

# 2020-21 RESIDENTIAL LIVING HANDBOOK

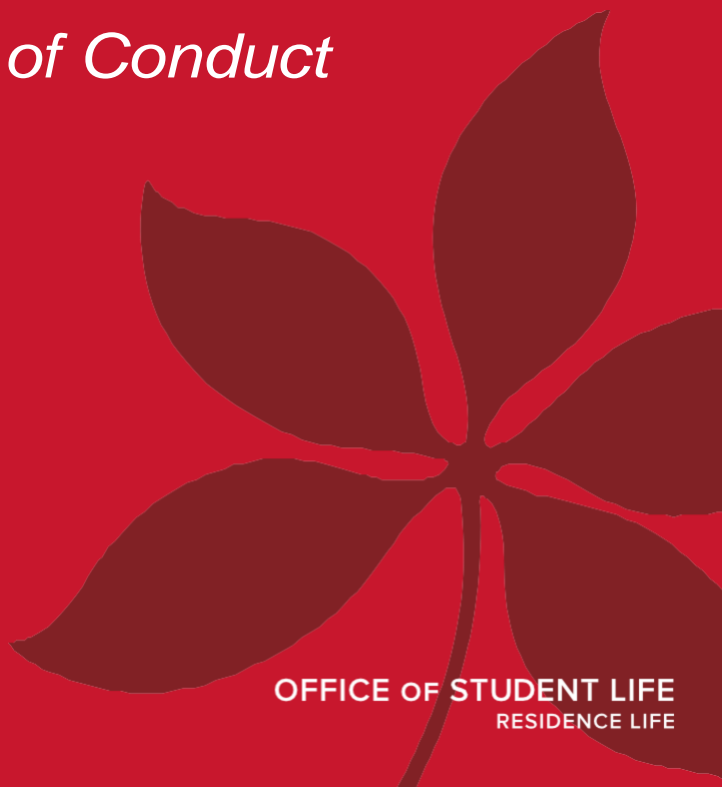
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*Community Standards of Conduct  
For Newark Housing*



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE  
RESIDENCE LIFE



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## **COMMUNITY STANDARDS OF CONDUCT IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS**

We want you to look back on your time in the residence hall with memories of success—good friends, good times and good grades. Ohio State and University Housing have established guidelines to help students live together successfully. These rules and policies include Community Standards of Conduct, published here; Terms and Conditions and Undergraduate Addendum, published in their entirety on the Housing website ([housing.osu.edu](http://housing.osu.edu)); and the Code of Student Conduct, available at [studentlife.osu.edu/csc](http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc), which applies to the conduct of all registered students and registered student organizations.

## **HOW THE COMMUNITY STANDARDS OF CONDUCT ARE APPLIED**

University Housing staff members, as well as the various governing bodies within the university, rely on Community Standards of Conduct as a guide to help define acceptable behavior on issues related to university and resident property or resident behavior. Residents who violate policies may be held accountable for their behavior, up to and including termination of their contract or housing agreement in accordance with the notice and hearing procedures set forth in the Code of Student Conduct and/or the Ohio Revised Code 5321.031, "Termination of Student Tenant Rental Agreements." Once an alleged violation of policy is reported, the student(s) alleged to be involved is asked to meet with the housing coordinator or designee to discuss the violation. During this meeting, the administrator may determine whether an individual intervention, community intervention or judicial hearing is warranted.

Residence hall officials may refer cases involving suspected violations of these standards to the Office of Student Conduct. For more information regarding the Code of Student Conduct, visit [trustees.osu.edu/rules/code-of-student-conduct/](http://trustees.osu.edu/rules/code-of-student-conduct/).

## **RESIDENTS' RIGHTS**

**As members of the residential community, you have the right to expect the following:**

- **The ability to sleep, read and study, free from undue interference, unreasonable noise, and other distractions.**
- **Personal privacy within the limits of the residence halls.**
- **A clean living environment.**
- **Freedom from harassment, including sexual harassment, as defined in University Policies 1.10 and 1.15, so sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive such that it unreasonably interferes with, denies, or limits an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the university's education and employment programs and activities.**
- **Assistance and support resources from housing staff.**

## **RESIDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

**As members of the residential community, you have the responsibility to:**

- **Help maintain an environment conducive to academic pursuit.**
- **Treat fellow residents and housing staff with respect, consideration and cooperation.**
- **Accord every resident personal dignity and report incidents of racial or other discrimination or harassment to housing staff.**
- **Understand and comply with all university and housing policies and regulations.**
- **Resolve personal and community issues in a calm and diplomatic manner.**
- **Take action by addressing any situation with a housing staff member or a fellow resident (if you feel comfortable) when it interferes with your rights or the rights of others.**

