

**3341-2-15 Community Living Standards**

Applicability	Students, Guests, and Visitors in the Residential Communities
Responsible Unit	Office of Student Housing
Policy Administrator	Director, Office of Student Housing

**(A) Introduction to the Community Living Standards**

- (1) Living on campus is a big part of your BGSU education. Living away from your family within a diverse community will allow you many opportunities for friendship, fun and personal growth. To foster a positive community environment, we expect each student to be sensitive and respectful of the rights and interests of others, be personally honest and never place another member of the BGSU community in jeopardy or at risk.
- (2) Within these Standards are the rules and regulations that govern community living at BGSU. You will find everything from what kinds of appliances, lights and decorations you may have in your room to guest and safety policies. If you ever have a question about a policy or procedure, please do not hesitate to contact a residence hall staff member or the Office of Student Housing for assistance. Remember, we put students first.
- (3) Showing consideration for others and respect for University and personal property are the basic foundations of community living. The success of a residential community and the learning that takes place in this environment depend on the willingness of residents to accept responsibility for their behavior, decisions and actions as community members. Residents are expected to be aware of how their actions, whether written or spoken words, sounds, or public displays of visual material, may make a person or group feel

harassed, intimidated, discriminated against, or in some way create a hostile or unwelcome living/learning environment.

(B) Residence Life Diversity Statement

The Office of Residence Life values and recognizes our responsibility to foster an inclusive, safe, and respectful community so our students succeed in a diverse, global society. We are committed to building an awareness of diverse thoughts, ideas, and experiences on our campus in which our community members are empowered to use their voices and be heard.

(C) Residential Student Rights

(1) In keeping with this expectation, the Office of Student Housing and the Office of Residence Life holds as an important value the ability of community members and staff to support the diverse range of student needs and experiences. Included in this range of needs and experiences are the following:

- (a) the right to privacy;
- (b) an atmosphere conducive to study and academic pursuit;
- (c) the protection of personal and public property;
- (d) respect for the needs and values of each individual; and
- (e) freedom from discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, sexual orientation, or other protected class.

(D) Residential Student Responsibilities

(1) Understanding that students have certain rights when living in the residence hall, it is also important to recognize that those same students have responsibilities associated with said rights. In keeping with this expectation, the Offices of Student Housing and the Office Residence Life holds as an important value the ability of

community members and staff to abide by the general responsibilities including:

- (a) adhering to all university policy and the Community Living Standards;
- (b) respecting the right of privacy;
- (c) creating an atmosphere conducive to study and academic pursuit;
- (d) respecting the safety and security of the hall, and personal and public property; and
- (e) treating others with equal respect and dignity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, sexual orientation, or other protected class.

(E) Housing and Assignment Policies

(1) Acceptance Agreement

All students living in University residences sign the On-Campus Housing and Dining Agreement for the full academic year. This agreement establishes the terms and conditions of occupancy in the University residences between the room occupant and Bowling Green State University. All residents are expected to review and understand the obligations outlined in this agreement.

(2) ADA Accommodations

Inquiries for accessibility-related housing accommodations should be made to the Office of Accessibility Services. Current students are expected to renew their status with the Office of Accessibility Services on an annual basis prior to the beginning of the housing sign-up process. Upon review of the student's documentation, the Office of Accessibility Services will make a recommendation to the Office of Student Housing regarding the student's approved accommodations. Students with disabilities who require emergency evacuation assistance may meet with the Office of

Accessibility Services to complete a Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan. The Office of Accessibility Services will share the Emergency Evacuation Plan with the Office of Student Housing, BGSU Police, and other emergency response agencies. This plan must be updated annually with the Office of Accessibility Services. Students with a disability may request a meeting, at move-in, with the Hall Director to discuss all approved accommodations including emergency notification, personal care attendants, emergency evacuation plans, sheltering locations, and evacuation options. The Office of Accessibility Services is located at 38 College Park Office Building and can be reached via phone at 419-372-8495.

