives** as adopted by the University from time to time.
- **Following classroom protocols** as adopted by the University from time to time, including but not limited to attendance and seating, enacted to maintain occupancy and social distancing.
- **Complying with gathering restrictions** announced by the University and/or local/state/federal authorities, whether now in effect or imposed at a later date.

- **Immediately self-isolating and contacting Student Health and Counseling should I become sick** with a fever, cough and/or other possible symptoms of COVID-19. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. After hours, I commit to immediately self-isolating and contacting Urgent Care or the Emergency department at Canton-Potsdam Hospital. If I have difficulty breathing or experience emergency symptoms, I will call 911.
- **Following all self-isolation, isolation, or quarantine instructions.** I will follow the expectations of these statuses as indicated by the University or public health authorities, including not leaving the isolation or quarantine area unless in immediate danger (e.g. fire alarm activation).
- **Participating fully in all contact tracing efforts** by the Department of Health (DOH).
- **Adhering to all COVID-19 testing directives** made by the University and the DOH.
- **Completing the Student Wellness Plan** by January 1, 2021.
- **Abiding by risk alert level restrictions** set forth by the University, and/or local/state/federal authorities.
- **Informing the University if I have been directed to quarantine or isolate** by any locale's Department of Health by emailing studentaffairs@clarkson.edu.
- **Complying with different or additional COVID-19 related limitations, restrictions, or policies**--due to factors including but not limited to ongoing changes in guidance and infection rates-- as may be imposed by the University and/or local/state/federal authorities for the health and safety of our community.

Additional commitments for the Potsdam campuses:

In addition to the commitments described above, I further commit to the following if I will be present on the Potsdam campuses:

- **Abiding by dining facility rules** as adopted by the University from time to time.
- When planning what to bring to campus, **consider the possibility of being required to vacate campus** at any point throughout the semester.
- **Not traveling domestically (outside of the [North Country Region](#)) or internationally** during the semester without prior approval from the Office of the Dean of Students. I acknowledge that I must request permission at least three business days in advance, absent emergencies, to travel by completing the [Travel Request Form](#). I acknowledge that if I receive approval to travel, I will follow University directives regarding self-quarantine upon my return. I acknowledge that if I do not request and obtain approval prior to traveling, I may be prohibited from returning to campus for the remainder of the semester.
- **Adhering to University visitor restrictions**, as in effect from time to time, in accordance with the University's then current phase, which may include a complete prohibition of guests in individual student rooms.

The potential continuing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the resulting risks and implications for on-campus residential education, are not fully foreseeable. As a result, the University may from time to time establish conditions, policies, rules and restrictions different from, or in addition to, those appearing

above, in order to account for actual or potential impacts of the pandemic. I agree to comply with, and acknowledge that my ability to remain on campus is contingent upon fulfillment of, any and all such lawful conditions, policies, rules and restrictions.

In support of helping to maintain the safety of the community and maintaining the ability for students to remain at the University, the University has developed accountability procedures to uphold the Clarkson Commitment. I realize that I may be subject to consequences as set forth in the accountability procedures and/or applicable Clarkson disciplinary procedures if I violate the Clarkson Commitment.

Electronic Signature

Date



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Accountability for the Clarkson Commitment

The health and safety of the Clarkson University community requires a shared and steadfast commitment to modify the ways in which members of the community live, learn, and work on and off campus during the COVID-19 pandemic. The University has implemented significant measures designed to reduce risks to the community, such as providing for social distancing, testing, contact tracing, and personal protective equipment, as well as reconfiguring spaces and providing medical resources, and has established the Clarkson Commitment to set forth behavioral expectations for students in connection with the implementation of these and other measures.

Failure to scrupulously adhere to the expectations of the Clarkson Commitment poses potentially severe public health effects and makes it more likely that students will not be able to stay on campus for the duration of the term and return for the following term. Accordingly, those who do not adhere to these expectations may face consequences as described in *Protective Measures*.
Protective Measures

In the event of a student's or organization's suspected violation of the Clarkson Commitment, the University's Dean of Students or their designee may review the matter. If the Dean of Students (or designee) concludes that the student or organization has violated the Clarkson Commitment, the Dean of Students (or designee) may warn the student or organization to refrain from further violative conduct, provide for notice to be given to parents or guardians, and/or impose consequences in the interest of protecting community health, including but not limited to (as applicable):

- (a) loss of specified campus privileges;
- (b) housing reassignment;*
- (c) loss of the privilege to live in University housing;* or
- (d) loss of permission to be on campus.**

* In the event a student is reassigned to different housing, loses the privilege to reside in University housing, or loses permission to be on campus, the student will not be entitled to a reduction or refund of housing or meal plan costs. A change in housing could result in an increase or decrease in room and board costs based on the style of housing the student is relocated to.

