Appendix A: COVID-19 Amendment to Resident Agreement Year 2020-2021

This COVID-19 Amendment to the Ramapo College of New Jersey Resident Agreement Year 2020-2021 (the “Amendment”) sets forth the assumptions of risks, obligations, and guidelines in connection with COVID-19 and the related impacts to the student residence life experience. By electronic signature to the Ramapo College of New Jersey Resident Agreement Year 2020-2021, the resident/student agrees to be bound by the terms of this Amendment.

Assumption of Risk/Hold Harmless

The resident understands that COVID-19 has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. The resident acknowledges that COVID-19 is a highly contagious illness that is presently understood to spread from person to person through respiratory droplets (coughing, talking, sneezing). Research related to COVID-19 transmission and spread is evolving. The resident understands that a portion of COVID-19 individuals are asymptomatic (meaning they demonstrate no symptoms and can unknowingly spread the virus).

The resident understands that they could be exposed to COVID-19, contract COVID-19, or transmit COVID-19 during college-related activities. Participating in college activities, classes, sports and trainings could increase one’s risk of contracting COVID-19.

The resident acknowledges that Ramapo College of New Jersey (the “College”) did not require students to attend classes in person, require students to live on campus, require students to work on campus, and has given residents the choice to engage in the same. If residents choose to take in person classes, live on campus, or work on campus, residents understand that they can opt out at any time (standard refund dates apply).

Residents understand that while Ramapo College of New Jersey has put together extensive prevention measures to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19, it is impossible that the College can guarantee that residents will not contract the virus. With that, residents assume the risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 and understand that there are a range of symptoms that span from mild to severe (including death).

As resident students are required to comply with the College’s Code of Healthy Living and Learning, which includes (among other things) a daily health self-screening. Residents understand that they hold personal responsibility in protecting the health and safety of themselves and others. Resident students acknowledge their personal responsibility to comply with contact tracers and follow the medical advice of campus health officials as well as their own medical providers regarding testing for COVID-19.

Residents acknowledge awareness of the risks of the COVID-19 pandemic and assume sole responsibility for the known and unknown risks. The risks include, but are not limited to mild symptoms, severe symptoms, hospitalization, emotional and psychological conditions, expenses of any kind, disabilities that may arise from contracting the virus or side effects of the virus, economic loss, and/or death.

The resident, individually, and on behalf of their heirs, successors, assigns and personal representatives hereby waives all claims and demands against Ramapo College of New Jersey, the State of New Jersey, and their respective trustees, directors, officers, members, employees, agents, volunteers, and/or other representatives and each of them for any loss, damage, injury (including death), or claim of any kind arising from, related to or caused by the resident’s use and occupancy of the College’s residence halls, including those related to the...
potential exposure to COVID-19 and other contagious viruses and agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Ramapo College of New Jersey, the State of New Jersey, and their respective trustees, directors, officers, members, employees, agents, volunteers, and/or other representatives, from any and all liability whatsoever for any and all damages, losses, or injuries (including death) that is sustained to the resident’s person or property or both, including but not limited to any claims, damages, actions, causes of action, judgments, expenses and coats, including attorney fees, which arise out of result from, occur during or are connected in any manner with the resident’s use and occupancy of the College’s residence halls and/or any COVID-19/contagious virus exposure.

**Student Housing Experience**

All residents are required to bring to campus a Coronavirus Wellness Preparedness Kit to include two (2) weeks of clothing and supplies should a resident be required to self-isolate/self-quarantine on campus. The details of the kit will be provided to each resident student.

Residents acknowledge that for reasons of health and safety, they may be directed to relocate to a self-isolation/self-quarantine space for a designated period of time until campus health officials determine the resident can return to their original space. There will be no financial adjustments to a resident’s student account related to their self-isolation/self-quarantine space. Residents will first be asked to return to their permanent home residence for any self-isolation/self-quarantine, but the College recognizes that this is not always safe or practical. Therefore, any resident assigned to a self-isolation/quarantine space will be provided with a written protocol to follow for the duration of their self-isolation/self-quarantine. Residents should be prepared for the self-isolation/self-quarantine space to be different from their official room assignment.

All residents must comply with public health measures dictated by the College and those safety laws required by local, state, and federal rules and regulations. Residents who fail to comply with the Student Code for Health Living and Learning or local, state, and federal rules and regulations will have the matter referred to the Office of Student Conduct and, after an investigation and review process, may be required to leave housing.

Residents acknowledge that the Guest and Visitation Policy and Social Gathering Policy are suspended until further notice. No resident can host a visitor or guest in their residence assignment. No resident can visit another resident student in their residence hall room.

**Travel and Self-Quarantine Requirements**

Students who return to campus from an international location or from one of the states listed by the State of New Jersey as having high rates of COVID-19, are required to first register their travel with the College’s travel registry, [https://www.ramapo.edu/health/international-travel-registry-questionnaire/](https://www.ramapo.edu/health/international-travel-registry-questionnaire/), and follow the off campus self-quarantine directions that will be provided to you by the College’s Health Services Staff.

**Termination of Agreement**

As per the College’s Restart Plan, if the Governor announces that the State of New Jersey is in Stage One, resident students will be required to vacate their residence room immediately and return home. Only exceptional cases will be permitted to remain on campus, (i.e. those students who identify as international students or housing insecure). Student acknowledges that the College and public health officials will monitor the rate of transmission and may assess that for the health and safety of the students and employees, residence areas may close, possibly with little notice, and students will be required to vacate.

**Cleaning and Disinfecting**

Resident students are required to use proper cleaning agents to clean and disinfect their residence. Residents should employ daily health mechanisms to keep their bathroom areas clean and safe such as not letting their tooth brush touch the counter top and bring a shower caddy to the shower. Residents must properly clean their private bathrooms to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Proper bathroom cleaning protocols should also be applied to all common areas and shared spaces in the residence unit.
**Density Reduction**
In the event of COVID-19 or any other public health emergency, residents will be required to relocate to alternative housing in order to reduce housing density at the College. Such relocation does not constitute a termination of the resident’s housing agreement. The resident agrees to take all necessary action in complying with a relocation request by the College.

**Room Changes**
Due to the public health crisis, the room change process is suspended. The College will not approve any room change requests, unless there is an exceptional circumstance connected to an extreme health or safety issue that cannot be mitigated by residence life staff.

**End of Fall 2020 Semester**
Resident students acknowledge that they may be asked to fully vacate their residence assignment at the end of the Fall 2020 semester.

**Interpretation/Conflict**
All other provisions of the Ramapo College of New Jersey Resident Agreement Year 2020-2021 shall remain in full force and effect and must be adhered to. In the event there is any conflict between this Amendment and the Agreement, the terms of this Amendment shall control.