(3) Administrative Reassignment

Under the terms of the On-Campus Housing and Dining Agreement, Bowling Green State University reserves the right to permanently move and reassign students should it be deemed appropriate to do so. Students may be moved or reassigned in response to student conduct, safety and security, roommate conflicts, facility needs, consolidation, and any other reason deemed appropriate by the Office of Student Housing.

(4) Assigned Space

Each student is assigned one desk, bed, dresser, chair, and closet/wardrobe. Residents must confine their personal belongings to their assigned furniture/space. Should a roommate move out, the remaining resident may not appropriate additional furniture or space not allocated to them as a new roommate may be assigned at any time.

(5) Renting and Subleasing Assigned Rooms

Students assigned to a residence hall room have entered into a license agreement (On-Campus Housing and Dining Agreement) with the Office of Student Housing. As such, residence hall rooms are for the use of an assigned occupant (licensee) only. An assigned occupant/licensee may not, under any circumstance, sublease, charge rent, or other fees to any third party for use of the

space assigned to them under terms of the license agreement. The use of Airbnb or similar services is expressly prohibited.

(6) Residency Requirement

- (a) There are many benefits to living on campus at BGSU. For this reason, all first- and second-year students are required to reside in University-owned residences as a condition of enrollment. Exemptions from this policy may be granted for first- and second-year students who:
- (i) have lived on campus for four semesters;
  - (ii) are commuting daily from the permanent home of their parent, legal guardian, or spouse, that is located within a fifty-mile radius of BGSU;
  - (iii) have attained junior-level status by the first day of the fall semester;
  - (iv) are twenty years of age or older by the first day of the fall semester;
  - (v) are married (proof of marriage required);
  - (vi) are a parent with custodial care responsibilities (proof of custodial care required);
  - (vii) are considered an independent student (as determined by the Office of Financial Aid) by the first day of the fall semester;
  - (viii) have served in a full-time capacity in the military for twelve consecutive months or longer;
  - (ix) are transferring to BGSU, have been out of high school for a minimum of two years, and have completed at least twelve credit hours at an accredited institution of higher education post high school graduation.

- (b) Please note that the Office of Student Housing considers address-of-record on file with federal, state and local tax agencies, where a minimum of one of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) resides, to be the permanent home address of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
- (c) Students who qualify to reside off-campus are required to complete a Residential Verification Form available in the Office of Student Housing. Please note that providing false information to the University is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

(7) Dual-Enrolled Students

Dual-enrolled students are students who are earning college credit while attending high school. Dual-enrolled students are not eligible for University housing.

(8) Room Assignments

When making room assignments, reassignments, or moves, the Office of Student Housing will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or other protected class. Students may be moved or reassigned in response to student conduct, safety and security, roommate conflicts, facility needs, consolidation, Title IX compliance, and any other reason deemed appropriate by the Office of Student Housing.

(9) Room/Suite/Apartment Changes

Room/suite/apartment changes, including moves made within suites or apartments, must be approved by the supervisor of the residence prior to moving. Room changes between university residences must be initiated with the supervisor of a residence before a new room assignment will be offered. A room freeze (i.e. no room changes occurring, unless it is for health and safety) is established for the first fifteen days of each semester. Requests for room assignment changes based upon discriminatory reasons will not be granted.

(F) Fire Safety Policies

(1) Candles and Incense

Candles of any kind, incense-burning candles or sticks, candle or wax warmers, lanterns, and any open flame devices (whether lit or unlit) are not permitted in any residential building (residence hall or small group living units), including but not limited to student rooms and all common area space, at any time, for any purpose whatsoever.

(2) Damage to or Loss of Personal Property

The Office of Student Housing, Capstone Management, and Bowling Green State University are not responsible for stolen, lost or damaged personal property. All residents are encouraged to properly insure such items of value via homeowner's or renter's insurance policies.

(3) Decorative trees

- (a) Live or cut trees or greens (branches, boughs, etc.) are not permitted in University-owned buildings.
- (b) Artificial trees must be of a certified slow-burning or fire-resistant material. Trees not meeting this standard will not be permitted.
- (c) Artificial trees may be located in student rooms as long as the tree does not exceed two feet in height.
- (d) Metallic trees shall be lit only by indirect lighting. Lighting sets are not to be hung on metallic trees (possible shock hazard).