# Handbook Policies

## 1. DAMAGES AND LIABILITY

### 11 University Liability

- (a) The university acknowledges, and the resident is hereby made aware, that criminal activity, personal injury, and theft occur, and the risk exists for such future occurrences on university premises, specifically within and around residence and dining hall facilities. Therefore, the resident agrees to assume responsibility for their own personal safety and security, as well as for their own personal belongings.
- (b) In order to reduce the financial burden of replacing personal belongings after such unexpected events, or accidental damage to the property of others, including university property, residents are strongly encouraged to obtain appropriate coverage, including renter's insurance. Ohio State does not endorse any specific insurance company and recommends that you consult with your current insurance provider regarding appropriate coverage options, including renter's insurance.
- (c) The university does not assume responsibility for any resident's, guest's or other person's loss of money or valuables or for the loss of or damage to property due to natural and unnatural causes (i.e., flooding, fire, etc.) or injuries, personal or otherwise, sustained on or about the residence and dining halls premises. As stated in the Housing Contract, the university encourages students to contact local insurance carriers concerning the availability of protection against such losses.
- (d) Residents must pay charges for damages levied against them by University Housing. Residents who do not pay charges may be subject to university disciplinary action.

### 12 Resident Liability

- (a) Upon arrival, all residents of a room or apartment must complete an Electronic Room Condition Report (ERCR). The report documents the condition of items in the room or apartment. University property that is noted as damaged and that requires repair or replacement must be listed on the report.
- (b) The student or staff member, in order to initiate repair or replace damaged objects, must complete service requests. Service requests may be submitted online by selecting "Maintenance/Facilities Request" on the menu bar of the University Housing web page ([housing.osu.edu](http://housing.osu.edu)).
- (c) Maintenance and housekeeping staff members repair, replace or adjust university equipment or property. Residents are not permitted to do so.
- (d) All residents of a room or apartment are held mutually liable for damages to the room or apartment once occupancy is established.
- (e) An individual resident of a room or apartment is solely liable for damages to the room or apartment when individual responsibility for the damages can be clearly established.
- (f) Rooms and apartments must be in the same condition upon resident departure as recorded in the ERCR.
- (g) Residents are responsible for locking their room or apartment doors. Residents may be held accountable for loss of personal belongings or university property if their room or apartment doors are not properly secured. Properly secured means the door is closed and locked.
- (h) Residents are held liable for damages to public and semipublic areas of the residence hall when individual or group responsibility for the damages can be clearly established. Residence hall elevators are considered part of the residence halls' public areas. Elevator tampering includes but is not limited to, graffiti, pushing the emergency bell when there is no emergency or purposely stopping the elevator by jumping or other means.
- (i) When individual or group responsibility for repeated or excessive damages to public areas of the residence hall cannot be established, all residents of the hall are held financially liable for those damages. This policy is in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of the Housing Contract.
- (j) Residents who observe vandalism within and around University Housing and fail to report the vandalism to a housing staff member may be held financially liable for the damages and subject to university disciplinary proceedings and/or criminal charges.
- (k) Apartment residents are responsible for cleaning on a regular basis. To ensure health and well-being and to protect the condition of the apartment, residents should conduct routine cleaning, with special attention to food preparation areas, bathrooms and trash containers.
- (l) Residents may be charged for damages, including damage resulting from the resident's acts or omissions, whether accidental or not. The university encourages students to contact local insurance carriers concerning the availability of protection against liability resulting from damage to personal property, property of other residents and/or university property.

## 2. UNIVERSITY SERVICES, PROPERTY, APPLIANCES and EQUIPMENT

University services, property, appliances and equipment are available to residents for their use while living on campus.

### 21 Keycards/Building Access Cards

University room, apartment and suite keycards/building access cards are issued to the assigned occupants of a room, suite or apartment. Residents may not lend their keycard/building access card to anyone. This Includes both



hard keys and electronic/ID keys. Lost or missing key cards must be reported as soon as possible to residence hall staff.

- (a) Residents who accidentally lock themselves out of their rooms or apartments may borrow a loaner keycard for a limited time by presenting their university identification at the housing office.
- (b) It is a violation of state statutes and university regulations to duplicate keys or key cards to any residence hall or common area door.
- (c) Residents who accidentally lock themselves out of their apartments/rooms may borrow key card for a limited time by presenting their university identification at the residence hall front desk or the housing office. However, an unreasonable amount of lockouts will result in charges to ensure resident security. In residence hall rooms with brass key access and electronic key card access, only 12 lockouts will be permitted. A 13th lockout will result in a \$150 charge for processing. The lockout allowance will reset following the issuance of the fee being assessed. As stated in the automated electronic confirmation email, failure to return a loaner card issued by the front desk within 30 minutes will result in a \$30 fee.
- (d) Temporary BuckID's are available at your assigned building's front desk in case a resident loses their BuckID outside of the normal business hours for the BuckID office. (Go to [www.buckid.osu.edu](http://www.buckid.osu.edu) for additional information.) Temporary BuckID's are active for a maximum of 72 hours. Residents must visit the BuckID office during this time to have their ID replaced. A resident will not be issued multiple temporary ID's for the same loss. As stated in the automated electronic confirmation email, failure to return the temporary ID within 72 hours to the front desk in which the card was issued will result in a \$30 fee.
- (e) Temporary BuckID's may be activated for a maximum of 72 hours to facilitate a move of a resident. Failure to return the temporary ID within 72 hours to the front desk in which the card was issued will result in a \$30 fee.
- (f) Locks may not be changed or added without prior written permission of University Housing. Locks must be left in place upon vacating the premises.

