Student & Academic Services

University Housing Community Standards

F. University Housing Community Standards

In addition to abiding by applicable federal, state and local laws, and the University conduct rules outlined in the Student Rights, Rules and Responsibilities, the student is expected to understand, support and live by community standards, rules and regulations established for all residences. Violations of any of the above, which could result in suspension or expulsion from the University, will be forwarded to the Office of Conduct and Mediation. Residents evicted or suspended for reasons of conduct will be financially responsible for that semesters rent.

1. **Alcohol.** All students are subject to the University Rights and Rules governing the use of alcohol, as well as federal, state, and local laws of alcohol use to include the Open Container Ordinance of Durham, NH. Entryways, hallways, and lounges are common areas, and consumption of alcohol is prohibited in these areas (including by those of legal drinking age). Group sources such as kegs of beer, beer balls, and alcoholic punches are prohibited in University housing.
   a. Only students of legal drinking age (21 years or older) may consume alcohol in their own room or in the room of another student who is at least 21 years old.
   b. A legal age drinker may have just one open alcohol container at a time for personal consumption.
   c. Alcohol is not permitted in any of the common or public areas of the residence halls or apartment buildings.
   d. Possession or consumption of alcohol is permitted only in rooms where at least one of the assigned and present residents is at least 21 years old.
   e. All common sources of alcohol, including but not limited to kegs, punch bowls, beer balls, or excessive amounts of alcohol in bottles or cases, are strictly prohibited.
   f. Providing underage people with alcohol is illegal and strictly prohibited.
   g. Any person who is under the influence of alcohol and whose behavior leads to personal injury or illness may be considered in violation of the alcohol policy.
   h. Having a gathering in a residence room, suite or apartment that involves illegal consumption of alcohol will likely lead to eviction upon a first offense. A gathering is defined as more people in the room/suite/apartment than just the people who are assigned to that room/suite/apartment.
2. **Alteration to Premises.** No changes may be made in the building or its fixtures by students individually or in groups without the expressed permission of the Department of Housing. The student or any person acting without said permission shall refrain from:
   a. Removing any item of University equipment/furniture from the room or premises.
   b. Altering or replacing the present locks or other security devices or installing additional locks or security devices.
   c. Making any structural or electrical alterations to the room.
   d. Using nails, screws, bolts, or decals upon the furniture, walls, doors, woodwork, ceiling, or floors of the room or apartment or otherwise defacing or marring such surfaces.
   e. Making unauthorized repairs to the room or apartment.
   f. Removing screens.
   g. Building partitions or making alterations to furniture.
3. **Civility.** The University offers many times, places and ways to engage in expressive conduct, and it expressly seeks to create a diverse learning culture where students feel encouraged to express themselves on a wide variety of issues. Students attending UNH are not required to live on campus. All persons living in University housing are entitled to sleep, study and quietly enjoy their living space without unreasonable disruption. The University's goal is to create a residential environment where all residents can expect to be treated in a civil and respectful way by each other. Therefore, in accordance with the SRRR and applicable law, residents or guests shall not harass, intimidate, threaten or abuse a guest or fellow resident through speech, conduct or writing. Isolated or incidental breaches of civility shall normally be treated as opportunities to counsel an offending student, with or without a formal warning. Repeated or knowing threats, harassment, intimidation or abuse sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions of another resident's sleep, study or repose may result in conduct charges or eviction.