(4) Electrical Appliances and Electronic Equipment

- (a) Limitations in the availability of power to each room/suite/apartment as well as concern for fire hazards place restrictions on the types of equipment allowed in

student rooms/suites/apartments. For this reason, cooking is only permitted in student rooms/suites/apartments in approved combination microwave/refrigerators, or in microwave ovens using nine hundred watts or less. Residents will be held responsible for ensuring that their electrical appliances and electronic equipment conform to the following guidelines.

- (b) Approved electrical and electronic equipment and appliances are:
  - (i) all electrical appliances must be UL or CSA approved and used with a surge protector.
  - (ii) coffee makers with no exposed hot surface (such as Keurig)
  - (iii) combination microwave/refrigerator units.
  - (iv) compact portable refrigerators (size may not exceed 5.0 cubic feet, 36 inches in height and 1.5 amps).
  - (v) curling/flat irons
  - (vi) hair dryers
  - (vii) microwave ovens that do not exceed 900 watts.
  - (viii) power strips with surge protectors. It is unsafe to plug one power strip into another.
  - (ix) televisions, stereos/radios, CD/DVD/Blu-Ray players, gaming systems, chargers, computers and peripherals.
  - (x) window fans
- (c) Un-approved or restricted electrical and electronic equipment and appliances include, but are not limited to:
  - (i) air conditioners;



- (ii) air fryers;
- (iii) appliances with exposed heating elements. Among other things this includes the “George Foreman Grill” and all similar devices;
- (iv) crock pots or Instant Pot;
- (v) deep fryers;
- (vi) electric blankets;
- (vii) electric woks;
- (viii) extension cords;
- (ix) fog machines;
- (x) hot plates, toasters and toaster ovens;
- (xi) hoverboards;
- (xii) lava lamps;
- (xiii) multi-plug adapters;
- (xiv) neon signs;
- (xv) percolator or drip coffee pots;
- (xvi) portable heaters;
- (xvii) quartz halogen lights;
- (xviii) sandwich makers;
- (xix) spider lamps;
- (xx) wax warmers (bulb or element).

(5) Fire Drills/Alarms and Emergency Evacuation

Fire drills are scheduled periodically in University residences in compliance with state regulations. Every time the fire alarm sounds it must be treated as a real fire and you must evacuate immediately. All persons must vacate the residence any time the fire alarm is sounded or if an emergency situation arises that requires the evacuation of the building. All individuals in the building must follow the directions of the staff and other emergency personnel and may not re-enter the building until the supervisor of the residence gives permission. University, state, or city officials may enter rooms to verify evacuation of residents.

(6) Fire Safety Equipment

Fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, sprinklers, and fire alarm systems are there for the protection of residents and should be treated with the well-being of all residents in mind. All fire safety equipment (e.g., pull stations, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, sprinklers) must be used for emergency purposes only. Smoke detectors and sprinklers throughout the residence hall are not to be disconnected or covered under any circumstances, nor should anything be hung from them. Tampering with fire safety equipment is a crime and will result in University conduct action, possible criminal action, fines, and fees.

(7) Lighting

- (a) Crepe paper or other materials are not to be wrapped around lights.
- (b) Building light bulbs are not to be painted or moved. Commercially manufactured colored bulbs may be used if positioned by custodial or maintenance employees.
- (c) Only use lighting sets that show Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) or Canadian Standards Association (CSA) label.
- (d) Decorative lights used inside buildings must be miniature types.