## 22 University-Provided Room Furnishings and Appliances

- (a) Room, apartment or patio furnishings provided by the university may be arranged in any reasonable manner that does not endanger resident safety, with the exception that any furnishing bolted to a wall or floor, which must remain in its original position. This includes closet and bedroom doors.
- (b) Room or apartment furnishings provided by the university may not be transferred or interchanged among rooms, apartments or public areas. Residents may be billed for missing furnishings upon checkout from the room or apartment.
- (c) All university-provided appliances (refrigerators, dishwashers, ovens, microwaves, washers and dryers) must be cleaned and in the same working condition upon departure as they were upon arrival.

## 23 Telephone Service

The Office of the Chief Information Officer's (OCIO) Telecommunications & Networking group offers local telephone service to residents living in certain undergraduate residence halls and other university-owned housing areas on the Newark campus. In these locations, local telephone service is optional and must be ordered for an additional fee. Local telephone service includes:

- (a) A phone number that can be dialed directly from off campus and touch-tone dialing capability.
- (b) Unlimited, free campus, local and domestic long distance calling. (International calling is not included. If you need to place international long distance calls, the Office of the CIO offers inexpensive options.)
- (c) These options may be ordered at any time and are billed to the person ordering the service.)
- (d) 9-1-1 access to University Police.
- (e) NOTE: You need to provide your own telephone equipment.  
A telephone jack is provided in each bedroom and living room. It is the property of the university. Residents are financially responsible for vandalism, including damages to the telephone jack. The following are prohibited:
  - Acceptance of collect calls placed to a residence hall room or apartment telephone.
  - Charging calls to any university telephone or account without proper authorization.
  - Placing harassing or repeatedly unwanted phone calls.
  - Leaving telephones off the hook or rewiring or attaching unauthorized wires or devices to the telephone.
  - Tampering with or maliciously damaging any public telephone.

## 24 Vending, Laundry and Game Equipment

The residence hall is equipped with washers and dryers and may include game equipment and DVDs that are available for the exclusive convenience of residents. Washers and dryers in the residence halls are available at no charge. Laundry facilities are available only to those living in university housing. Please report inoperable machines or appliances to residence hall staff.

- (a) Tampering with or maliciously damaging any machine, appliance or game equipment is prohibited.

## 25 Windows and Doors

For reasons of safety and design, stops or seals on window screens and doors may not be loosened or removed. Residents will be assessed for the cost of window screens, stops or seals that they damage or otherwise cause to be replaced. Nothing may hang or be thrown from a window. (Refer to 3.4(h) for more on windows)

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### Theft

Theft, or the unauthorized use or possession of university property, services, resources, or the property of others is a serious offense — one that will be investigated and may be punished to the full extent of university policy and federal, state and local laws and ordinances.

- (a) Theft of university services includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized use of university long distance service, network access, cable/philos accounts and BuckID accounts or services.
- (b) Theft of university property includes, but is not limited to, furnishings and traffic control devices (including traffic cones and signage).
- (c) Residents may not use another's personal property without prior authorization, including, but not limited to, another's access to long distance or computer database services or BuckID account.

## 3. PERSONAL PROPERTY, APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT

Residents may bring some personal property, appliances and equipment to campus for use in their rooms or apartments, provided that such property, appliances and equipment do not endanger resident safety, restrict reasonable freedom of movement within shared living space and do not violate the policy guidelines outlined below. These policy guidelines were developed with consideration for resident needs and safety, as well as with consideration for the structural design of residence hall facilities.

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### Appliances

Residents may use some personal appliances within their rooms or apartments, provided the appliances and their power cords carry Underwriters' Laboratory approval and are in good condition. Power cords and appliances must be in good working order for the safety of all residents and facilities.

- (a) Residents may use the following appliances in their rooms or apartments: clocks, radios, stereos, televisions, fans, personal computers, lamps and the university-provided appliances.
- (b) Residents, exercising reasonable caution, may use the following appliances in their rooms or apartments: pod-style coffee makers, hot air popcorn poppers, irons and hair appliances.
  - If the appliance has a heating element, the element must be enclosed inside the appliance.
  - Appliances are to be used on a noncombustible surface (special pads can be purchased from local department stores) and never on bedding, upholstery or wood surfaces.
- (c) Appliances should be attended while in use and unplugged when not in use.
- (d) Residents may not use the following appliances in the apartment complex or resident hall rooms: 3D printers, electric or gas grills, electric blankets, heating pads, space heaters, sun lamps, air conditioners, popcorn popper other than a hot air popcorn popper.
- (e) An extension outlet bar equipped with a circuit breaker is the recommended extension device. Cords should never be placed across aisles, wrapped around metal fixtures or furniture, run through doorways or under carpet or bedding.
- (f) Residents may not use any extension cord on a permanent basis.
- (g) Octopus plugs or other multiple plugs are prohibited.
- (h) Holiday lights may not be connected to anything other than a wall socket or extension device with a circuit breaker. Holiday lights may not be stapled to walls or ceilings.
- (i) Residents living in Newark apartments and exercising reasonable caution may use additional appliances in the kitchen areas of their living quarters. Students should consult with their housing coordinator for clarification of exceptions.
- (j) Hoverboards, and similar lithium battery self-balancing personal transportation devices, are not permitted to be used in any residence hall, including rooms, suites, hallways, or any public space. However, they may be charged in private rooms only if the device has been certified by the Underwriters' Laboratory (UL).

