

What is the goal of the pilot?

The goal of the pilot is to learn how to operate the FSILGs during Covid. The pilot is an opportunity to help us understand the effectiveness of Covid-19 protocols and practices and the impact on student members, alum corporations, and MIT resources. We hope that the pilot program will help our entire community be prepared for a grand reopening in Fall 2021.

**Timeline**

12/9/20 – Interested chapters submit applications.

12/15/20 – Chapters notified.

12/20/20 – Organizations finalize pilot student list. Pilot students notify MIT Housing that they will be living in their FSILG.

January 2021 – Pilot organizations form planning teams and meet over the course of the month to prepare for the pilot.

2/13-15/21 – Move-in, Testing, Q-Week starts.

**Application Process**

How can my organization participate in the pilot?

Interested organizations will complete an application for the pilot in collaboration with their alums and students. Potential pilot houses will need to ensure standards for meal service and cleaning, propose strategies for house governance and policy enforcement, and demonstrate alum and student support.

How many organizations will participate in the pilot?

The pilot program is seeking 3-5 organizations, with about 15 members, including representation from fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

Which students are eligible to participate in the pilot?

Student residents will be limited to those second and third year FSILG members who have already been invited back to MIT and intend to return to campus for spring semester, along with fourth year members who have already received permission to stay on campus. First-year students are not permitted to reside in FSILGs. *Keep in mind that this means that some organizations may not have enough returning members to be eligible for the pilot.*

Are non-members eligible to live in the pilot houses?

No.

Are graduate students eligible to participate in the pilot?

This will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Non-MIT graduate students are not permitted to reside in the FSILG houses, unless they are the GRA.

How will alum corporations find out which students are returning for Spring 2021?

DSL will share the number of students and names with organizations that are considering applying for the pilot. However, student names may not be shared with other entities and may only be used for the purpose intended. Please contact Pam Gannon ([pmgannon@mit.edu](mailto:pmgannon@mit.edu)) for this information.

What criteria will be used to choose pilot houses?

Criteria will include:

- Number of students in residence
- Alum support available, including local alums
- Student leadership in residence
- GRA in residence
- Facility condition
- Operational plan – food service, cleaning, Q Week plans, use of space in the house
- Recent organization discipline issues or other risk factors

Who will review pilot applications?

A team of FSILG alums, DSL and MIT Medical staff will review the applications.

When will organizations be notified?

All houses that have applied will be notified on December 15. Houses that are accepted into the pilot program will need to connect with their student members to determine which students will reside in the house.

When will pilot houses need to provide the member resident list?

Pilot houses will provide a list of student residents by December 20. Pilot students will notify MIT Housing that they will be living in their FSILG instead of an MIT dorm.

## **Policies**

What policies will need to be followed during the pilot?

**Organizations will be required to abide by MIT, municipal and public health policies related to Covid-19. *This will not be business as usual.***

Please review this information:

<https://studentlife.mit.edu/covid19policies>

<https://now.mit.edu/undergraduate-students>  
<https://studentlife.mit.edu/frequently-asked-questions>

What are some of the Covid policies in general?

- No Guest Policy: no guests will be allowed in the house, including members who are not in residence. Organizations will be expected to have a way to regulate house access remotely.
- Students will be required to enroll in Covid-Pass and complete testing and daily health attestation requirements.
- There will be limited access to academic and other on-campus buildings. Most classes will be online.
- All events and parties are prohibited. Additionally, MIT students are not permitted to organize or to attend events or parties off campus until further notice.

Will students need to sign an agreement with MIT?

Students will be expected to sign the Student and Resident Campus Agreement. FSILGs may create additional community agreements, and some inter/national headquarters may require agreements.

What if a student does not comply with policies?

As in the residence halls, failure to comply with Covid-19 policies may result in a referral to the Committee on Discipline. Lack of compliance within a house may result in ramp-down of the pilot for that house and will reflect poorly on the entire FSILG community.

Is a GRA required to live in the pilot house?

Yes. Each of the pilot houses will be required to have a live-in GRA. DSL and the FSILG Office will coordinate with the GRAs. The GRA will not count as one of the 15 students.

## **Operations**

What about pods?