- (e) Lighting sets can wear out or become damaged and should be checked closely before installation for bare wires, worn insulation, broken plugs, loose sockets, etc.
  - (f) Extension cords are not permitted in student residences. Power strips with surge protectors must be used in place of extension cords.
  - (g) Be sure circuits are not overloaded with too many lights. If circuit breakers shut off or fuses are blown, there may be a short or an overloaded circuit.
  - (h) Lighted decorations must not be left on and unattended. They also cannot be daisy chained together.
  - (i) There must be no pinch in electrical cords. For instance, electrical cords must not be run through door openings.
  - (j) Decorative lights must not be tightly coiled, wrapped around or pinched, such as under or around a bedpost.
- (8) Removal of Fire Hazards
- The University reserves the right to eliminate all potential fire hazards in any residence if deemed necessary or appropriate by a University official or by other authorities that have jurisdiction.
- (9) Roofs, Ledges and Sundecks
- Safety concerns restrict access by students to roofs, ledges and sundecks of University residences. Access to roofs, ledges and sundecks is prohibited outside of their use as fire evacuation routes. In addition, radio and television antennae, satellite dishes or similar devices are not permitted on the roofs, ledges or any building exterior without University approval.
- (10) Special Amusement Buildings
- Bowling Green City Fire Department regulations prohibit haunted houses and similar amusement or educational events in which

building occupants or the general public are conducted through a fixed or restricted course. This also applies to creating or building these types of structures on residence hall floors or in common areas.

(G) Non-University Furniture

(1) Upholstered Furniture

(a) Upholstered furniture used in the University residences must meet strict fire-retardant codes (fabrics must meet the class I requirements of U.S. Department of Commerce Commercial Standard 191-53, California Flammability Bulletin 117, class A-ASTM-E84) or Upholstered Furniture Section Council [UFAC] [Gold tag]). Only furniture that meets this fire-retardant code will be permitted in University residences. Other prohibited furniture includes:

- (i) any upholstered furniture that is not classified as fire retardant or does not meet the above fire-retardant standards.
- (ii) bean bag chairs or bean bag-like chairs.
- (iii) inflatable furniture.
- (iv) vinyl furniture.

(b) It is the student's responsibility to ensure that any furniture brought into the building meets these standards. Possession of or bringing of furniture into University residences which is in violation of these requirements subjects the student to disciplinary action as well as the cost of the removal and disposal of the furniture.

(H) Residence and Room Environment

Residents are expected to treat all residence hall common spaces and individual rooms/suites/apartments with respect and care and may be held accountable for damages, other than normal wear and tear, found in the room/suite/apartments. In order to protect the health and safety of all

residents, it is expected that all rooms/suites/apartments be kept at an acceptable level of cleanliness. Rooms must be maintained in good sanitary condition and free of any noxious odors. A noxious odor is any aroma of such intensity that becomes offensive

(1) Bunk beds/Lofts

Homemade or rented lofts of any kind are not permitted in any residence hall or small-group living unit, as the furniture provided is already loftable. Placing beds in the bunked/lofted position is entirely optional on the part of the resident. Should a resident wish to bunk/loft a bed, assistance may be requested from the staff at the front desk of the residence hall or the house staff of a small-group living unit. If beds are lofted, bed frames must be securely supported on both sides by University bed ends. A guardrail is provided with every University bed which should be utilized when the bed is in the bunked/lofted position. Should residents utilize their bunked/lofted bed without using the guardrail, they do so at their own risk.

(2) University Furniture Storage

All University furniture must remain in the room in which it is originally located. The Office of Student Housing does not provide storage facilities for furniture. All furnishings must be returned to the original position in the room before the student checks out of the room. You may be asked to deloft your bed at the end of the academic year regardless of the position of the furnishings at move-in.

(3) Decorations

(a) In an effort to maintain an environment that is safe and free of potential fire and other life safety hazards, residents shall comply with the Office of Environmental Health and Safety's following decoration guidelines within their own rooms/suites/apartments and the common areas of the building:

(i) All decorations shall be fire resistant, or noncombustible (Ohio Fire Code, FM-306.1-5).

Decorations must have the label of Underwriters Laboratory (UL) or similar standard.