Additionally, follow these guidelines for all lithium battery self-balancing personal transportation devices:

  - Observe charging of device at all times and do not charge overnight
  - Do not charge a device overnight or in a separate room where one cannot observe it at all times
  - Charge and store in an open, dry area away from combustible materials
  - Do not charge directly after riding; first allow the device to cool
- (k) Drones and micro drones are not permitted to be used in any residence hall including rooms, suites, hallways or any public space. Use of drones and similar Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) on Ohio State property are subject to requirements found in Ohio State's UAS policy found at <http://go.osu.edu/uas-policy>. All flights must have prior university permission as per policy.

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### Discarding of Personal Property

- (a) Any items, including but not limited to personal property, left behind will be stored on a temporary basis

for 14 days and then discarded if not retrieved by the resident.

- (b) Residents who utilize the **After Hours** check-out process will have any remaining items discarded immediately after vacating their room/suite/apartment.

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### **Technology Usage**

The Ohio State University, through University Housing, provides network connection services in student rooms, apartments, and other university-owned housing facilities.

- (a) Use of this service is a privilege, and it is the responsibility of each user to utilize these services appropriately. By connecting a host/computer to ResNet, users are bound to and required to adhere to all aspects of The Ohio State University Policy on Responsible Use of University Computing Resources, found at <https://ocio.osu.edu/sites/default/files/assets/Policies/Responsible-Use-of-University-Computing-and-Network-Resources-Policy.pdf>, as well as any and all university, city, county, state and federal regulations.
- (b) University Housing cooperates with the Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) in the compliance of all federal and state laws; all university rules and policies; and all applicable contracts and licenses including, but not limited to, laws of libel, privacy, copyright and trademark. Included in such laws, rules, policies, contracts and licenses is piracy or copyright infringement, as in the case of illegal downloading of music, software, etc.
- (c) In addition, users of ResNet at Ohio State are required to adhere to the following terms of acceptable use. Any actions that are deemed a violation of these policies may result in a termination of services, and/or monetary fine and/or judicial or criminal sanctions.
- (d) Residents will refrain from abuse and excessive use of the finite resources and hosts connected to ResNet and the Ohio State network. Users will also refrain from abuse and excessive use of hosts and services outside of ResNet and Ohio State.
- (e) As the intent of ResNet is to provide residents with access to outside services, users will not attempt to run any unauthorized services.
- (f) Residents will not attempt to circumvent the ResNet firewall or any other established network services.
- (g) Residents will not modify or tamper with any ResNet network wiring, hardware or jacks.
- (h) Residents are responsible for all network traffic originating from their host.
- (i) Using electronic or other means to make a video or photographic record of any person in a location where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy without the person's prior knowledge, when such a recording is likely to cause injury, distress or damage to reputation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, taking video or photographic images in shower, residence hall rooms and restrooms. The storing, sharing and/or distributing of such unauthorized records by any means is also prohibited.
- (j) Residents may not bring or install satellite dishes in or on university and/or University Housing property.

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### **Bicycles**

Bicycles or personal mobility devices (owned or otherwise) larger than a skateboard may be stored outdoors in one of the bicycle racks provided. Bicycles or personal mobility devices larger than a skateboard may not be stored in individual rooms or suites or ever ridden in the building.

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### **Apartment/Room Furnishings**

Residents may add limited personal furnishings to their apartments, provided that the furnishings neither restrict reasonable freedom of movement within shared living space nor endanger resident safety.

- (a) Lofts are prohibited.
- (b) Residents may carpet their rooms or apartments if they are not already carpeted.
- Carpet may not have foam backing, and carpet padding is not permitted.
  - Residents may not modify university property to accommodate carpet. They may not use double-sided or other tape, glue, adhesive or nails in carpet installation.
  - Residents who install carpet must remove it before checkout and haul it away from campus. Residence hall staff members may have information about local agencies that will haul carpet away.
  - Residents are assessed for damages caused by carpet and for any special housekeeping services made necessary by installation or removal.
- (c) Waterbeds, pools of water and water chairs are not permitted in rooms or apartments.
- (d) In personalizing rooms or apartments, residents may not rewire them or otherwise modify electrical outlets, switches, fixtures or wall coverings.
- (e) Installing wall/ceiling-mounted electrical items (including, but not limited to, fans, lights, etc.), is prohibited.
- (f) Residents may not move university furniture from public areas to their rooms or apartments.
- (g) Residents may not remove university furniture or fixtures (including doors) from their rooms or apartments.
- (h) Room painting or wallpapering are not permitted.
- (i) Windows must remain clear from obstruction and university window coverings need to be visible from the outside. Posting, hanging or otherwise displaying signage, lighting or other materials in or around the residence hall windows or on university window coverings is not permitted.

