

FAQ for Student Life

Residence Life

What if I have a question about my move-in time and process?

Contact your resident director whose name and contact info was listed in the move-in sign-up information.

Can my family help me move in?

Two people can help you move in, and they must leave the residence hall as soon as they've delivered all your belongings.

Do I have to wear my mask when I move in?

Yes, you must wear your mask at all times on campus except when you're in your room.

Do I have to wear my mask all the time?

Students must wear masks anytime they leave their room, including walking in hallways, entryways, and when traveling to the bathroom. Masks have been proven to be one of the most effective ways to prevent COVID-19 from spreading, so help us by rocking an awesome mask every time you leave your room.

How do I get my key to my room once I move my belongings in?

All students will check in with their residence hall staff between 6-8 p.m. on their move-in day for their key and other critical hall information. Before meeting with the residence life staff, please complete your digital Room Condition Inventory (RCI), sign Westmont's Covenant During COVID-19, and complete your COVID-19 test within one hour after moving to campus. You need to complete all three to obtain your key from the residence life staff when you meet with them for check-in. QR codes will be listed on move-in signs posted on your door to give you access to your RCI and Westmont's Covenant During COVID-19.

I'm so excited to see my friends. What do I need to know about gathering with them?

Stairwells in the residence halls will be strategically designated to promote physical distancing in the move-in process. Signage will be used to mark entrances, exits, and arrows to direct traffic flow. Though it may be tempting, please do not congregate in the stairwells or hallways to visit with friends or suitemates. Instead, meet outdoors in compliance with our social distance protocol.

Can my friends visit my room?

Residence halls are open only to students currently living on campus. All others (including non-residential Westmont students) will not be allowed in the residence halls at this time. To mitigate the risk of COVID-19 spreading in the residence halls, non-Westmont visitors and Westmont commuters are asked not to visit the residence halls. If you have Westmont friends who live off campus, you are more than welcome to meet with them outdoors on campus. Students may also choose to see friends at their off-campus residences. If you choose to do this, we encourage you

to limit those contacts, and to strictly follow physical distancing and mask wearing protocols while doing so. Staying on campus as much as possible is the best way to keep yourself—and the entire community—healthy and well.

How many guests can I have in my room?

Guests in your room are limited to two fellow Westmont residential students at any one time to ensure physical distancing. This may require you to coordinate with your roommate regarding guests. Guests will also need to maintain six feet of physical distance from each other and should be wearing masks at all times.

Do I have to wear my mask to the bathroom?

Unless you live in the GLC and have your own bathroom, you must wear your mask to the bathroom and any other place you may encounter people. We advise you to use the same bathroom sink, shower, and toilet stall to help minimize the potential spread of COVID-19. Residence life staff will work with each section to help coordinate this after the move-in week.

Can I use the kitchen in the residence halls?

Kitchens are open and available for use, but personal items should be removed after each use and food must be stored in airtight containers. To ensure kitchens are properly cleaned and sanitized each day, we are asking students to clean surfaces before and after use, clean personal dishes and remove them from the public space, and store food in fridges and freezers in airtight containers. Residence life staff will inspect the kitchen each night, and any items left in the kitchen or not properly stored in the refrigerators/freezers will be discarded to ensure proper cleaning can be done.

Are the lounges open?

The lounges are open only for studying and watching television. Public spaces (lounges, kitchens, laundry rooms, etc.) in the residence halls have posters indicating the maximum capacity to ensure physical distancing. If the maximum number of people is present, then wait for someone to exit the room (lounge, kitchen, laundry room, etc.) before you enter it.

Can I study in the lounge?

Per Santa Barbara County Health guidelines, the lounge spaces in residence halls cannot be used to host recreational games and have been reserved as study spaces. Meals should not be consumed in these locations unless there is a kitchen. The college asks that all meals be consumed outside in the open air as much as possible or in your residence hall room.

Can I bunk and loft my bed?

No, you may not bunk and loft the beds at this time. The layout in your room is designed to keep you and your roommate as far away from each other as possible. Please sleep facing opposite directions. The first two weeks are critical for baseline testing. After these two initial weeks have passed, residence life staff will work to provide a limited number of kits for beds to be lofted, but students will not be permitted to bunk beds.

Masks

Do I need to wear a mask when I am with others in a car?

Yes, if you are in a car with those outside of your “pod.” If you are with people within your “pod” or alone, you do not need to wear a mask.

Do I need to wear a mask to/from my res hall and a car?

Yes. When you are moving about on campus, please wear your mask, even just from your car to the res hall.

What about while working out? Do I need to wear a mask or stay six feet distanced?

If you are working out or running hills on campus, you do not need to wear a mask but stay 6 feet distanced from others. If you are not able to stay 6 feet apart, then wear a mask.

Quarantine and Isolation

What do I do if I suspect I have been exposed to COVID-19?

If you suspect you may have been exposed to a presumed or COVID-19 positive individual or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, you should contact Institutional Resilience immediately (risk@westmont.edu) providing your name, contact information, and symptoms AND call the on-call resident director (OCD) at 805-565-6273.

What is quarantine and what is isolation?