- (ii) No decorations may be hung from the ceiling, placed in offices, rooms or lounges in a manner that will interfere with safe passage or evacuation. No decorations shall be placed in hallways, aisles, stairwells or exit routes. Room doors may have a minimal amount (less than twenty percent) of decorations.
  - (iii) Exit signs, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, fire alarm pulls, emergency lights, PED boxes and audible fire signals/ strobe lights cannot be decorated, covered or obstructed in any way.
  - (iv) Straw, hay, leaves, corn shocks and dry vegetation are not permitted in any building.
  - (v) Decorative dirt or sand is not permitted in any building.
  - (vi) Further information on University policies regarding the use of decorations in University residences is available from the hall or unit director.
- (b) Dry-erase boards, memo boards, cork boards, chalk boards, notepads, and other similar items may not be hung on the room door, suite door, or surrounding area of a student's housing assignment.
- (4) Room Entry

University officials, including Office of Student Housing, Office of Residence Life, and Capstone Management staff members, are authorized to enter, search and/or inspect student rooms, suites, apartments and public rooms in the residence halls and small group living units. There are three occasions when room entry may be necessary:

- (a) Room Inspections: routine and mandated inspections may be necessary to ascertain acceptable standards of safety and hygiene; observance of the Community Living Standards, University regulations, and requirements of public law; and maintenance and repair of equipment. The time and date for building inspections will be posted twenty-four hours in advance.
- (b) Room Searches: searches of student rooms by University officials shall be authorized and conducted, in a nondiscriminatory manner, under one or more of the following conditions:
  - (i) By the consent of the occupants of the room.
  - (ii) By warrant or as otherwise allowed by law.
  - (iii) Upon reasonable cause to believe that there is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, the Ohio Revised Code or other law, or the Community Living Standards.
- (c) Performance of Duty: University officials reserve the right to enter a student room/suite/apartment, locked or unlocked, at any time it is deemed necessary to respond to an urgent matter such as: immediate resolution of policy violations, addressing disruptive behavior, maintenance problems, illness, hazards, and other similar emergencies or potential crises.

(5) Check Out

Students are responsible for returning their room key upon check out. When checking out of a room/suite/apartment at the end of the semester or at any time during the semester, the resident will follow the checkout procedures available at the residence hall front desk or from the supervisor of the residence. The resident is responsible for properly completing the checkout procedures and leaving the room/suite/apartment clean, including vacuuming and dusting. A student who fails to check out of their residence by the deadline/closing date and time may be subject to a late check out

charge. Belongings left at checkout will be considered abandoned property after thirty days and will be treated as such.

(6) University Furniture

All furnishings provided by the University, including bed ends and bed springs, must remain in the room/suite/apartment common areas unless specifically authorized by the supervisor of the residence.

(7) Water Beds

Water beds are not permitted in University residences because of weight restrictions in the halls and possible water damage to the buildings.

(I) Residential Maintenance

(1) Damage may lead to curtailment of services, loss of ability to make repairs, and/or increased room rates. The actions of individual residents have a profound impact on the community as a whole. In light of this, the University has established the following measures of accountability for damage incurred to University residences.

- (a) Room occupants are required to complete and/or review a room inventory form at check in. The room inventory form should be completed and checked for accuracy as it will be used to assess the condition of the room during or after the checkout process. The cost of repair or replacement of University property damaged since the completion of the inventory form will be charged to the room resident(s). Room furnishings must be in their proper location at checkout. Students are expected to behave in a manner that is respectful of the environment in which they live and which reduces the risk of damage occurring.
- (b) Damage may be classified as either accidental or malicious. Accidental damage is damage occurring through unintentional, chance happenings. Malicious damage is damage occurring through intentional happenings, happenings related to alcohol use, or through disruptive



behavior resulting in damage. Damage includes any occurrence which necessitates surplus and/or unreasonable custodial and/or maintenance services.

