

Inclement Weather Policy

Purpose and Scope

As a primarily residential campus with students who continue to need services irrespective of the weather, Clark University rarely closes. When the University is open during inclement weather, all regular employment policies remain in effect. If you are absent from work, you may use earned personal or vacation time for this purpose. If you will not be at work, will be arriving late, or need to leave early, please notify your supervisor as soon as possible.

Whether the University remains open or closes, each administrative department should determine their own staffing needs, which may include working from home. However, it is expected that administrative departments that are key to operations and sustaining the student experience, must identify essential staff to remain on campus without interruption.

Our teaching model generally is in person. If we close the campus, faculty should teach remotely, if feasible and after consultation with their department chairs.

Definitions

Residential Campus: campuses that provide the majority of courses during daytime hours and provide on-campus housing

Inclement Weather: any severe or harsh weather conditions that make it unsafe or impractical to travel, commute, or work outdoors. This includes, but is not limited to: snow, sleet, frigid temperatures, heavy rain, high winds, tornado warnings, etc.

Procedures and Enforcement

When inclement weather is in the forecast, the University will monitor the weather conditions and make a decision regarding University operations. If a decision is made to close or delay the University's regular business operations, we will communicate with the Clark community via Clark Alerts and through the following channels:

- [ClarkU.edu homepage](#)
- [ClarkU.edu emergency notifications page](#)
- [University's Facebook page](#)
- [University's Twitter feed](#)

If you are not advised of a closure or change in operations, you should expect and plan for normal work and academic schedules.

Receiving Clark Alerts

To receive Clark Alerts via text and email, you must be signed up. To sign up, share your email address and cell phone number via [ClarkYou](#). On the Welcome page, click on **Clark ALERTS Updater**.

Radio and Television Announcements

Another available resource is local radio and television stations. Keep in mind that we cannot guarantee radio and television broadcasts will be as up-to-date as our University communication channels.

Winter Weather and Parking

Parking around campus can be a challenge, particularly during the winter months with the piles of snow and restricted parking on city streets. Please remember that overnight parking in the garage and designated lots requires specific parking decals.

The commuter parking lots close at midnight, and no vehicles can be parked in those locations after that time with or without a decal. Vehicles parked in commuter parking lots or in designated overnight parking areas without the proper decals will be subject to ticketing, booting, or towing. You may find more information about Clark’s parking policies or purchase a parking decal [here](#).

Keep in mind that several off-campus streets in the neighborhood are marked as “residents-only” parking, which requires decals from the city.

If you choose to park on the streets in the neighborhood, we urge you to become informed about the city’s winter parking regulations and parking ban declarations. You can learn more about winter parking in Worcester and sign up for text alerts regarding parking bans [here](#).

Related Policies and Regulations

History/Revision Information

Responsible Office/Division: Office of Human Resources

Effective Date: 1/27/2022

Last Amended Date:

Next Review Date: 1/27/2023