

Request to vacate SU accommodation

Dear students

Following the measures announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa last night and **communication** from the Rector and Vice-Chancellor of Stellenbosch University (SU) today regarding the suspension of the academic programme and commencement of the recess period, all students in University accommodation are requested to vacate their residences and to return home for the recess period.

We are aware that there may be students who are unable to do so, therefore some students will be accommodated in SU residences. Measures will be taken to reduce the risk of contamination and provision will be made for isolation. Students who remain in residences would be expected to follow the indicated hygiene and other protocols.

The two most important public health principles are social distancing and the containment of the disease to limit the spread of infections. We are in contact with national and provincial agencies to ensure that we follow the prescribed protocols.

If you are planning to vacate your residence, please follow these practical guidelines:

- Take all your personal belongings with you, i.e. clear your room entirely like you would have during a long recess. There are storerooms available in residences for this reason, but we request students who live closer to campus and are able to take all their belongings with them, to ensure space in the storerooms for others.
- Ensure that you have removed all perishable food products from your room and/or section and have disposed or donated it in a responsible manner.
- Ensure that your room is clean before your leave, as someone else might have to move in during the recess.
- When you are leaving, report to your HK / KDK that you have indeed left the accommodation and that your room has been cleaned and cleared of any items that pose a health risk during the time that you will not be occupying the room.

If you are going to stay in your accommodation, please note that there will be different rules that will apply. Please follow these guidelines:

- Follow the indicated hygiene and other protocols.
- Access to the residences will be strictly controlled and a restriction on movement will apply. We encourage you to distance yourself from social gatherings.
- No visitors (including other SU students) will be allowed under any circumstances until further notice.

We understand that these decisions have a significant impact on your life and that the many uncertainties affect us all in different ways. We believe that in line with national and international information and events, it is important to be proactive in our decisions and to work to assist the government in trying to prevent the virus from spreading.

If you fear that you may be infected, please contact Campus Health Services on (021) 808 3496/3494 (Stellenbosch Campus) and (021) 938 9590 (Tygerberg Campus) – after hours emergency number: 076 431 0305. If you have any challenges that you cannot overcome personally or with the help of family and friends, please contact our Centre for Student Communities at ssgsupport@sun.ac.za or (021) 808 9719 during office hours. Counselling services are available to students who feel the need to talk to someone. Please contact our Centre for Student Counselling and Development at (021) 808 4994 (office hours) or the 24-hour crisis service at (010) 205 3032 (after hours).

Once we have more clarity on the way forward, we will be communicating with you. For now, keep an eye on SU's dedicated coronavirus **website**.

Kind regards

Pieter Kloppers
Director: Centre for Student Communities, Division Student Affairs

Centre for Student Communities