- (c) While students are liable for all damages to University residences resulting from negligence, vandalism, accidents or misuse—in the case of malicious damage, disciplinary action, as well as financial restitution, may be initiated.
- (d) Charges for damage to individual student rooms or for suites/apartments will be the responsibility of:
  - (i) The student who accepts responsibility or is found to be responsible for the damage or,
  - (ii) The residents of a room/suite/apartment/chapter house where the damage occurred.
- (e) A common area is defined as any space other than individual student rooms/suites/apartments. Such spaces include hallways, stairwells, elevators, lounges, kitchens, bathrooms, lobby areas, stairwells, etc. Charges for damage to common areas in a University residence may be the responsibility of:
  - (i) Any individual who accepts responsibility or is found to be responsible for the damage or,
  - (ii) All the residents of the particular wing, floor, building, or small-living unit (Greek Village) where the damage occurs. The supervisor of the residence, in conjunction with campus operations staff, and Office of Student Housing will determine the appropriate action to be taken related to common area damages.
- (f) **Damage Billing and Appeals Process**
  - (i) Damage billing is typically done at the closing of the living units for break periods. However,

excessive or unusual damage may be billed during the semester.

- (a) A letter outlining the damages, costs, and appeal process will be sent to the individual student and/or to the Greek Chapter President.
- (b) The individual will be able to submit a written appeal to the Office of Residence Life during a two-week period beginning from the date of the letter.
- (c) A member of the Office of Residence Life will review the appeal and damage billing documentation and make a decision about the appeal. The decision is final.
- (ii) Final costs will be billed to the individual or Greek Chapter account. Any bill that is not paid in full will be sent to collections by the Bursar's Office. Once a bill has been sent to collections, the Office of Residence Life cannot reverse the charge.
- (g) Replacement Cost for Damage or Loss
  - (i) It may be necessary to bill students for damages, misuse or loss of items.

## (2) Maintenance Requests

Concerns regarding maintenance or custodial conditions in your residence and maintenance reports for your room should be submitted online by going to the [Forms and Resources section](#) of the Student Housing web site. Should you experience problems with this reporting procedure, or to report damages in common area space, contact the front desk in the residence halls or the Conklin Front Desk for the Greek Village. If a requested repair is not completed within seven days, please contact the supervisor of the residence to follow up on the status of your request.

(3) Pest Control

The University regularly treats the residence halls for pests (ants, bats, cockroaches, bed bugs, rodents, etc.). If residents become aware of pests in their room or in common areas, the resident must submit a work order and notify Residence Hall staff to have the room/area inspected/treated for pests. Residence Life staff will provide the occupants with instructions for preparing the room for treatment. Failure to abide by the treatment instructions may result in a referral to student conduct and/or financial responsibility for the treatment. If a pest problem continues, the resident must inform hall staff. Residents are prohibited from using personal pesticides or any chemical product that could be considered poisonous in their room.

(4) Recycling

The University supports and encourages students to participate in the recycling of glass, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, office paper and newspapers. Every room has a recycling container which can be used to take the items to designated recycling areas located on each floor and in lobby areas. Trash, and other items unsuitable for recycling (including used pizza boxes), must not be placed in recycling containers.

(5) Trash

In University residences, with the exception of Falcon Heights and Centennial halls, trash must be removed by the student from the building and placed in the dumpsters provided. Trash may not be taken to or left in the lounges, outside building doors, restrooms, laundry rooms, recycling areas, containers or hallways. Failure to remove trash properly may result in disciplinary action or improper checkout charges when moving out of the room. Students who live in Falcon Heights and Centennial halls should dispose of room trash by utilizing the trash chutes found on each floor.

(6) Use and Misuse of Equipment or Property

Expectations and standards for behavior in University residence communities are outlined in these Community Living Standards. When resident behavior does not meet these standards, Residence

Staff will address the behavior with the resident. When appropriate, staff will provide notice to residents on misuse of equipment or property and residents will be given the opportunity to rectify the situation prior to fees being assessed. Charges for items vary depending on the scope of the loss, damage or mess. The amount to be charged to the resident is determined by the supervisor of the residence in conjunction with custodial and maintenance personnel.

