Housing and RESIDENCE EDUCATION

# Residence Life

## [rules & regulations]

These rules and regulations have been established by University officials to inform students of their responsibilities within the residence halls and adjacent areas. These rules and regulations are designed to promote and maintain an atmosphere conducive to community living. All residents are responsible for knowing and adhering to these rules and regulations. **Violations will result in appropriate disciplinary action.** Refer to the *University of Florida Student Guide* for the complete Code of Student Conduct, including disciplinary procedures and potential sanctions.

Residents are strongly encouraged to check with a staff member regarding any questions or perceived exceptions or interpretations that residents might have concerning these rules. Additionally, this document is primarily designed to inform students of their responsibilities. Some of the rationale behind each of the rules can be found in the informational booklet "The Keys to Understanding the University of Florida Residence Hall Rules and Regulations." Copies of this booklet may be obtained from your area desk.

Throughout this document the use of the term "Room" refers to the resident's entire living area. A student's room would also include her/his entire apartment or multi-room suite depending on the layout and location. The term "Guest" refers to a person who is in an area where they would not normally have access without assistance from a resident of that area. In general, all non-UF students are considered guests.

The University of Florida does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, disability, or gender in the administration of educational policies or any other University programs. Grievance procedures related to discrimination may be found in the *University of Florida Student Guide* <http://oss.ufl.edu/STG/>.

**For information regarding the content of this document, please contact the Coordinator of Residential Judicial Programs at (352) 392-2171 extension 141.**

>> Read about the Rules & Regulations annual review process
>> Read Additional Information about DHNet Security, FileSharing on DHNet, and Copyright Laws

Students are reminded that Dept. of Housing Rules and Regulations are part of the University of Florida Student Conduct Code. As such, violations of Dept. of Housing Rules and Regulations are violations of the Student Conduct Code and are treated accordingly. For more information about the Student Conduct Code and Students Rights and Responsibilities in general, students should visit the Student Guide at the Dean of Students Web Site. The section listed as Student Rights and Responsibilities has most of the information relevant to this topic.

## << QUICK LINKS >>

Alcohol | Bicycles | Decoration | Disorderly Conduct | Drugs | Elevators
Failure to Comply | Firearms/Fireworks/Weapons | Furniture | Fire Safety
Intimidation | Invasion | Kitchen Responsibility | Locks | Lofts/ Waterbeds
Motorcycles/Mopeds | Noise | Objects from Windows/Balconies/Ledges/Landings | Pets
Pest Control | Posting Signs | Property Damage/Tampering | Security | Recreational Wheeled Devices
Smoking | Solicitation | Telephone/Data Networks/CableTV | Theft | Transfer (Room)
Visitation | Windows/Balconies/Ledges/Landings | Windows & Window Screens

**I.01. NOISE >>** Each resident is responsible for keeping noise levels to a minimum at all times inside the residence halls and on adjacent property outside the residence halls. Noise levels should be low enough so as not to disturb others. Certain specialized floors may further restrict noise levels.

**I.02. ALCOHOL >>**
A. In compliance with state law, no person under 21 years of age may possess or consume alcoholic beverages in the residence halls or on adjoining property outside the residence halls.

B. Students who display intoxicated behaviors (e.g., glazed eyes, slurred speech, etc.) or students who require staff assistance due to their consumption of alcohol shall be subject to disciplinary action.

C. No person may possess open containers or consume alcoholic beverages outside the residence halls or in public areas inside the residence halls. Residents 21 years of age or older may consume alcoholic beverages in the following places only: in their own room, in a room with an assigned occupant also 21 years of age or older, or in floor lounges.

D. Rooms in which only persons under 21 years of age live are considered "dry" rooms. Alcohol is prohibited in all dry rooms.

E. No person under 21 years of age may possess alcohol beverage containers in their room (including decorative collections).

F. It is a violation of State Statute for those 21 years of age or older to purchase or provide alcoholic beverages for persons under 21 years of age.

G. Devices designed for the rapid consumption of alcohol (e.g., beer bongs or funnels) are prohibited and subject to confiscation. Kegs, beer balls and other common source containers are prohibited.

