

Phi Mu Safety Guidelines

Fall 2020

With cases of COVID-19 continuing to increase in many parts of the United States, plans for the fall 2020 term will need to be revisited. The safety of members is Phi Mu's number one priority. Given the risk and close quarters typical of recruitment workshops, overnight sisterhood retreats, social events and large chapter gatherings, chapters are discouraged from hosting those types of in-person events this term. Created by Georgia Tech, the [COVID-19 Event Risk Assessment Planning Tool](#) is a resource your chapter can utilize to assess the risk of a particular event based on the number of members attending and county where the event will be held.

These guidelines should be used when planning any chapter gathering, meeting, workshop, or event. All officers or chairwomen who plan events should be aware of and adhere to these guidelines:

- Follow national, state, local and campus guidelines about gathering size restrictions. This may mean you can only hold events in shifts, with small groups of chapter members, or may mean that events can only be held virtually. These guidelines may change regularly so it is important to review them as you are planning each event.
- Secure appropriate space for the event. Your chapter should be sure that you are complying with any guidance for space capacity.
- When possible, events should be held outside.
- Follow proper cleaning guidelines and thoroughly sanitize before and after your event. Determine if the chapter has adequate supplies available for cleaning or get them purchased in advance as supplies may be limited.
- Follow recommended practices about keeping your personal space clean, wearing a mask, practicing good hand washing and avoiding touching your face.
- The chapter should work to create an environment of safety. Here are some elements to consider:
 - Ensure adequate room for spacing (6 feet or more) between members
 - Sanitize surfaces in the event space prior to and after the event
 - Require members to wear face masks at events
 - When possible, the chapter should provide masks for members who do not have them
 - Hand sanitizing stations
 - Wellness checks of all members before entering the event
 - Symptom disclosure before attending an event
 - Temperature checks of all members before entering the event
 - Note: Temperature checks are shown to be inconclusive in determining infection and most individuals of traditional college age are asymptomatic. The CDC has shared that symptoms can

develop anywhere between 2-14 days of exposure, meaning someone could have the virus and not know it

- There should be no common food or drinks, unless it is individually packaged
- Consult with a public health official to ensure proper considerations are taken given your campus and community's unique environment
- Offer a virtual option for members who cannot be present instead of giving chapter members consequences for not attending
- Remind members of the Sisterhood Pledge (see full text below)

Chapters should use the following questions to determine whether it is safe, feasible and practical to host an event:

- Is this event necessary? Why or why not?
- Is there a way to hold this event differently this year? Could this event be virtual or held in smaller groups?
- What is the capacity of the space being utilized? How many members will be in attendance?
- Specifically, what safety precautions are being put in place? Who is responsible for each task?
- What expectations have been set with members about this event?
- How will you handle a member or guest who refuses to comply with health and safety guidelines?

Sisterhood Pledge:

As a member of Phi Mu Fraternity, who is focused on my personal health and well-being, and my chapter's health and well-being, I pledge to:

1. Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, like Coronavirus, by avoiding close contact with people who are sick; by covering my coughs and sneezes; by avoiding touching my eyes, nose and mouth; and by washing my hands frequently with soap and water.
2. Practice physical distancing as directed by CDC Guidelines.
3. Take daily temperature checks and self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.
4. Seek out a local testing facility to get a COVID-19 test if I feel unwell, have been around someone else who tests positive for COVID-19 or have the following symptoms: fever, cough or shortness of breath.
5. Self-report if I have symptoms of COVID-19 and/or test positive for COVID-19.
6. Follow the additional Chapter Quarters Rules & Regulations and Campus Rules & Regulations.
7. Seek out a place of isolation so I can receive the care I need and to protect my sisters by:
 - Reaching out to a family member/guardian to pick me up
 - Moving into a designated campus isolation room
 - Moving into an off-campus location

Additional Resources:

- [CDC Guidelines](#)
- [NPC Contingency Plans are Important for the Health and Safety of All](#)
- [Holmes Murphy COVID-19 Resource Center](#)
- [MJ Insurance COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Considerations for Hosting Events during COVID-19](#)
- [Georgia Tech COVID-19 Event Risk Assessment Planning Tool](#)