DINING PLAN – FALL 2020

The dining plans for Hamilton in fall 2020 will be guided by the food service guidelines issued by New York State (NYS). As of June 30, 2020, the Mohawk Valley Region (which includes Hamilton College) began Phase 4 of its reopening, and the College’s food service provider, Bon Appetit, will adhere to the guidelines issued for Phase 4. We will continue to monitor guidelines and adjust protocols accordingly.

As students first arrive to campus, they will be directed to the Testing Center to receive their COVID-19 test. Once tested, students will be asked to quarantine in their residence hall room for approximately 48 hours, until they receive a negative test result.

To provide meals to students during this short quarantine period, we have developed a menu order form that students will use to order food for three days. Besides identifying themselves on the order form and their current location on campus, students will be asked to provide any dietary restrictions or allergies.

On the order forms, the menu options are similar to those that students would normally find in our dining halls and all items are clearly marked as vegan, gluten free, halal, etc. so that a student’s dietary preference will be met.

All meals during the isolation and quarantine periods will be in separate bags for each individual student. The meals will be delivered to designated common spaces within each residence hall, and students will be required to wear a face covering to retrieve their meal before returning directly to their rooms.

If a student requires a longer quarantine or isolation period, such as 14 days, a seven day order form will be sent to those students and will offer the same menu options, dietary restriction notifications, and preferences.

Once students are released from quarantine when they receive their negative test results, they will be permitted to obtain their meals in the dining halls.

**Dining Halls:** McEwen, Commons, and Bundy Café will adhere to NYS physical distancing guidelines and will be open for normal hours. There will be designated entry and exit points for each dining location. Once inside the dining hall, students will be required to wear face coverings while standing in lines to obtain food and on the way to their seats. A face covering should be worn any time a student is not eating.
Food lines will be separated by stanchions, and all food and beverages will be served by staff (no self-service). All spaces will be designed with the social distancing-required elements including plexi-glass over the serveries and line control. There will be prepared and wrapped salads, and sandwiches may be available for students to “grab and go.” All meals will be served on disposable plates with disposable cutlery.

There will be very limited seating in the dining halls. If a dining hall is full, students will be able to take their meal “to go” in disposable containers.

The Howard Diner, the Little Pub, and the Wellin Atrium in the Taylor Science Center (near Café Opus) will not be available for dine-in seating, but will instead serve as pick-up locations for pre-packaged items, with some level of choice for take-out.

Students will be required to wear face coverings while in lines at these locations to pick up food to go. The Little Pub will not be available for informal gatherings during the fall semester, and the Howard Diner will not be open for “Late Night.”

Since the Howard Diner will not operate in its usual fashion due to the lack of square footage there to accommodate social distancing, we are planning a “Late Night” option that will operate out of Commons Dining Hall. A menu will be developed for students to order and pick up foods such as pizza, chicken wings, subs, and chicken fingers.

Cafés: Opus and Euphoria will continue to provide take-out service during the fall semester. Staffing in each of these cafes will be adjusted to adhere to physical distancing guidelines. All food will be taken to go, appropriate barriers will be installed, and seating will be designed to meet physical distancing guidelines.