**I.03. DRUGS >>**
A. In compliance with state or federal law, the illegal possession, sale, or use of drugs is prohibited. Inhaling or ingesting substances (e.g., nitrous oxide, glue, paint, etc.) that will alter your mental state is prohibited.

B. Possession of drug related paraphernalia (e.g., bongs, pipes, etc.) is prohibited in the residence halls and such items are subject to confiscation.

**I.04. SECURITY >>** Security is a shared responsibility of the University staff and residents.
A. Do not prop open or allow to be propped open any floor/section exit door or building exit door. Residents may not allow people who are not their guests into the building or onto the floor/house/section in which they live. Persons are not permitted to be in a location inside the residence halls without being a resident of that location or being escorted by a resident of that location. No person will be permitted to enter a resident's room without the expressed consent of the residents who live in that room. The last part of this section does not prohibit staff members from entering rooms in conjunction with the performance of their duties as covered in the residence hall agreement (contract).

B. Residents may not borrow keys from each other or loan keys to anyone. Residents must return keys immediately upon check out or re-assignment and must report any lost or stolen keys.

**I.05. FAILURE TO COMPLY >>** Residents and their guests must present proper identification when requested to do so by identified housing staff. Students must comply with a University Official's request when such official is working within the performance of his or her duties. University Officials include any housing staff member regardless of job title. Students are required to schedule and/or maintain appointments with staff members when asked to do so in conjunction with the staff member's duties.

**I.06. DISORDERLY CONDUCT >>** Behavior that is disruptive to orderly community living is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, throwing items in the hallways, bouncing balls inside the residence halls, fighting, pranks, or any other behavior which may cause physical injury or is potentially dangerous to the health and well being of residents, including threats or acts of self injury (such as attempted suicide) or injury to other residents.

**I.07. INTIMIDATION/INVASION OF PRIVACY >>** Threatening or abusive behavior will not be tolerated; this includes, but is not limited

to, sexual, racial or religious harassment, intimidation, hazing, stalking, prank or unwanted telephone calls, invasion of privacy, or any other behavior that creates a hostile living environment.

**I.08. OBJECTS FROM WINDOWS, BALCONIES, LEDGES, LANDINGS >>** Throwing, pouring, or dropping anything (including keys) from windows, balconies, ledges, or landings is strictly prohibited.

**I.09. WINDOWS & WINDOW SCREENS >>** Tampering with, opening, or removing screens is prohibited. Residents will be billed if Housing staff must replace the screens. Windows are to be closed and locked at all times in Beaty Towers.

**I.10. DESTROYING, DAMAGING OR TAMPERING WITH PROPERTY >>** Failure to respect University property or the property of any other person is prohibited. Residents may be assessed restitution for damages to University property.

**I.11. THEFT/UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PROPERTY OR SERVICES >>** Theft of any kind or possession of stolen property (including street signs, safety cones, or hazard barriers) is prohibited. This includes unauthorized borrowing or unauthorized use of any service (e.g., phone calling cards or all-in-one identification cards).

**I.12. BICYCLES >>** Bicycles may not be parked in walkways, hallways, stairways, or entrance ways. Illegally parked bicycles will be impounded at the campus police station. Persons may not ride bicycles within the residence halls or on covered pedestrian walkways.

**I.13. RECREATIONAL WHEELED DEVICES >>** The use of recreational wheeled devices (including, but not limited to skateboards, kick scooters, roller skates, or in-line skates) is prohibited anywhere in the residence halls, including stairwell towers. Persons may use these devices on walkways adjacent to the residence halls for transportation only (i.e., no acrobatics) and with due regard for pedestrian rights.

**I.14. MOTORCYCLES, MOPEDS AND SCOOTERS >>** Motorcycles, mopeds, and scooters must be parked in designated areas, and under no circumstances are they permitted in buildings or on covered pedestrian walkways or patio areas. Illegally parked vehicles will be impounded at the campus police station.

**I.15. TELEPHONE AND DATA HARDWARE, ANTENNAS AND CABLE TV >>**

A. Splicing into existing television cables or splitting or splicing into data cables or outlets, wrapping TV cable, or otherwise adding to existing cable is prohibited. Tampering with telephone hardware is prohibited. Residents are not permitted to set up outside antenna systems, satellite systems, or other similar systems.