	QUARANTINE	ISOLATION
Definition	Student restricted to his/her assigned room with no outside contact	Student moved to a designated isolation room with private bathroom
Description of Student	Student identified by IR as having contact with either confirmed or presumed COVID-19 positive person <i>AND</i> Is asymptomatic for COVID-19	Student has tested COVID-19 positive <i>OR</i> Student exhibits COVID-19-like symptoms
Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Student only leaves room to use the bathroom facilities and is instructed to use the same fixtures » Student wears mask at all times (even when in room) » Absolutely no visitors other than authorized college personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Student stays in the room at all times » Absolutely no visitors other than authorized college personnel

	QUARANTINE	ISOLATION
When does status end?	Quarantine ends with negative COVID-19 test results from either student or initial presumed case <i>OR</i> If student tests positive for COVID-19 or develops symptoms they are moved to an isolation room	Isolation ends with negative COVID test results <i>OR</i> 10 days from the onset of symptoms and student has no fever with no medication help and all the other symptoms are improving <i>OR</i> An asymptomatic student does not develop symptoms for 10 days from the date of the positive COVID-19 test.
Meal Delivery?	Yes	Yes; daily food box provided by Sodexo
Monitoring Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Student will complete a daily check-in » If student develops any symptoms, they will contact Dr. Hernandez or OCRD immediately » Student may be moved to Isolation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Student will complete a daily check-in » If student’s symptoms worsen, they will contact Dr. Hernandez or OCRD immediately
Compliance Procedure	Students found not to comply with quarantine procedures will be warned once that failure to comply will result in removal from the residential program	Students found not to comply with isolation procedures will be removed from the residential program as soon as practicably possible

How will I be taken care of while I am in quarantine or isolation?

You will be supported during your time of quarantine or isolation in the following ways:

- » A staff member will check on you every day; maybe multiple staff members—don’t get annoyed, we want to make sure you’re ok!
- » We will work with you to make sure you have food. If you’re on the meal plan, it will just be a part of that plan, but if you’re not on a meal plan, you will still need to pay for your food.
- » We can also assist you by notifying your professors that you will not be able to attend in-person (outdoor) class sessions. If you would like to do this, please let us know. We can disclose as much or little about your specific circumstances as you feel comfortable.

- » Although residential facilities are naturally communal spaces, we will do our best to maintain your privacy as we support you during the quarantine process. We will only disclose your identity in the quarantine process to authorized college personnel with a legitimate need to know this information. If you are concerned about others knowing this information, we encourage you to specifically ask any friends who may know of your circumstances to keep this information to themselves.

Will I need to participate in contact-tracing?

Yes. Someone from Institutional Resilience will contact you to get information about whom you have been in proximity to in recent days.

Dining

Can I go back for seconds?

No, you may only enter the dining commons or the 123-to-Go station once for each meal.

Where can I eat once I get my food from the DC?

You may eat in the tents set up outside, in other outdoor locations socially distanced from others, or in your room.

Campus Life and Campus Activities

When should I arrive to get the most out of Move-In / Welcome Weekend (September 26-27) for new students?

New students are asked to arrive by Saturday 5 p.m. to participate in Welcome Weekend events. Refer to the Westmont Community Guide App for details

How do I get my ID?

Go to the ID card photo station in front of the dining commons open 3-5 p.m. on move-in days. You can pick up your completed ID the following day at the Hospitality table on the DC Lawn. You'll need your ID card to access your residence hall beginning Sunday evening, September 27.

Are campus clubs active this fall?

Follow this link to the [clubs website](#) to see a list of currently active clubs. You can fill out this [survey of interest](#) if you'd like to learn more about particular clubs.

Chapel

Will chapel continue online through fall semester?

Yes. You must take the Honor System Chapel Attendance quiz in Canvas to record your attendance.

Testing

When and where can I get tested?

You should get tested within one hour following your move-in time. Testing will occur in the gym between 1-9 p.m. on move-in days. You will need to show confirmation of testing to check in with residence life to get your room key by taking a picture of your testing handout received at the testing center. Show this picture to residence life to confirm you have taken a COVID-19 test. Your results will be emailed to you within 2-3 business days after testing.

Leaving Campus

Can I go off campus?

Your travel off campus will not be restricted or monitored by the college, but we encourage all students to limit their trips off campus to essential purposes, such as buying food, accessing off campus medical or mental health providers, or attending work or internships. Students may also choose to see friends who are living off campus. If you choose to do this, we encourage you to limit those contacts and to strictly follow physical distancing and mask wearing protocols while doing so. Staying on campus as much as possible is the best way to keep yourself—and the entire community—healthy and well.

What if I have a job or volunteer opportunity several times a week? Can I do that?

Yes. We encourage students to evaluate the essential nature of any trips off campus. Our goal is protecting Westmont's campus as much as we can. The best way to do that is for people to wear masks, physically distance themselves and stay on campus as much as possible. If you must leave, you may. If you don't have to, then please stay.

Can I go home for Thanksgiving Break?

Students may go home for Thanksgiving but may be required to be tested upon their return to Westmont. The residence halls will be open during Thanksgiving break and through the rest of the semester until Christmas break.

Where can I catch the Shuttle?

There is just **ONE pick up location** for leaving campus: the bus turnout by the Observatory. The shuttle will drop off at Clark, Page and VK on the return trips, but no one will be allowed ON the shuttle at those locations. A shuttle schedule will be sent by email to students once we have completed repopulation. During Move In week, shuttle routes are limited, but begin on Wednesday Sept 23 at 2:15. Check your email for the schedule for move in week.