**Pets**

Residents may keep goldfish or nonhazardous tropical fish, but other types of pets are not permitted in the residence halls at any time. Remember to plan for your fish over break periods. Hazardous pet fish, such as piranhas, are not permitted. Aquariums must be unplugged before you leave. The temperature of the water will fluctuate, thus putting your fish at risk. Aquariums must be 20- gallon capacity or less.

- (a) Service, Assistance, Emotional Support or Therapy Animals In Ohio State University Facilities
- The University has a general “no pets” policy in all of its buildings. Pets are allowed on the grounds when leashed and under control. Service Animals are generally allowed to accompany their handlers in any building or public space where their handlers are permitted. Emotional Support and Visiting Therapy animals may be allowed in specified areas of the University with advanced approval.

All animals are the responsibility of their handlers and should be under their control (in proximity to the handler and responsive to commands, in harness, leashed or in a carrier). An animal’s behavior is considered the handler’s behavior; the animal will be held to the same basic standard of conduct as their handlers. If they are disruptive to university business or community behavioral expectations for educational, medical and residential environments handlers may be asked to correct the animal’s behavior or remove it from the environment.

If you plan to live in a campus residence and utilize a Service Animal or Assistance Animal as you work with Housing Administration on arranging housing we ask that you provide a brief statement indicating:

- That you are a person with a disability and will be using a Service Animal;
- The primary service tasks the animal performs;
- All residents are required to provide documentation that they have had an appropriate medical exam and vaccinations; we ask the same of your service animal. Please submit a vaccination certificate or letter identifying your animal and indicating a clean bill of health and up to date vaccinations from your veterinary health provider.
- E-mail, Fax or Mail the statement to: Toni Greenslade-Smith, Director, Housing Administration, Greenslade-smith.1@osu.edu, 614-292-8266 phone, 614-292-6906 fax

If you have questions, would like assistance planning for a Service Animal on campus, need to arrange local veterinary care, or have a concern about your treatment and access when accompanied by your Service Animal contact the Ohio State University ADA Coordinator at [ada-osu@osu.edu](mailto:ada-osu@osu.edu), 614-292-6207

If you have questions or need assistance with a Service Animal in Training on campus contact the ADA Coordinator at [ada-osu@osu.edu](mailto:ada-osu@osu.edu), 614-292-6207

**Exercise Equipment**

- (a) Hand weights, free weights or other weight lifting equipment under 10 pounds may be used in resident rooms or apartments.
- (b) Other equipment can create safety, space and facility concerns and is prohibited,— including equipment that attaches to or may impact the structure of the space or facility as determined by Residence Life.

**Trash**

Residents must properly dispose of all room or apartment trash in university-provided dumpsters located outside of the residence hall. Residents found to be improperly disposing of trash may be charged for its cleanup and removal. To avoid attracting insects and creating unpleasant odors, residents are expected to routinely remove trash to the dumpsters. Excessive trash kept within rooms or apartment may lead to removal and cleanup charges.

**4. RESIDENT PRIVACY AND BEHAVIOR****Access to residence halls and apartments**

The university will strive to provide a safe and secure housing for residents while respecting the residents’ rights to privacy, and every effort is made to ensure privacy in University Housing.

- (a) To ensure a safe and secure residential environment, all exterior residence hall doors are secured with a BuckID reader or key lock. Residents will have 24-hour access to the main residence hall doors of their hall/complex and may have limited access to auxiliary doors during the day. Residents have the privilege to visit residence halls other than their own (hall/complex) at limited times. The privilege to have access to residence halls may be revoked by University Housing staff professionals for noncompliance with the Community Standards of Conduct, Terms and Conditions published in its entirety in the Residence Halls contact, and the Code of Student Conduct, available at [studentlife.osu.edu/csc](http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc).
- (b) A designated university official has the right to enter any part of the university premises, with or without notice, to perform reasonable custodial, maintenance and repair services, to recover university property, to inspect for damages or cleanliness or in case of emergency. In University Housing, reasonable effort will be made to give a 24-hour notice before the service or inspection is performed. Please note that routine work and inspections occur during semester breaks. A designated university official may enter and search university premises if there is reason to believe that the premises are being used for an illegal purpose or a purpose that violates health or safety regulations or interferes with normal university operation.
- Evidence found in such a search might be confiscated and used in disciplinary proceedings.

- In University Housing, the designated university official shall be a housing coordinator, assistant housing coordinator, hall director, assistant hall director or assistant/associate director of residence life.. When a housing coordinator enters and searches any residence as provided for under this paragraph, reasonable efforts must be made to have present a resident of the room or apartment being searched. (See the Code of Student Conduct.)

(c) Law officials may enter, search and seize evidence in accordance with applicable law.