B. The use of the DHNet Port Service is a privilege that may be revoked at any time for inappropriate behavior. Such behavior would include but not be limited to the use of obscene, abusive, or otherwise objectionable language and/or materials in either public or private messages.

C. The user is not allowed to share her/his RJ45 Ethernet port with more than one computer/device at the same time. This prohibition includes any use of hubs and/or switches which would permit the user to connect more than one computer/device to the RJ45 Ethernet port and share the port with others or herself/himself.

D. The primary purpose of this network is to support students' educational goals. In support of these goals, the following activities are prohibited. Participating in these activities may result in revocation of DHNet service without refund and possible University judicial action and/or criminal charges.

- Setting up a router and building a private subnet.
- Setting up any type of information server such as a web, gopher, e-mail, game, etc.
- Propagating e-mail chain letters.
- Forging mail.
- Allowing unauthorized persons access to DHNet.
- Using DHNet for personal financial gain.
- Copying University-owned or licensed information to another computer without prior written approval.
- Copyrighted files and software cannot be shared over DHNet.
- Modifying or attempting to modify University-owned or licensed information including software and data.
- Attempting to damage or disrupt networking services.
- Using DHNet, the University's campus-wide network, or related resources in the commission of a crime.
- Using traffic intensive applications that may cause problems within the network or diluting the level of service to

other users. No print servers, mail servers, FTP servers, etc. are allowed. The network sharing of any computer-related device or materials that may cause excessive network traffic is forbidden.

E. The user will abide by all policies and statues included in the Florida Computer Crimes Act. Crimes against this Act will result in University judicial action and/or investigation by the University Police Department for criminal offense. The Act includes offenses against intellectual property; offenses against computer equipment and supplies; and offenses against computer access. The Florida Computer Crimes Act is available at each Area Office and is posted on the Housing web site: http://www.housing.ufl.edu

## I.16. FIREARMS, WEAPONS, FIREWORKS, EXPLOSIVES, AND DANGEROUS CHEMICALS >>

A. Possession and/or use of fireworks (including sparklers), or explosives of any kind is prohibited in the residence halls or on the adjoining property outside the residence halls.

B. Possession or use of weapons or ammunition is not permitted in the residence halls. This includes but is not limited to: firearms, rifles, stun guns, BB guns, paint ball guns, bow and arrows, switch blades, knives (except a common pocket knife), nunchucks, martial arts or medieval weapons, and sling shots. No exceptions to this policy are made for participation in special classes (e.g., archery or ROTC). Any weapon or firearm on University property, if permitted, must be registered and stored at the campus police station.

C. Flammable liquids and solvents (gasoline, kerosene, lighter fluid, propane, etc.) may not be stored in resident rooms or living areas including outside storage closets in the Keys Residential Complex. Residents are permitted to store charcoal in rooms or living areas, including “presoaked” charcoal.

## I.17. FIRE SAFETY >>

A. ARSON, EVACUATION, and FIRE SAFETY EQUIPMENT – Residence Hall Fire Safety is a very serious matter. Violations can be considered a direct threat to the life and overall safety of the residents and emergency personnel and are handled accordingly.

1. Arson or the setting of fire, tampering with fire safety equipment (including automatic door closures, smoke detectors, pull stations, fire extinguishers, sprinkler heads, etc.), falsely pulling fire alarms, or stopping existing fire alarms are violations of state law and fire codes. Doors designated as fire doors are to be kept in their required “ condition” (either open or closed) as indicated.
2. Immediate evacuation when an alarm sounds is mandatory. Re-entry into a building before receiving confirmation from housing staff, UPD, fire department, or other emergency personnel is prohibited. Re-entry is not permitted while the alarm is sounding. For safety reasons, using an elevator to evacuate a building is not permitted.

B. COOKING – Residents should not leave their food items unattended on the stove or in the oven at any time. Residents are responsible for the proper use of approved cooking appliances and attention to food items while using the appliances.

