

Questions and Answers from Fall Planning Town Hall

April 14, 2021

Q: How is MCAD going to assist with housing [this fall]? What happens if they cannot find housing in time?

A: The same rules of priority will be taken into consideration for first and second year students. We are planning to fill campus housing at full capacity. For those who do not live on campus, the majority of the neighborhood surrounding the campus is rental housing. There is a section on the Main MCAD page that provides advice and resources regarding off-campus housing:

<https://intranet.mcad.edu/department/student-housing>. Students can also email housing_off_campus@mcad.edu.

Q: What about students who are not able to come back to campus, or aren't comfortable coming back to campus in the fall? Are there going to be online options for them, or are they expected to come back to on-campus learning?

A: Our fall 2021 semester courses are being held in-person, however we do have a limited number of online/remote options. Students can review online course options on my.MCAD.edu under the Registration tab, "course search" and can also reach out to their advisors for assistance.

Q: Students have expressed racist and sexist experiences with public safety officers. Students have been told that none of public safety were police officers in the past, but it seems that there have been some that have served on the force. Would you be willing to follow up with an email with students in regards to this?

A: The President of MCAD has shared with the Student Union that there will be an opportunity to meet with himself and the AVP of Facilities to discuss how Public Safety could best serve students in the future. There will be an all campus email announcing this with an invitation to those interested to participate in several small group sessions in the coming weeks.

Q: Will vaccines be mandatory [for fall semester]?

A: While a decision has not been made, we are highly encouraging everyone to get vaccinated if they are able.

Q: What is the deadline for withdrawal or deferral? What will be the status of withdrawal?

A: Students can withdraw from all courses without penalty during their first week of classes. After the first week of the semester, there is a declining tuition refund scale. We encourage students to sign up for the tuition insurance program. The first week should be a good indicator to students if they can continue the Semester with the conditions and courses at MCAD. Refer to the [Student Handbook](#) to review MCAD's complete withdrawal policy.

Q: There are people worried about losing their scholarships because they would go a third semester without returning. Would that be waived as well? What happens to these scholarships? If possible could you please email the scholarship policy with regards to COVID to students clearly?

A: MCAD awards merit scholarships when a student is admitted. Information about the scholarship is included with the acceptance letter. The guideline states that students can take one semester off during their enrollment and not lose their scholarship. The Financial Aid Office has waived this policy and allowed students to receive the merit scholarship awarded when they were admitted if they return to full time enrollment within two years of withdrawing.

Other forms of financial aid such as Federal and State grants, or need based MCAD scholarships can not be guaranteed because a student must complete a current year FAFSA to receive these forms of financial aid. Each year the Financial Aid staff reviews the financial information supplied on the FAFSA to determine what type of aid will be available beyond the merit scholarship. It is our goal to try to keep scholarships and grants offered consistent from year to year, but if income drastically increases it can change eligibility amounts. Students can ask their financial aid counselor for clarification if anything changes.

Q: Can students store their belongings on campus over the summer? Do you have more info about this and what this is like? Is there a cost, and what is the amount of things they could store?

A: Summer storage is available on a first-come/first-serve basis for current campus residents who have an out of town permanent address and are leaving town for the summer. There is no cost, but space is limited and storage units are shared by two people. The units are not spacious and cannot accommodate large furniture. An email will be sent about housing storage signup with more details by tomorrow, Friday April 23. Questions can be directed to housing@mcad.edu.

Additionally, students can request summer studios if they have a class, internship, or if they are working on campus. Please email Academic Services at academic_services@mcad.edu to inquire about summer studios.