Housing & Residential Services

Warehouse Roof Deck Reopening

Pilot Initiative Information | July 2020

Overview

The Warehouse roof deck is a unique and valued community resource for residents, particularly because the building does not possess a courtyard or similar outdoor area enjoyed by other graduate residences.

The goal of this pilot initiative is to reopen the Warehouse roof deck for use by the residential community while adhering to public health guidance to prevent potential exposure to COVID-19 and to reduce risks to residents.

Cognizant of the physical constraints of this residential common space, and with guidance from MIT Medical, MIT Emergency Management, the Space Contingency Working Group and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the following policies have been developed to reopen the roof deck for community use.

Timeline

- As a result of this pilot, the roof deck will reopen for community use and will continue to operate unless there are substantiated reports of noncompliance with the policies outlined below, or if the trajectory of COVID-19 makes it unsafe to operate this common space.

Eligible Roof Deck Users

- Limited to current residents of the Warehouse.

Warehouse Roof Deck Policies

1. ***Existing Roof Deck Policies Remaining in Effect***

   a. The roof deck is available to all residents on a first-come, first-served basis.
   b. Alcohol is not allowed on the roof deck.
   c. The roof deck is a smoke-free area.
   d. The roof deck is open continuously (24 hours, 7 days/week), but, Warehouse Quiet hours apply on weekdays (Sunday evening through Friday morning) from 10:00pm to 8:00am and on weekends (Friday evening through Sunday morning) from 12:00am to 9:00am.

2. ***Updated Roof Deck COVID-19 Policies & Procedures***
    a. Capacity Limit: 17 persons maximum with no more than two people at a table.
    b. Time Limit: after two hours, you must leave the roof if it is currently at capacity.
    c. Face coverings maybe removed when outside on the roof deck if you are able to maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet. Note that each paver on the roof is 2 feet x 2 feet.
    d. Face coverings must still be worn inside the elevator lobby on the roof (as well as the elevator, stairwells, etc).
    e. Furniture may not be moved into configurations that reduce the distance of 6 feet. Any furniture that is moved, must be returned to its designated location.
    f. Residents must wipe down the spaces they used when they leave. Cleaning supplies will be available in the elevator roof lobby.

3. ***General Graduate Housing COVID-19 Policies***

    a. With the exception of use of the roof deck, the use of all other Warehouse common spaces remain suspended until further notice.
    b. Residents must comply with all COVID-19 graduate housing policies.

Failure to comply with COVID-19 policies, for their own wellbeing and for the wellbeing of those around them, may result in a referral to the Committee on Discipline. Interim disciplinary measures—including immediate removal from MIT housing—may also be taken to protect MIT and surrounding community members. Any damage may also result in the imposition of fees to cover repair.

The *Mind and Hand Book* is MIT's guide for student conduct and behavior. The handbook contains standards, guidelines, regulations, and procedures pertaining to academic integrity and non-academic behavior, and policies for all undergraduate and graduate students. Specific information about other housing policies is available on the Housing & Residential Services website.

4. **Monitoring Pilot**

Any concerns regarding compliance with the Warehouse roof deck policies will be appropriately handled according to recommendations from the Policy Implementation Working Group as outlined below.

Behavior of Concern (examples)	Response Plan
Violation of mask policy	• First 1-3x: House & FSILG staff address via accountability advising conversation and document by e-mailing osccs@mit.edu for centralization • After 3x: Refer to OSCCS for COD follow up
Violation of policies on social gatherings, congregating	• House team/FSILG Office address or break up gathering or call MIT PD for assistance as needed. • 1x: Refer to OSCCS for COD follow up

Violation of common space policies, including use of common space that is closed	• First 1-3x: House & FSILG staff address via accountability advising conversation and document by e-mailing osccs@mit.edu for centralization • After 3x: Refer to OSCCS for COD follow up
Violation of guest policy	• House team/FSILG Office address and document by e-mailing osccs@mit.edu • 1x: Refer to OSCCS for COD follow up

5. Assessment

a. Based on the open use of the space, the success of the pilot will be dependent upon successful self-regulation by residents.
b. If concerns about resident use of the roof deck come to the attention of Warehouse leadership or Housing & Residential Services, changes may be made to the pilot policies.