4. **Common Area Use.** The University strives to create an atmosphere of respectful, diverse opinion and expression. Although our community aspires to extend this atmosphere into student residential facilities, it is important to note that residences are unlike other campus facilities, and that some kinds of expressive conduct are subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions. Students are expected to use good judgment when engaging in expressive conduct or displaying material in the common areas of the residence hall. These include any areas outside of a student room, including lounges, hallways, common bathrooms and hallway doors where community members must pass every day and therefore cannot avoid. Students and guests are prohibited from displaying material in common areas that disrupt or would likely disrupt the educational mission of the University, including, but not limited to, materials that are pornographic, obscene or create a hostile environment sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions of other residents' ability to sleep, study or repose. Students and guests are also prohibited from displaying materials that advertises or promotes drugs or alcohol, use gratuitous profane or vulgar language, or that are harassing or threatening to others. Please refer to the UNH Discrimination and Discriminatory Harassment policy for more information. The display of materials in the common areas shall be defined to include, but not be limited to, photographs, posters, written materials, videos, and live performances. Videos shown in the common areas shall have a rating of G, PG, PG-13 or R, and individuals who show videos are expected to comply with all applicable copyright laws. Isolated or incidental breaches of the rules governing the use of common areas shall normally be treated as opportunities to counsel an offending student, with or without a formal warning. Use of common areas to make repeated or knowing threats, harassment, intimidation or abuse sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions another student's sleep, study or repose may result in conduct charges or eviction.

5. **Cooking.** Cooking is prohibited in student rooms in the residence halls and allowed only in designated kitchen units or facilities.

6. **Condition of Common Areas.** Students are responsible for keeping all common and public areas of University housing free of personal trash and belongings. These areas include, but are not limited to hallways, bathrooms, stairwells, lounges, utility closets, and adjacent grounds.

7. **Damage.** Damage, theft, and vandalism to University property are strictly prohibited. Violators will be subject to disciplinary action. Each student is financially responsible for the cost of replacement or repairs of any breakage or damage (except for normal wear and tear) to his/her accommodations and its furnishings as well as for his/her share of the costs of any damages in the common areas of University housing.

8. **Drugs and Paraphernalia.** Students may not possess, use, be under the influence of or sell illegal drugs. Sharing or otherwise distributing illegal drugs or controlled substances in or around the residence halls/apartment communities will be subject to eviction from the residence halls/apartment communities and possible suspension or expulsion from the University. All paraphernalia which can be used with illegal drugs including, but not limited to, bongs, and pipes, rolling papers, etc. is prohibited.

9. **Fire Prevention/Drills/Alarms/Equipment.** Students are expected to notify the Fire Department of any fire and safety hazards and to report a fire promptly. All students are expected to observe all fire safety procedures established for their building including participation in fire alarm/evacuation drills. Students must leave buildings during a fire drill or be subject to disciplinary action. Fire extinguishers and alarm systems shall not be tampered with or tested by unauthorized persons nor should anything cover, be attached to, or hung from detector devices, conduit, or sprinkler heads. Students are expected to help prevent false alarms and should report any tampering with fire safety equipment to the appropriate staff person. Students are financially responsible for charges assessed as a result of tampering with fire safety equipment.

10. **Furnishings.** All student rooms and apartments are provided with furniture. Students may not remove or store furnishings provided by the University and may not replace them with other items owned or rented by the student. The Department of Housing will not remove or store the standard University furnishings. Public area or lounge furnishings shall not be moved into a student's room.

11. **Guest, Visitation, and Escort Policies.** The student is responsible for the behavior of their guests, for damages caused by their guests and for informing guests of hall policies. All guests will be escorted by their host at all times while visiting in the building. Students within University housing are collectively responsible for their own conduct as well as the conduct of their guests. Overnight guests are not permitted in University housing without advance permission of all students of the room/apartment in which they are staying. Overnight guests may not stay longer than two nights in any given week. No more than ten people may be in a residence hall room or between 13 and 24 people in an apartment, depending upon apartment, at one time, per order of the Durham Fire Department. University apartment residents must register with and receive approval from the Apartment Manager for hosting a gathering of more than 13 people (including hosts). Residents of the apartments must adhere to the Special Events/Parties guidelines as they appear in the policies for apartment residents' document.

12. **Hall Sports.** Behavior that may result in personal injury or damage to property is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to hall sports, water fights, some forms of practical jokes, roughhousing, dropping items out of windows, improper behavior on balconies, tampering with or other misuse of elevators, and failure to observe fire safety rules and procedures. All athletic activities are to be confined to areas outside University housing which are specifically designated for such purposes.

13. **Lewd and Indecent Behavior.** Conduct and behavior which is considered lewd or indecent, including but not limited

to, public or unwanted nudity, urination and defecation in areas other than toilets or urinals, sexual activity in public areas, uninvited or unwelcome voice or written messages to others which are considered lewd or indecent by the receiver.