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### **Alcohol**

The legal drinking age in Ohio is 21. The university and University Housing comply fully with all federal, state, and municipal regulations regarding the sale, possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

- (a) Residents and their guests may not possess alcohol, including empty containers or consume alcohol in a manner inconsistent with either the policies of the university or those of University Housing or in violation of the Ohio Revised Code. Those found in violation must immediately dispose of the alcohol when requested to do so by residence hall staff or other university officials.
- (b) Residents 21 years of age and older may possess and consume legal beverages in private rooms or apartments (with the door closed) when such possession and consumption is consistent with the Ohio Revised Code ([codes.ohio.gov/orc](http://codes.ohio.gov/orc)) and the Code of Student Conduct ([trustees.osu.edu/rules/code-of-student-conduct/](http://trustees.osu.edu/rules/code-of-student-conduct/)).
- (c) Cans, bottles, cartons and kegs may not be used as decorative items. In addition, those containers/items that promote the excessive and/or irresponsible use of alcohol (e.g., beer bong, funnels, etc.) are prohibited.
- (d) Individuals who bring alcoholic beverages into the residence hall must produce a driver's license or state identification card upon request as proof of eligibility to consume or possess alcohol. A university identification card is not acceptable for this purpose.
- (e) Students are not permitted to be in possession of any false identification or any identification card that does not belong to them.
- (f) Supplying alcohol to an underage person is illegal.
- (g) Open containers of alcohol and the consumption of alcohol in public areas such as porches, balconies, patios, stairwells and parking lots are prohibited.
- (h) Alcohol is prohibited at undergraduate group events within residence hall facilities.
- (i) Residents and their guests may not bring in or store kegs or similar containers that hold large amounts of alcohol in the residence halls or in their rooms/apartments.
- (j) The misuse (underage drinking, drinking in unauthorized areas, etc.) and the abuse of alcohol (drinking to an extent such that one's behavior and judgment are impaired or results in disruption of others) are prohibited, regardless of where the alcohol was consumed. The effects of alcohol misuse and abuse include excessive noise, interpersonal conflict and vandalism. The individual who misuses or abuses alcohol not only negatively affects the community but also endangers the individual resident.
- (k) To avoid the misuse and abuse of alcohol, games requiring or involving the consumption of alcohol are prohibited in the residence hall, and on University Housing property.

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### **Amnesty**

- (a) At the university's discretion, amnesty may be extended to students who may be hesitant to report a violation of the code to university officials because they fear that they themselves may be accused of minor policy violations, including but not limited to underage drinking, at the time of the incident. If a student is granted amnesty, an educational discussion or other informal resolution may be considered, but no university conduct proceedings under this code will result. At the university's discretion, amnesty may also be extended on a case-by-case basis for minor policy violations when students request assistance for others in need, including the person receiving assistance. In cases of academic misconduct, need does not include the inability of a student to complete an assignment without assistance. If a student is granted amnesty, an educational discussion or other informal resolution may be considered, but no university conduct proceedings under this code will result.

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### **Drugs**

The university and University Housing comply fully with all federal, state and local regulations.

- (a) Use, production, distribution, sale or possession of drugs or controlled substances in violation of federal, state or municipal laws is prohibited by the university and is not permitted in the residence halls. This includes, but is not limited to, the misuse of prescription drugs.
- (b) Residents are responsible for reporting the use, production, manufacture, sale, distribution, and/or possession of illegal substances within any area of the residence halls to residence hall staff.
- (c) In addition, the misuse of substances that present physical or psychological hazards to individuals is prohibited— including prescription drugs or over-the counter medications.

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### **Gambling**

In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code 2915.02 ([codes.ohio.gov](http://codes.ohio.gov)) gambling in any form is not permitted within University Housing or on university premises. Such activities include, but are not limited to, football parlays, card games involving money, lotteries, betting, bookmaking, games of chance, schemes of chance and raffles in which



a ticket must be purchased.

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### **Noise**

Residents must understand and abide by quiet and courtesy hours.

- (a) Quiet hours are times when noise from stereos, televisions, computers and conversations must not be clearly audible in private rooms from areas such as hallways, adjoining rooms or through open windows.
  - Quiet hours begin at 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday nights and at 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday nights. Quiet hours extend until 7 a.m. daily.
- (b) Courtesy hours are all other times. During courtesy hours, residents are expected to keep from unduly interfering with anyone else's ability to sleep, read or study. Students who are asked to be quiet during courtesy hours are expected to do so.
- (c) The use of equipment—such as speakers, radios, amplifiers, sub-woofer speakers, video game equipment, car engines or musical instruments—in a manner that violates a standard of quiet conducive to study or sleep is not permitted.
- (d) Sound equipment or speakers may not be placed facing out of an open window.
- (e) Yelling between buildings or creating noise on sidewalks or in the parking lots is prohibited.
- (f) Beginning the day after the last day of classes through the last day of exams, 24-hour quiet hours shall be in effect

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### **Smoking and the Use of Tobacco Products**

- (a) Smoking and the use of tobacco are prohibited in or on all university owned, operated or leased property including vehicles. Tobacco is defined as all tobacco-derived or containing products, including and not limited to, cigarettes (e.g., clove, bidis, kreteks), electronic cigarettes, vapes, cigars and cigarillos, hookah smoked products, pipes, and oral tobacco (e.g., spit and spitless, smokeless, chew, snuff) and nasal tobacco (e.g. snus). It also includes any product intended to mimic tobacco products, contain tobacco flavoring or deliver nicotine other than for the purpose of cessation.
- (b) Smoking is not permitted in the residence hall. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: student rooms, hallways, doorways, reception areas, lobbies, lounges, restrooms, stairwells, loading docks, trash rooms or computer areas.

