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A Message to Our Students About Move-Out, March 19, 2020

University of Northern Iowa

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University of Northern Iowa

A Message to Our Students About Move-Out

To Our Residence Hall Panthers and Parents,

Thanking you for your patience and understanding over the past few weeks as we began navigating through this unprecedented health pandemic. Protecting the health of our students and employees as we prepare for the spread of COVID-19 has resulted in many disappointing yet necessary changes, including the temporary loss of face-to-face courses, the cancellation of Spring commencement, and the need for us to work with students to move out of the residence halls as quickly as possible.

We have heard from many students and parents who expressed concern about the residence halls remaining open during this time – and after many internal discussions and consultation with the Iowa Board of Regents, we agree that encouraging students to return to their family homes for the remainder of the semester is the right decision for everyone's health and safety.

To be clear, students who rely on the residence halls as their permanent housing or wish to stay on campus as their primary method of social distancing are welcome to stay. If this is your situation, please **fill out this request form** so we can make arrangements for you. Students who need to remain on-campus will be moved to a centralized location that will allow for social distancing. By keeping students in one area of campus, our custodians will be able to make sure all of our other residence halls are properly cleaned and prepared for students to move back this fall.

For now, we are encouraging everyone who does not need permanent housing on campus to move back home for the remainder of the semester and to prepare to **finish spring courses online beginning March 23.**

As of the date of this posting, we have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 on our campus. However, in order to stay ahead of the curve and help everyone quickly retrieve their belongings while limiting the number of students returning to campus at one time, we have developed the following schedule:

(Thursday, March 19 – Last names beginning with letters A-F)

Friday, March 20

8 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Last names beginning with letters G – L

2 p.m. – 8 p.m.: Last names beginning with letters M – R

Saturday, March 21

8 a.m. – 12 p.m.: Last names beginning with letters S – Z

If you are unable to take advantage of your scheduled move-out time, we will store your items in your locked room, and will work with you to find a later date to retrieve your belongings. Your storage will be free, and we will still process a housing credit for you just as we will for those moving out. Please **fill out this storage request**.

Move-out instructions will be posted in each hall for reference upon arrival. For those moving out, hall access will be removed on Tuesday, March 24.

For those who are moving out, we recommend the following:

- Bring your own boxes and totes
- Please try to complete the move-out yourself, or with fewer than 2 people so we can avoid crowds
- Please accomplish your move-out as quickly as possible
- For your health, please minimize your interactions with others
- All check-outs will be completed via express check-out – after gathering your belongings, please return your key to the box near the hall office
- Update your mail forwarding address within the housing contract portal, and contact delivery companies (UPS, FedEx, etc.) to change your delivery location

ROOM AND BOARD REIMBURSEMENT

Those students who move out of the residence halls will receive a credit prorated for the remainder of the semester. We are working on a process to complete the credits, which may take a couple of weeks. We understand this is important, and ask for your patience as we work through the details in order to make sure all the accounts are correct. We will communicate more about these credits with students as soon as possible.

Thank you again for your understanding, your patience, and your concern for the health and well-being of yourself, your family, and your fellow Panthers during this challenging time.

If you have questions, please call us at 319-273-2333 or 1-866-207-9411, or email us at residence@uni.edu.

We encourage our Panthers to take protective measures in the coming months to stay healthy and safe, and we look forward to seeing you all again this fall.

The Department of Residence Team