



## Frequently Asked Questions: Self-Isolation in Victoria University Residences

*Over the coming months there may be times when one or more students in residence will have to self-isolate. The following FAQs have been developed to address questions staff and students may have. The University of Toronto (including Environmental Health and Safety [EHS]) and Victoria University are guided by Public Health directives. Procedures may evolve and change.*

### 1. When must a student self-isolate?

Self-Isolation may be recommended by EHS for various reasons including:

- a) An asymptomatic student has come into close contact with someone who has symptoms but has not yet been tested or is awaiting test results.
- b) Public health authorities have directed a student to self-isolate because of a potential exposure.
- c) A student is experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms (e.g., headache, cough, fever, runny nose, shortness of breath) and have not been tested or is awaiting test results.
- d) A student has a confirmed case of COVID-19.

### 2. Will there be signage indicating the location of a self-isolating student?

Signs will be posted on any residence rooms or washrooms being used for self-isolation.

### 3. Where will a student self-isolate?

Self-Isolation plans vary depending on the situation, in accordance with EHS recommendations.

#### A. **A student who has symptoms and has not been tested or is awaiting results, or who has been in close contact of an unconfirmed case.**

A student in this situation must self-isolate in a private room with a dedicated washroom. In some circumstances and when recommended by



EHS, a student may need to move and self-isolate in a single room with an en-suite washroom. In some cases, a student may be able to self-isolate in their regularly assigned room with a dedicated washroom in proximity. Any student self-isolating in a room with a nearby washroom must wear a mask and gloves when leaving their room to use the washroom facilities.

**B. A student who has been told to self-isolate due to close contact with a confirmed case or has tested positive for COVID-19.**

Each case is assessed individually by EHS. In some cases, a student's regularly assigned room has a dedicated en-suite washroom, and the student can stay in place. In all other cases, the student will be moved to a suitable room on or off campus, as directed by EHS.

**4. What happens if a self-isolating student needs to leave their room?**

If at any time a student in self-isolation must leave their private room (for example, to go to a medical appointment) the student must wear a mask and gloves.

**5. Will staff members come into close contact with self-isolating students?**

With current self-isolating procedures and precautions, coupled with physical distancing and mandatory mask-wearing for students and staff, there should be no occasion when a staff member comes into close contact with a student, including those in self-isolation.

**6. What should a staff member do if they are worried that they may have been in close contact with a student who is in self-isolation?**

In cases where a staff member is unsure or concerned about whether or not they have come into close contact with a student, they should contact their supervisor who will consult with HR.

Each situation is then assessed by EHS who will identify individuals who have [been exposed](#) and need to be contacted.



**7. How are students in self-isolation supported?**

All students in self-isolation are in communication with staff in the Office of the Dean of Students. The Dean's Office informs EHS of every self-isolating case. EHS provides direction on a case-by-case basis.

All students in self-isolation receive meal delivery.

U of T Health and Wellness will conduct daily symptom and wellbeing checks of students in self-isolation, will monitor their infection status, and will provide them emotional support.

**8. When does a student leave self-isolation?**

EHS will inform the Office of the Dean of Students and each individual self-isolating student when the student no longer needs to self-isolate.