14. **Lofts.** Built-in (wall or ceiling attachment) structures are prohibited. Non-University, free-standing loft structures are permitted however the University of New Hampshire and the Department of Housing assume no responsibility for residents building their own bed units. All lofts must be structurally sound and incorporate the box spring(s) and mattress (es) provided by the University. The bed ends provided by the University must be stored in the student's room throughout the year. The top of a loft mattress must be at least 33" from the ceiling. The Department of Housing and/or the Durham Fire Department reserve the right to determine the danger of lofts and require their removal.

15. **Noise.** Each student shall respect and observe the rights of other students occupying University housing. Noise that is disruptive to others, including hall and apartment staff, is prohibited. Courtesy hours are always in effect and residents are to respect requests of others for quiet. Night time hours are "quiet hours", when residents are to be especially aware of the volume and impact of their noise. Quiet hours are Sunday-Thursday 10pm - 7 am and 12 am to 8 am on Friday and Saturday. At no time should amplified sound or yelling be directed out or at resident's windows. Residents are to maintain reasonable quiet in courtyard areas at all times. The placement of stereo speakers in such a manner that sound carries out from the apartment or room is strictly prohibited. Compliance with the Durham noise ordinance is required. All established quiet hours must be observed.

16. **Pets.** With the exception of service animals as reasonable accommodations, pets or animals of any kind, except non-dangerous fish, are prohibited in University housing. One ten gallon tank containing fish is allowed per room.

17. **Posting/Solicitation.** Door-to-door solicitation is strictly prohibited. Commercial activity, solicitation or advertising is not permitted in or around University housing unless prior approval by the University Police Department has been obtained. The only exceptions are activities permitted under University Rules and/or those sponsored by University staff or local resident governing councils. All information posted in common areas and on bulletin boards must be approved by the Department of Housing or Residential Life staff. Posting on room doors or other areas are subject to removal if constituting a fire hazard or if the posted material is unacceptable (i.e. racist, sexist, homophobic, etc.). No commercial soliciting or canvassing is allowed.

18. **Prohibited Items.** The following items are prohibited in University housing, except where specifically permitted.
    a. Halogen lamps, hot plates, heating/immersion coils, electric frying pans, toaster ovens, electric heaters, electric blankets, non-UL listed items and electrical items not approved by the Department of Housing
    b. Air conditioners, clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, and water beds
    c. Television or radio antennae and any other objects which are placed outside the room window or anywhere on the exterior of the building or adjacent grounds. The International residence hall, with the prior approval of the Director of Residential Life, will be permitted to fly their international flags on Opening Weekend and for specific campus wide event**s** sponsored by the international hall.
    d. Firearms, candles, incense, explosives, fireworks, weapons of any kind, hazardous chemicals, gasoline, propane, butane, motorized vehicles of any kind (or parts, repair tools, accessories for any motor vehicle)

19. **Security.** Vandalizing exterior building doors or locks or any other security system will be subject to appropriate University discipline procedures. Any student who props a locked or secured door is subject to a fine and/or disciplinary action. Students shall be prohibited from climbing through windows or being on ledges, porticos or roofs of buildings. Students are prohibited from throwing objects out windows or from roofs of buildings.

20. **Smoking.** Smoking is strictly prohibited inside any University residence facility. Smoking within 20 feet of any University building is strictly prohibited.

21. **Theft.** Attempted or actual theft of and/or damage to property of the University or property of a member of the residential community is prohibited.

22. **Weapons.** The University of New Hampshire is a weapon free campus. This applies to all residence halls and apartments. Weapons include but are not limited to, firearms, simulated firearms, dangerous chemicals, any explosive device, nunchucks, brass knuckles, butterfly knives, paintball guns/equipment and any other materials that can be used to intimidate, threaten or endanger others, are prohibited on campus.

23. **Failure to Comply.** Refusing to cooperate with University staff or University police who are attempting to investigate or address a situation in a University residence hall or apartment is prohibited. The student is required to provide proper identification and truthfully answer legitimate inquiries.