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### **Dining Services**

Dining Services has a strong commitment to providing a pleasant environment for all in dining operators.

- (a) Initiating or participating in throwing food, drinks, or eating utensils is prohibited.
- (b) No dining equipment, including, but not limited to serving/eating utensils and dishes, may be carried out of the dining commons area.
- (c) Food items, other than those permitted and advertised as such in the dining commons, may not be carried out.
- (d) BuckIDs are not to be shared for food services. A traditional meal plan is purchased for one user, and access or attempt to access a dining hall with a BuckID by anyone other than the BuckID account holder is not permitted and may be referred to Office of Student Life Student Conduct, OSU Police Division and/or the appropriate office for further review .

## **5. GUESTS AND VISITATION**

For the health and safety of our university community, visitors (anyone living outside of a student's specific residential community) will not be permitted after student move-in. Overnight guests are also prohibited.

## **6. SALES AND SOLICITATION**

To protect resident privacy and to insure adherence to university policies, canvassing or solicitation of funds, sales, memberships, subscriptions or distribution of literature in University Housing and Dining operations is prohibited unless permission is first granted in writing by the University Housing, 190 W. Woodruff Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210, (614)292-3930. University and residence hall groups are responsible for obtaining appropriate permission for any canvassing, sales or solicitation activities they wish to initiate in the residence halls. This includes:

- (a) Approval to distribute information, pamphlets or literature, and permission to set up tables and chairs in common areas or to use these areas for any other reason.
- (b) Residents may post announcements and other publicity at the residence hall, lobby or floor bulletin boards with the prior permission of the housing coordinator or coordinator's designee.
- (c) All residence hall student publications (for example, complex council newsletters) may be distributed only within the respective complex.
- (d) Signs may not be posted on apartment exterior doors, walls or in any other unauthorized areas.
- (e) Mail, which is to be placed in residence hall mailboxes, must be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service or by the university's campus mail service. Delivery by any other method, or the delivery of any other materials, is not permitted without the written permission of University Housing.
- (f) An individual or group may not act as a vendor or sales agent or set up or operate a business enterprise

of any kind in university residence halls or dining facilities, except as authorized in writing by University Housing.

- (g) Telephone solicitation is prohibited.
- (h) All door-to-door sales or solicitations are prohibited.
- (i) Food delivered, as well as other goods and services, to the room/apartment must first be ordered by a resident and picked up on the exterior of the apartment/residence hall facility.
- (j) Individuals or groups who wish to distribute questionnaires or undertake other research projects involving residents or staff, must contact University Housing, 190 W. Woodruff Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210, for written permission. Authorization requires a written proposal submitted at least two weeks before the project begins.
- (k) Residence Life Staff will not sign for any mail/packages that require a 21+ signature.
  - Students will need to make arrangements to pick these items up directly from the courier. It may be, that on occasion, such packages will be returned to the shipper.

## 7. SAFETY

### 7.1 911 Emergency Telephone Network

Dialing 911 or the use of an emergency phone in a non-emergency situation is prohibited by the university and by law. Staff can be contacted in non-emergency situations by calling University Housing. Use 911 when immediate assistance is required for life threatening or other emergencies including for medical emergencies, fires or issues requiring immediate support from fire or police personnel.

### 7.2 Firearms and Weapons

- (a) In alignment with the Code of Student Conduct, possession and/or use of any type of firearm or other dangerous weapon or device is not permitted. Except as provided by the Code of Student Conduct, this includes in areas in or around the residence halls. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, guns, ammunition, chemical and dry ice bombs, explosives, bows and arrows, darts, fireworks, knives, paint guns, BB guns, pellet guns, air-soft guns, Tasers/stun-guns, nightsticks, sling shots and martial arts equipment. This prohibition includes persons in possession of a concealed firearms permit.
- (b) The use and/or possession of fireworks, including novelty items, smoke bombs or explosive devices of any type, is not permitted in or around the residence halls and is prohibited by the Ohio Revised Code.
- (c) Residents must report the unlawful possession, use or storage of firearms, weapons, or explosives to residence hall staff.
- (d) Use or misuse of weapons, devices or substances in a manner that causes or threatens serious harm to the safety or security of others is prohibited.

### 7.3 Fire Prevention

Each residence hall has specific regulations concerning fire prevention and safety that are mandated by the Ohio Fire Code. Violations of these regulations are violations of state law and are prohibited.

