

The signing of this Community Pledge is a commitment to the shared responsibility of keeping our community safe as we begin to return to campus during a global pandemic. As members of the Whitman Community -- faculty, staff and students -- we are committed to our personal health and safety, as well as the health and safety of our campus community and the broader Walla Walla Community.

The goal of the pledge is to minimize transmission, community spread and the possibility of conditions where Whitman would no longer be able to continue with its educational mission. We also want to avoid overwhelming the health care system in Walla Walla.

In order to reduce the risk to those in close proximity to us and the surrounding communities, students, staff and faculty must commit to following [federal](#), [state](#), and [local](#) public health guidelines as well as Whitman College's expectations for conduct both on and off campus as outlined in this community pledge. For those of us who are in states other than Washington, we expect you to follow the guidelines of the state or country you are in. The shared responsibility of community wellbeing applies wherever you may be residing.

Please read the following agreement carefully. By signing this document, you are agreeing to abide by the terms of this community pledge.

As a student, faculty or staff member, I agree to the following:

- I will complete online training and electronically sign this pledge prior to the start of the spring semester.
- I will follow [federal](#), [state](#), and [local](#) guidelines regarding health and safety for the duration of the coronavirus pandemic.

SPRING STUDENT ARRIVAL

- If possible, I will quarantine at home for one week prior to my arrival on campus for the spring semester.
- If possible, I will get tested for COVID three days prior to departing for campus.
- I will travel to Walla Walla as directly as possible. If I plan to live on campus I will arrive at my designated arrival time.
- I will follow all health and safety precautions during travel, including limiting stops to only those that are necessary, physical distancing from others whenever possible, always wearing a face covering, and using proper hand-washing hygiene.
- I will quarantine in my residence for 14 days upon my return to Walla Walla and will follow quarantine rules designated by the college.

TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING

- I will comply with COVID-19 testing protocols as directed by the college including day zero, day seven and targeted testing throughout the semester.
- I will monitor myself for COVID-19 symptoms at all times. I will check my temperature daily in order to complete a wellness check prior to leaving my residence each day. I will be prepared to show evidence of approval to be on campus whenever asked by a college official.
- I will install Everbridge, the college's app for contact tracing, on my smartphone per the college's instructions. If I do not have a compatible device, I will keep a paper log of my close contacts each week while I am on campus.

- As needed, I will cooperate with contact tracing inquiries within 24 hours by responding to contact tracers and answering all questions about my contacts honestly and completely.

SELF-ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

- In the event that I have one or more COVID-19 symptoms, as a student living in Walla Walla I will immediately report those symptoms to the Welty Health Center and as an employee I will report the symptoms to Human Resources. I will report these symptoms regardless of whether I plan to be on campus.
- If I experience any COVID-19 symptoms, or if I believe that I have been in close contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19, I will report it and comply with any isolation or quarantine procedures as directed by the college including requests to self-quarantine in my room to avoid exposing others, to undergo COVID-19 testing, and/or a temporary transfer to isolation housing.
- Understanding that food delivery and other services will be provided to me, if I am required to self-isolate, I, as a student, will stay in my designated room and will not leave that room for any reason except to use the bathroom or in case of a health emergency. I will have no visitors.
- I will not access campus locations outside of my dorm or residence if I have any COVID-19 symptoms.

TRAVEL

- In accordance with Washington State's Safe Start Plan, I will strictly limit non-essential travel. Travel considered essential includes, but is not limited to, traveling to and from work, grocery stores, and medical appointments.
- COLLEGE-SPONSORED TRAVEL: I will seek approval for all college-sponsored travel outside of Walla Walla County with my cabinet officer (for employees) or the Dean of Students (for students).
- PERSONAL TRAVEL FOR STUDENTS: I will not travel outside of Washington with the exception of arriving for the start of the semester and returning home at the end of the semester. Prior to my arrival on campus I will monitor my health for COVID-19 related symptoms and will delay plans to arrive at Whitman if I have signs of illness. I will wait until fully recovered before traveling to campus.
- PERSONAL TRAVEL FOR EMPLOYEES: I will strictly limit personal travel that may increase my exposure to COVID-19. Should I choose to travel outside Washington I will self-quarantine for 14 days prior to being permitted to return to campus. This does not include travel to and from Oregon for the purpose of commuting from home to work.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND SOCIAL GATHERING

- I will wear a face covering on campus and in all college facilities at all times including during class, in restrooms, in common spaces in residence halls, and when walking in between classes. Masks may be removed in private work spaces and residence hall rooms when no guests are present.
- I will physically distance, maintaining at least six feet of separation between myself and others at all times.
- In accordance with Washington state guidance for higher education I will limit gatherings inside bedrooms to one visitor at a time and will maintain an appropriate physical distance.
- In accordance with Washington state guidance for higher education I will limit gatherings in residential spaces outside of a bedroom to five people at a time only if physical distancing is possible.

- I will not invite or host guests from outside the college or Whitman students who are not approved to be on campus inside residential spaces.
- I will not rearrange furniture in shared workspaces and common spaces, including in classrooms and residence halls and will adhere to occupancy limits in all spaces.
- When off campus, I will follow the same requirements of on-campus living/working (face coverings, physical distancing, etc.) and will observe local city and state guidance regarding safe physical distancing.

OTHER

- I will adhere to other health and safety practices recommended or required by the college, such as frequent hand-washing.
- I will make every effort to comply with the immunization requirements and recommendations set by the [State of Washington](#) and the [college](#) unless I am unable to do so for health reasons or because the requirements conflict with my philosophical or religious beliefs.
- I will make sure the college has my current semester residential address and my current phone number to assist with contact tracing if necessary.
- I will report concerns and/or potential violations of the community pledge to college officials.
- I will seek reasonable accommodations from the Access and Disability Support Services (for students) or Human Resources (for employees) if I am unable to follow the college's expectations. If my situation cannot be accommodated I will follow the college's expectations or I will continue to study or work remotely.

Accountability and Responsibility

I understand that to protect the community and myself, I must abide by the rules reflected in this community pledge, and understand they may be modified by the college from time to time. I understand that major violations of the community pledge, including those related to testing, quarantining, isolating, hosting unpermitted visitors in student residences and hosting prohibited in-person gatherings may result in disciplinary action. In addition, I understand that repeated infractions related to wearing face coverings or physically distancing also may result in further disciplinary action. Violations of the community pledge will be adjudicated through Whitman College's established disciplinary processes, as prescribed by the [student handbook](#), [staff handbook](#), and [faculty code](#).

By signing this community pledge, I agree to abide by these rules and regulations, wherever I may be geographically. I also acknowledge that Whitman College alone cannot eliminate the risk of illness during a global pandemic, and that this must be a community effort.