

To: All East Residential Hall students and families

Subject: East Residence Hall – Housing Transition & Re-Occupancy Update

Dear East Residence Hall Students and Families,

We know how deeply disruptive, emotional, and exhausting the days have been for many of you since the pipe burst on 2/9. Being displaced from your living space—while continuing classes and managing day-to-day responsibilities—is not easy. We want to begin by again acknowledging that strain and by thanking you for the patience, flexibility, and care you have shown one another throughout this process. Your resilience has not gone unnoticed.

We are writing with an update on both housing transitions and progress toward some re-occupancy at East Residence Hall.

Students in Damaged Rooms – Transition to Emerson College

After extensive coordination and planning, we are ready to transition students whose rooms sustained direct water damage into longer-term housing at Emerson College, with move-in scheduled for Sunday, February 22.

This housing arrangement will remain in place through the end of the Spring semester for these students, providing greater stability and consistency as students continue their academic work.

Emerson's campus offers a centrally located downtown Boston setting with convenient access to public transportation, just a few MBTA stops from UMass Boston. While this location is farther from campus than East Residence Hall, we believe it provides a strong residential option that balances proximity and community.

UMass Boston students will be housed in close proximity to each other to maintain peer connection and community engagement. UMass Boston Residential Life staff, including peer assistants, will be on site to ensure continuity of support, programming, and student services throughout the remainder of the semester.

Students in Non-Damaged Rooms – Progress Toward Re-Occupancy

We are also encouraged to report continued progress on remediation and completing required re-occupancy safety protocols within East Residence Hall for spaces that did not sustain direct water damage. Building systems continue to perform well in testing, and restoration efforts are advancing steadily.

A small number of remaining safety requirements must be completed and formally approved before we can receive authorization for the next phase of re-occupancy. We expect to share more detailed timelines shortly.

Our current planning envisions a phased re-occupancy, organized by corridor color, floor, and proximity to active remediation or construction zones. This structured approach will ensure that students return safely and in alignment with inspection approvals.

We recognize how significant this disruption has been and remain deeply appreciative of the patience and resilience students and families have shown throughout this process. Our priority continues to be safety, stability, and clear communication as we move into this next phase.

Additional details regarding both the Emerson transition and phased re-occupancy will follow shortly.