- (a) Setting fires inside or outside the residence hall is prohibited and is punishable under the Ohio Fire Code. This includes, but is not limited to, igniting bulletin boards, wall coverings, trash containers and door decorations. The police will be involved in investigating all fire incidents.
- (b) Pulling a fire alarm or falsely reporting an emergency to the police or fire department is prohibited and is punishable under the Ohio Fire Code.
  - Residents of a room or apartment may be charged for unnecessary fire safety visits when it is determined that the smoke detector in an individual room was intentionally or negligently activated.
  - The unauthorized use, tampering or damage to emergency or safety equipment, including, but not limited to, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, building fire hose connections and sprinkler systems is prohibited and is punishable under the Ohio Fire Code.
- (c) Obstructing or disobeying emergency evacuation procedures or drills is prohibited and is punishable under the Ohio Fire Code.
- (d) The Department of Public Safety Fire Prevention prohibits the use of non-university charcoal grills on campus. Propane grills may be used only when beyond 25 feet from any building and/or window.
- (e) Using items such as candles, wax/candle/oil warmers, incense, torches, or any item with an open flame, which, by nature of their use, may be left unattended, poses a fire hazard and therefore is not permitted in the residence hall. This includes smoking, and use of tobacco, as defined and prohibited in section 4.6.

### 7.4 Identification

Resident identity is established by the university photo identification card (BuckID). For safety reasons, residents must identify themselves and produce a university identification card when it is requested by residence hall staff or by other university officials. University identification cards may not be borrowed or loaned.

### 7.5 Personal Safety

Behavior that endangers personal safety within the residence hall is not permitted.

- (a) Objects such as, but not limited to, firecrackers, Frisbees, balls, water hoses and containers of water are not to be discharged or thrown in the hallways, in student rooms, in public areas or from windows.

Water or shaving cream fights, as well as any sports in hallways, including in-line skating, use of a hoverboard or other similar lithium battery powered self-balancing personal device or similar behavior that endangers resident safety or university property is not permitted in the residence halls or in the areas around the residence halls.

- (b) Fire code limits to no more than 20% aggregate of a residence hall room walls be covered with combustibles materials such as bulletin boards, posters and paper attached directly to the wall.
- (c) Paper, fishnets, parachutes, flags, drapes, tapestries, or other combustible items must not be hung from or attached to room ceilings; they constitute a fire hazard. Items may not be hung from sprinkler heads, no matter how light they are. Hanging items and inserting devices into sprinklers may break or interfere with the mechanism or set off the sprinkler.
- (d) Storage and use of hazardous chemicals and materials are strictly prohibited other than common household cleaning materials in consumer quantities. Other exceptions, such as therapeutic drugs and medical gases, may apply and must be approved through the Office of Student Life, Risk and Emergency Management.
- (e) Collecting and storing paper for recycling is prohibited in the residence hall, unless it is in accordance with the university's recycling program.
- (f) Residents are not allowed in unauthorized areas within the residence hall. Such areas include, but are not limited to, any place that is officially closed, any place restricted to designated persons only, or any place where the safety and welfare of the residents could be endangered.
- (g) Residents should visit the following websites providing helpful information on elevator safety:  
<https://sfacilities.osu.edu/posts/documents/residence-hall-elevator-posting.pdf>
- (h) In the rare instance where a personal item falls into an elevator shaft, residents or guests should never attempt to recover the item. Incidents should be reported to Service2Facilities during their normal business hours (M-F, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.). A service fee of \$85 will be charged to the student's account. Temporary BuckID and room keys are available for residents in the interim. In the instance a resident cannot wait until the next business day for the item (i.e., there is a demonstrated, immediate need for the item as determined by Residence Life), a specialized contractor must be called in to recover the item. There is a \$470 fee for this call, which will be charged to the student's account. Please note that items are often damaged and occasionally unable to be located and recovered. The call in fee is charged regardless of the recovery and/or status of the item.

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#### **Self Care**

- (a) Residents must engage in self care, including appropriate personal hygiene and management of medical conditions, so as not to unduly compromise the health and safety of the apartment community. Residents who are unable to engage in self-care without assistance should collaborate with the appropriate office including Disability Services, Counseling Services, or the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

## **8. MOVE-IN, MOVE-OUT AND BREAK PERIODS**

- (a) The resident can move their belongings into their residence hall on move-in day.
- (b) At the end of autumn semester, if a residents is graduating, transferring, leaving on internship, or withdrawing from the university, the resident should vacate their residence hall room/apartment within 24-hours after their last exam. If the resident cannot vacate the room/apartment, they must obtain prior permission from Housing Services to remain later.
- (c) At the end of spring semester, the resident should vacate the residence hall within 24 hours after their last exam. If the resident cannot vacate the residence hall, they must obtain prior permission from the housing coordinator to remain later.
- (d) Graduating seniors are permitted to stay in the residence hall until graduation day.
- (e) During break periods, residents in non-academic-year housing are not permitted access to the residence halls, per the Terms and Conditions of their contract.
- (f) During break periods, the room/apartment temperature must be maintained at 60 degrees to avoid pipe damage and all windows must remain closed.