C. COOKING APPLIANCES – Residents are allowed to use the following items in their room or kitchen areas: electric fondue pots, airstream ovens, electric crock pots, coffee pots, hotdog cookers, frying pans, drip coffee makers, toasters (not toaster ovens), bread makers and popcorn poppers. These items are permitted so long as they are single units with sealed heating elements. Convenience items such as blenders, mixers, can openers and juicers are also permitted. The following items are permitted, but may be used only in kitchen areas: toaster ovens, electric hamburger cookers, waffle irons, ceramic sealed hot plates, hot plates with exposed coils, deep fryers, and counter-top electric grills without flames (e.g. “George Foreman TM” grills).

D. MICROWAVE OVENS – Microwaves will be permitted in resident rooms provided the following guidelines are met: a) a maximum of two microwave ovens are permitted in a student room if each individual unit is .75 cubic feet or less (only one microwave oven is permitted if the unit exceeds .75 cubic feet); b) microwave ovens must be UL approved; c) each unit must not exceed 1500 watts.

E. CANDLES AND INCENSE – Possession or use of all candles and incense for any purpose is prohibited in the residence halls.

F. EXTENSION CORDS/MULTI-PLUG ADAPTERS – For the protection of the residential community, residents are permitted to use extension cords with the following restrictions. Please refer to the publication "Fire Safety and Prevention in Residence Halls" for a more detailed explanation and diagrams.

1. Only UL (Underwriters Laboratories) certified three-prong grounded extension cords that are 14 gauge or heavier are permitted to be possessed and/or used inside the residence halls. NOTE: The lower the gauge number, the heavier/thicker the cord is. Cords cannot exceed 10 feet in length. Only one appliance/item may be plugged into an extension cord; only one extension cord may be used per double outlet.
   Only UL (Underwriters Laboratories) certified multi-plug adapters with circuit breakers are permitted to be possessed and/or used inside the residence halls. Air-freshener plug-ins (E.g GladeTM plug-ins) with a built-in “outlet”(plug) may be used only if

the outlet(plug) in the air-freshener is not used. Up to three appliances/items may be plugged into one multi-plug adapter per double outlet. Extension cords and multi-plug adapters may not be connected. The maximum wattage for a double outlet is 1500 watts. Items may not be plugged into outlets/plugs contained in other items.

G. AIR CONDITIONERS/HEATERS – Residents may not install air conditioners or ceiling fans in their rooms. Residents may not plug AC units into any other outlet not designed specifically for the unit. Open coil space heaters are not permitted. Other appliances/items may not be plugged into outlets designed specifically for AC use.

H. CHRISTMAS TREES/HOLIDAY DECORATIONS – “Live cut” trees (such as Christmas Trees) are prohibited in the residence halls. Strands of lights (commonly called Christmas Lights) may be used but may not be strung together. Other decorations must meet the guidelines established in the publication "Fire Safety and Prevention in the Residence Halls."

I. REFRIGERATORS – Are permitted in resident rooms provided the following guidelines are met: a) SUB-SECTION “A” is no longer enforced; b) all refrigerators must be UL approved; c) door gaskets must be in good condition; d) all refrigerators must be equipped with a (3) three prong grounded outlet which must be plugged into the wall outlet; e) SUB-SECTION “E” is no longer enforced; f) unit amperage must not exceed 3.5 amps; g) unit size must not exceed 12 cubic feet; h) students must maintain refrigerators in a safe and sanitary condition.

J. BARBECUE GRILLS – Residents are permitted to use barbecue grills at a safe distance (15 feet or more) from all buildings. The use of grills is not permitted under any covered walkways, landings, or balconies.

K. HALOGEN LAMPS – Halogen Lamps (including desk lamps) are prohibited in residence halls.

**I.18. PETS** >>

A. Residents must use the Pet Policy Agreement form, and obtain prior written approval of roommates and residence hall staff in order to keep the following pets within the residence halls: fish, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, turtles, dwarf rabbits, lizards (no iguanas) that are maximum length 12 inches from tip of nose to tip of tail, salamanders (certified non-poisonous), frogs (certified non-poisonous), geckos, chinchillas, and non-predatory domesticated birds not to exceed one-half pound. No other type of animal (regardless of similarity to those listed above) is permitted.

