

LSA Student Government Statement on Washtenaw County’s “Stay in Place” Order and Democratic Participation

To the Michigan Community:

October 21, 2020

On October 20, 2020, the Washtenaw County Health Department issued an order to all undergraduate students at the University of Michigan to stay in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the University community. We recommend everyone to read and adhere to the emergency order. It is too lengthy to be entirely mentioned in this statement, but the exact details can be found [here](#).¹ As a government, our foremost priority is the health and safety of the students of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. At the same time, we recognize that other aspects of student life, including democratic engagement, may be impacted by this order.

With this in mind, LSA Student Government highly encourages students across the University of Michigan to be civically engaged and to partake in the current 2020 election. Students at the University are still allowed to traverse across campus, the city of Ann Arbor, and Washtenaw county in order to vote and be politically active. You can vote early at the satellite Clerk’s Office at the UMMA. With this election season being considered highly important and contentious, the members of LSA SG advocates that everyone makes their voices heard by voting in the local, state, and federal elections. For further information pertaining to voting please visit the following links:

For information on voting in-person or by absentee ballot and verifying your registration:
michigan.gov/vote

Important voting information from the Ann Arbor City Clerk website:
<https://www.a2gov.org/departments/city-clerk/Elections/pages/voting.aspx>

The LSA Student Government is taking action to help those most affected by the virus. Our Health Committee and several other representatives are making care packages for the students quarantining in the Northwoods apartments on North Campus. LSA SG is working closely with the Central Student Government and its recently formed COVID-19 task force to address other arising issues such as the increased number of cases within dorms on campus and advising university administration to take appropriate actions.

We recognize that these are extremely trying times, but we must be selfless and put the health of the community and the student body above our individual wants.

Always Seeking to Put Students First,

LSA Student Government

¹ See <https://www.washtenaw.org/DocumentCenter/View/18383/U-M-Stay-in-Place-FAQ-final-10-20-20>