** Loss of permission to be on campus may impact a student's ability to complete certain courses or co-curricular activities, and to access certain campus resources; in such event the student will not be entitled to a reduction or refund of tuition or student fees.

These measures, if implemented, are not disciplinary sanctions, will not appear on the student's or organization's disciplinary record, and are in addition to (and not in lieu of) potential disciplinary

consequences or consequences permitted under a student's housing contract with the University. A student or organization who loses significant campus privileges or is removed from University housing, reassigned, or prohibited from presence on campus may request reconsideration of these protective measures by submitting a request for reconsideration in writing to the Vice President of Enrollment & Student Advancement within five calendar days after receiving notice of imposition of the protective measures. The measures will remain in effect pending the review. The Vice President of Enrollment & Student Advancement's decision on review is final and not subject to further appeal.

Disciplinary Consequences

In circumstances involving intentional or significant alleged violations of the Clarkson Commitment, in addition to or in lieu of imposing consequences as described above, the matter may be considered as a potential Code of Student Conduct violation, and adjudicated in accordance with the University's disciplinary processes. Significant violations of the Clarkson Commitment include but are not limited to:

- (a) **COVID-Positive Intentional Violations:** Students who know, or suspect, that they are positive for COVID-19, whether via a positive test result, because they are in the process of being tested for COVID-19, because they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or because they have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been treated or is symptomatic for COVID-19, and then intentionally expose other members of the campus community by any means, including, but not limited to, visiting in an enclosed area or inviting another person to the student's room, apartment or other enclosed space, sharing food or other personal items, or hosting a gathering of any size.
- (b) **Failure to Isolate:** Students who have been directed by the New York State or St. Lawrence County Department of Health (DOH) to isolate (because they have tested positive for COVID-19) on or off campus, and then engage in any conduct that would violate such isolation order—including, but not limited to, intentionally leaving isolation, or exposing other individuals, including students (whether in isolation or not) by visiting with them in an enclosed area, by inviting them to the student's room, apartment or other enclosed space, by sharing food or other personal items, or by hosting a gathering of any size.
- (c) **Failure to Quarantine:** Students who have been directed by the University or the DOH to complete a quarantine period (mandatory or precautionary), on or off campus, and then engage in any conduct that would violate such quarantine order—including, but not limited to, intentionally leaving quarantine, or exposing other individuals, including students (whether in quarantine/isolation or not) by visiting with them in an enclosed area, by inviting them to the student's room, apartment or other enclosed space, by sharing food or other personal items, or by hosting a gathering of any size.
- (d) **Hosting a Prohibited Gathering (On- and Off-Campus):** Students who host a gathering of any size on- or off-campus, whether indoor or outdoor, that exceeds or otherwise violates limitations established by the University, any applicable New York

State Executive Order, or the DOH. Such gatherings present significant health and safety threats to the campus and broader community, and jeopardize the continued functioning of campus. All individuals who are on the housing contract/lease (or whose family member is on the lease), pay housing charges/rent, live at the location, or assist in organizing the event shall be considered a host unless it can be shown that they were not present and played no part in organizing, hosting, conducting, promoting, or advertising the event.

- (e) **Attending a Prohibited Gathering (On- and Off-Campus):** Students who attend a gathering of any size (but not as host) on- or off-campus, whether indoor or outdoor, that exceeds or otherwise violates limitations established by the University, any applicable New York State Executive Order, or the DOH. Such gatherings present significant health and safety threats to the campus and broader community, and jeopardize the continued functioning of campus.
- (f) **Face Mask and Social Distancing Requirements:** Students found to have committed repeated and/or intentional violations of face mask/covering or social distancing requirements of the University, applicable New York State Executive Order, or the DOH.
- (g) **Contact Tracing:** Students who fail to comply, whether intentionally or unintentionally (unless it can be shown that the student was genuinely not reached by contact tracers through no failure on their part), with COVID-19 contact tracing efforts conducted by the University or the DOH.
- (h) **Failure to Comply with Health Protocols:** Students who (1) fail to adhere to pre-arrival COVID-19 testing requirements; (2) fail to attend two or more scheduled COVID-19 tests, without sufficient excuse and/or notification, for diagnostic or surveillance COVID-19 testing purposes under the University's published protocol; (3) fail to submit their daily health screening for at least three consecutive days, without sufficient excuse, or (4) fail to abide by daily health screening requirements.

Student organizations and student athletes may be subject to additional disciplinary consequences according to the policies and procedures set forth by the University and/or the group's governing bodies.