B. Residents are responsible for the proper care and cleanliness of their pet. Approved pets must be kept in a cage at all times. All pets will be kept in standard cages made of metal, plastic, or glass, not to exceed 3 ft. in length, 2 ft. in width, 2 ft. in height. No resident is permitted to have more than two birds, mammals, or reptiles. Abuse of animals is prohibited. All unapproved pets or animals are prohibited regardless of length of stay or visit. Refer to the “Pet Policy” publication, available at the Area Office, for more information.

**I.19. VISITATION AND ROOM GUESTS** >>

A. Residents and their guests are required to conform to the visitation hours established on the floor, section, or area in which they live in or are visiting.

B. Residents are responsible for and can be held accountable for the behavior of their guests. Residents must inform their guests of Housing and University policies. Residents must escort their guest(s) at all times. Residents of a room may be held responsible for the behavior that takes place inside the room whether or not the residents are present.

C. Only guests of the same gender are permitted to sleep in the residence hall rooms. Co-habitation is prohibited; only the residents assigned to a room may live there. Roommate approval is required for any guest. Hall Director/Residence Director approval is required for guests of the same gender planning to stay longer than three days; guests of the same gender may be approved to stay up to seven consecutive days.

D. Each assigned resident is permitted to have no more than two guests visiting in their room or apartment at any one time.

E. Residents and/or guests may only use residence hall bathrooms designated for use by their respective gender.

**I.20. LOFTS/WATERBEDS** (For more info on lofts **CLICK HERE**)

A. Lofts may be constructed only after receiving written approval from the Area Administrative Coordinator or her/his designee, and must meet all specifications of the Housing Loft Policy. Lofts must be removed by the individuals responsible for the loft prior to the end of the contract period as designated by the Assistant Director of Housing. There are no holdovers from previous semesters and no modifications are permitted once the loft is approved. Loft rules and approval forms are available at Area Offices. Lofts are permitted in the Keys, Springs, and Lakeside Residential Complexes, provided that the loft only provides for a raising of the bed off the floor and no other additional space on top of the loft.

B. Waterbeds are permitted in all residence halls except those in the Murphree Area. Residents must receive approval from the Residence Director/Hall Director and complete liability and agreement forms prior to filling the waterbed. Permission to build a loft or

have a waterbed does not guarantee space will be available to do so.

**I.21. LOCKS** >> Tampering with or damaging lock mechanisms is prohibited. Additional locks may not be added to doors or other University property or equipment.

**I.22. PEST CONTROL** >> Pest control services are periodically performed in all rooms by Housing personnel for insect control purposes. Residents must allow custodians to enter room for spraying purposes unless a prior medical exception has been filed at the Area Office. It is the responsibility of pet owners to assure the welfare of their animals during pest control services.

**I.23. ROOM, FLOOR/SECTION AND KITCHEN RESPONSIBILITY** >> Each resident is responsible for the proper care of his/her room, section, and kitchen including the guidelines for break/holiday periods and check out. The following are enforced: All residents using the kitchen are responsible for cleaning the stoves and ovens. Individual residents will pay for any charges assessed for damages in their rooms. All residents are responsible for floor damages (including but not limited to microwaves, televisions, exit signs, etc) and will equally pay for charges assessed to the floor. Respect for fellow residents and Housing staff is shown by properly disposing of garbage and boxes and by not creating unnecessary messes in hallways, individual student rooms, lounges, kitchens and bathrooms. Personal trash may not be left or disposed in public areas. With reasonable notice, abandoned items of minimal value in kitchens or bathrooms may be disposed of by Housing staff. (See Fire Safety for Cooking Utensils and Locations.)

**I.24. FURNITURE** >>

A. All furniture assigned to student rooms and apartments must remain in the room, and therefore, no furniture is to be removed by students from rooms. Permission for storage of bed frames and mattresses must be obtained from the Administrative Coordinator. If space allows, these items will be removed by area furniture movers in response to a request form filled out at the Area Office or on-line if possible. Removal of furniture is not permitted in the Keys, Springs, and Lakeside Residential Complexes. No furniture is to be removed from floor lounges or other public areas. Residents may be billed for leaving furniture in hallways.