Houses may propose some flexibility around pods (groups of students who are considered to be in quarantine together and do not need to wear masks when interacting with each other). Each house may be one mega-pod or may propose an alternative pod structure.

What about meals?

Under current guidelines, meals must be individually packaged (no buffet-style). Snacks may be provided. Students may participate in an on-campus meal plan. Houses may propose plans for kitchen use. MIT will provide more guidance about safe meal preparation.

What cleaning/sanitizing protocols are expected?

The houses are expected to be maintained at a high level to ensure the health and well-being of residents. MIT will provide guidance for cleaning protocols and materials.

Are students expected to be one per room?

Yes, unless a student is willing to reside in a double room. One goal of the pilot is de-densification of the living environment. Almost all classes will be online, so students will need to be in zoom classes simultaneously. A house's layout should be taken into account and may influence aspects of a proposal.

What about Move-In and Q-Week (Quarantine Week)?

MIT will provide transportation during Move-In. Students will reside in the house during Q-Week with the similar protocols as observed in the dorms. Information about Q-Week is available at <http://studentlife.mit.edu/life-campus/2020-campus-guides/2020-undergraduate-campus-guide>.

Will Safe Ride be operating if a house is open in Boston/Brookline?

Yes.

### **Health and Safety**

How will students be tested?

Testing will be provided through MIT Medical. Students will be required to enroll in Covid-Pass and complete weekly testing and daily health attestations.

Will alums who are regularly in the house be provided with Covid testing through MIT or be able to enroll in Covid Pass?

We are awaiting more information from MIT.

Who will be notified about a positive case?

MIT Medical runs the contact tracing program for MIT community members. MIT Medical works with the individual who has tested positive, traces their recent activities and identifies their close contacts. Any close contacts are contacted by MIT Medical.

What support will be provided in the event of a positive Covid-19 case?

MIT Medical will provide medical support and contact tracing. DSL will provide mental health support through the CARE Team.

What support will be provided in the event of a student needing to quarantine?

Houses will be expected to provide support for students who will need to quarantine due to Covid-19 exposure. This will include meal service. MIT will provide medical and mental health support in this situation.

Will houses be expected to provide isolation support?

MIT will provide on-campus isolation housing for FSILG students who test positive for Covid-19.

If we have to close any/all pilot participants, will the students be relocated to residence halls?

Yes, unless MIT residence halls are also closed.

### **Finances**

What if additional expenses are incurred due to participation in the pilot?

Participation in the pilot will be cost neutral. Pilot houses will need to track expenses and provide documentation for expenses.

How should pilot houses set house bills?

Houses should charge what they normally would for the spring semester.

What about houses that will remain closed?

MIT will continue to provide financial support for fixed operating expenses for houses that are closed.

### **Other**

What happens after an organization is accepted into the pilot program?

Each organization will form a planning team of alums, students and the GRA that will work with the DSL and AILG to prepare for the pilot.

How will the pilot be assessed?

Students and alums of participating organizations will be required to take part in regular assessments to identify the challenges and opportunities of running the FSILG residences during Covid. Assessments may include surveys, focus groups and individual meetings.

Will the house be able to be open for Rush/Recruitment events?

No. IFC Rush, LGC Recruitment, and Panhel Informal Recruitment will be fully virtual for Spring 2021 and are being managed by their respective student councils with support from the FSILG Office.

Will MIT notify the municipalities of pilot houses?

Yes. The MIT community outreach team will coordinate with the municipalities.

How will being a pilot house affect property and liability insurance?

Property and liability insurance policies will remain in effect. Organizations will need to communicate with their insurer that they are opening for the spring semester. However, houses at other schools across the country have been open for the fall and insurers are aware of this.

How should the pilot houses handle regular maintenance personnel entering the house?

Regular maintenance, repairs and inspections are to be expected over the course of the pilot. Houses should have policies in place supporting the safety of their residents (e.g. appointments, distancing and masks required). FCI has developed a set of guidelines and many companies have protocols in place.

What if a house is planning a renovation for Spring 2021?

A major renovation for Spring 2021 would be incompatible with the pilot program, and organizations scheduling major renovations should not apply to the pilot program.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Pam Gannon at [pmgannon@mit.edu](mailto:pmgannon@mit.edu).