B. Bed ends may not be inverted. Bedspring brackets may not be removed from any bed end. Beds may not be elevated from the floor by cinder blocks or any means other than bunk bed units provided by maintenance or Housing approved lofts. Bed ends (with the brackets attached) may be removed from the bed frame, provided the student stores the bed ends in his/her room.

**I.25. POSTING SIGNS AND INFORMATION IN PUBLIC AREAS** >> Access to Message Boxes and Public Access Bulletin Boards is not restricted. The Dept. of Housing reserves the right to limit the numbers of materials posted per event or organization to ensure equitable access to limited bulletin board space. Posters are not permitted on walls, doors, or windows. Access to Administrative Notices Only Bulletin Boards is restricted to residence hall staff.

**I.26. ROOM TRANSFERS** >> Residents may not change room assignments without receiving official authorization from their Area Office.

**I.27. ROOF, LEDGE AND BALCONY AREAS** >> Residents are not permitted at any time to be on roof, ledge or balcony areas or to place objects on these areas. This does not include the Yulee area floor lounge balconies or the Jennings Hall lobby balcony.

**I.28. SOLICITATION** >> Any personal or commercial solicitation (including door-to-door sales and distribution of advertisements) within the residence halls is prohibited. (Violators should be reported to the Area Office.) Public and commons areas may be used by residents or registered or sponsored student organizations with approval from the Assistant Director and the Area Government. Guidelines and approval forms are available at the Area Office. No door-to-door solicitation is permitted.

**I.29. ELEVATORS** >> Residents are not permitted to ride any elevator designated as FREIGHT ONLY. Permission from the Assistant Director must be obtained for special circumstances. Any permission granted is for those people specifically approved by the Assistant Director. Residents may not tamper with or ride on top of any elevator at any time. Ringing the elevator bell in non-emergency situations is prohibited.

**I.30. ROOM AND PUBLIC AREA DECORATING POLICY** >> Residents are encouraged to personalize their rooms and decorate public areas within established guidelines and policies. Residents are encouraged to seek the advice of staff members before beginning to personalize their rooms. The use of contact paper and stickers is prohibited in all rooms and public areas. No alcohol signs, cans bottles, any type of neon signs, posters, aluminum foil, objects or any other materials may be displayed or attached to in room windows. Additionally, residents are reminded about the following:

- Written approval from staff is required prior to painting.
- The use of contact paper and stickers is prohibited in all rooms and public areas.

- No alcohol signs, cans, or bottles may be displayed in or attached to room windows.
- Rooms with bay windows (e.g. Keys Residential Complex and Murphree Area) may display items on the window shelf in these rooms provided that the items are not alcohol related.
- Door frames and doors may not be painted or decorated. The only exceptions are door nametags, message boards, and any pre-approved programs sponsored by Housing Staff.

**NOTE**: Due to a publishing error, the "parts" of the above section of the student conduct code dealing with contact paper, stickers, and objects hanging in the window were incorrectly omitted from previous web versions of the rules and from the current printed version. The web version has been corrected and the printed version will be corrected at the next printing.

These parts of the section were never officially stricken from the rule. However, if you are confronted by a staff member concerning a situation that involves the incorrectly omitted parts, you will be given an opportunity to correct the situation without any judicial action. If you fail to comply with the staff member's request to remove items or take other action to correct the situation, you may be subject to university judicial action in accordance with this section of the student conduct code and/or section I.05 Failure to Comply.

Generally speaking, an item is said to be improperly displayed in the window if it can be seen from outside the window with the window treatment (curtains, blinds, etc.) in a closed condition. Note that there are some exceptions for items in certain rooms with bay windows.

If you have window treatments that do not adequately shield your room from light due their disrepair, improper construction, or for other reasons, please fill out a HAWK request describing the situation. You are also encouraged to contact your RA about the matter to help ensure that the matter is dealt with as quickly as possible.

**I.31. SMOKING** >> In compliance with state law, smoking tobacco products or any other substance is prohibited in all housing facilities, including stairwell towers, balconies, landings, and entryways. This policy prohibits smoking within 10 feet of any entryway to a residence facility.

[BACK TO TOP]

<< **back**