(J) Residential Network Responsible Use Policy

- (7) It is the responsibility of residents to use residential computing facilities and services in compliance with University, city, county, state, and federal laws and regulations. Violation of policies governing the use of residential computing resources may result in the suspension of network or lab use privileges, or other disciplinary action by the University. In an effort to ensure proper use of facilities and services, the following rules are in place to promote responsible use of the residential computing network.
  - (a) Residential computing network services and wiring may not be modified or extended beyond the area of their intended use. This applies to all network wiring, wireless, hardware and data jacks.
  - (b) The residential network (in-room connections or computer lab connections) may not be used to provide Internet access to anyone outside of the University community for any purposes other than those that are in direct support of the academic mission of the University.
  - (c) Residents utilizing in-room Ethernet connections will receive a network address for their computer. Use of a network address other than the one assigned may cause network problems and is prohibited.
  - (d) The residential network is a shared resource. Thus, network use or application use which inhibits or interferes with the use of the network by others is not permitted. For example, applications which use an unusually high portion of the bandwidth for extended periods of time, thus inhibiting the

use of the network by others, are not permitted. Residential computing reserves the right to terminate any in-room or cluster computer connection without notice should it be determined that network traffic generated from that connection inhibits or interferes with the use of the network by others.

(K) Computer Lab Responsible Use Policy

The residential computer labs are provided as work environments for students and members of the residential community. The primary use of these resources is for academic related work. All other uses are considered secondary.

- (8) During the academic year, residential computing resources are for use of the on-campus student population. The only exceptions to this policy are: use by residential computing staff and use by University faculty and staff for presenting classes or seminars to on-campus students.
- (9) Academic work by students takes precedence over all other uses of the lab computers (such as games, non-academic e-mail, non-academic Internet browsing, etc.). When the lab is full and other residents are waiting to use a lab computer, non-academic use is prohibited.
- (10) Printing to lab printers is limited to academic work and to single copies of the material.
- (11) Usage of the lab is governed by the Community Living Standards (for example, quiet hours) and by any specific lab rules approved and posted by residential computing.
- (12) Anyone whose use of the computer lab hampers, endangers or otherwise disrupts other students' use of the computer lab may be asked to leave by residential computing staff.
- (13) Anyone who is using a computer to display material that a reasonable person would consider objectionable may be requested to move to another computer.

- (14) Accessibility to a residential computing lab when staff are not present is conditional upon responsible use. Residential computing labs operate with a base number of hours with staff present. Labs may also operate without staff present for extended access hours. Continuation of extended access hours is conditional upon:
- (a) No theft of equipment or residential computing materials.
  - (b) No damage to the lab or any items in the lab.
  - (c) No tampering with security systems, computer software, etc.
  - (d) No abuse of the lab or of posted lab rules.
- (15) Possession of food and drink, and the use of all tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, is prohibited in residential computing labs.

(L) Safety and Security

- (16) Safety is a priority at BGSU. Emergency telephones that ring directly into the police station are located all across campus and new lighting has been installed in many areas. Within the residence halls there are student clerks who make rounds of the residences and report safety and security concerns. However, all residents play a role in maintaining a safe environment in their living units. Educational initiatives in the residences may include sessions on safety precautions ranging from making sure to lock your door when you leave your room or when you are sleeping to not propping open exterior doors. Residents are also encouraged to immediately report any behavior that violates policy or law in or around the residence to the residence hall, house staff or University Police. All student residences are equipped with an electronic door access system on exterior doors. Students will use their BG1 Card to use to gain access to their place of residence. In keeping with the University's commitment to providing students with a healthy and safe environment conducive to intellectual pursuits and personal development, students are expected to know and abide by the following safety policies:

- (17) Bathrooms. There are guest bathrooms located in the lobby of most residential units. All bathrooms on residence hall floors, with the exception of Greek Units, are fitted with card access. Your BG1 Card must not be shared with others. Such sharing compromises the safety and security of the entire floor and building, and those suspected of sharing this information are subject to disciplinary action. Bathroom doors are to be closed at all times (except when being cleaned by custodial staff). Anyone propping or disabling the locking mechanism on bathroom doors is subject to disciplinary action.
- (18) Electronic Door Access System. All of the University residences have been equipped with an electronic door access system. The effectiveness of this system is dependent upon its proper use. Misuse and mismanagement of BG1 Card reduces the system's effectiveness and places the safety of all residents at risk. Propping of doors that are electronically supervised will sound an alarm and alert the building staff of the residence of an illegal entry. Tampering with the electronic door access system makes for an unsafe living environment, is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action.
- (19) Elevators. Residence halls have passenger elevators. Use of the elevators may be limited on occasion in order to accommodate residents or guests with a disability, the moving of belongings or for emergencies. Use of the elevators is a privilege and students are expected to make use of them in a responsible, safe and respectful manner. In keeping with this expectation, tampering with the alarm, misuse (i.e., jumping, overloading, etc.), defacing of the elevators or entering the elevator shaft is prohibited. Elevators in the Greek Units may only be used for individuals with disabilities and are not available for general use by building occupants.
- (20) Keys and BG1 Card. Students will be issued a key and provided building access on their BG1 Card, which they are expected to use responsibly, taking into consideration the safety, security and privacy of other residents. Keys and BG1 Card are for personal use only, and students are not to duplicate, loan or share these with others at any time. Keys and BG1 Card are the property of the University and may not be duplicated or modified in anyway. Keys must be returned when a student checks out of the room and/or

suite/apartment or at the request of the supervisor of the residence. A person suspected of duplicating or sharing their key or BG1 Card may be subject to disciplinary action.

- (21) **Lost or Stolen Keys/BG1 Card.** Should a key or BG1 Card be lost or stolen, students are responsible for reporting the lost or stolen item to the front desk or supervisor of the residence immediately so that appropriate steps can be taken to prevent illegal entry. Students will incur a cost for obtaining a replacement personal entry device. New locks for either the room/suite/apartment or for all exterior doors to the residence will be installed depending upon which key or keys have been lost or stolen. The cost of replacing locks and keys will be incurred by the responsible party.
  
- (22) **Lock-out Key Policy.** Students who are accidentally locked out of their rooms/suites/apartments can obtain a lock-out key and temporary PED from the front desk or supervisor of the residence. The lock-out key and temporary PED is for short-term use and should be returned within thirty minutes. Use of the lock-out key or temporary PED, in excess of two times during a given semester is considered excessive and students will be charged for each additional use of a lock-out key, since all students are expected to carry their keys and personal entry devices (PEDs) with them at all times.
  - (a) To encourage students to use their keys responsibly and to protect University property as well as all persons and property of persons that may be at risk due to lock outs, the following schedule of charges applies for lock-outs each semester.
    - (i) **Fee Schedule**
      - (a) First and second time: No Fee
      - (b) Third time: Five dollars
      - (c) Fourth time: Ten dollars



- (d) Fifth time: Twenty dollars, and student shall face conduct action for the fifth and any subsequent lock-out
- (e) Sixth time: Forty dollars
- (f) Seventh or more: All subsequent lock-outs during the semester will be assessed at eighty dollars per lock-out.
- (g) Failure to return the lock-out key or temporary PED within the allotted time period or other forms of abuse, misuse, or excessive use may result in conduct action, loss of lock-out key privileges, or both. All charges shall be placed on the student's bursar account.

(23) Mercury thermometers

Mercury thermometers are prohibited in all residential buildings as they pose a serious health and safety hazard if broken.

(24) Misplaced Keys

If a key is misplaced, residents are responsible for reporting the misplaced key to the front desk or supervisor of the residence. A lock-out key may be obtained for an extended forty-eight-hour period to allow time to locate the misplaced key. If the misplaced key is not found and/or the lock-out key is not returned within the forty-eight-hour period, the misplaced key will be considered lost and a lock change will be ordered and charged to the party responsible.

(25) Missing Persons

All students residing in University Housing shall be given the opportunity to provide a confidential contact person to notify should they be missing for twenty-four hours or more. In instances where the missing student is under eighteen years of age, parent(s) or legal guardians will be contacted in addition to the confidential

contact person. Individuals should report anyone believed to be a missing person to a member of the Residence Life staff and/or BGSU Police. If a student is believed to be missing, hall staff will contact University Police to begin an investigation.

(26) Personal and Community Safety Expectations

In order for safety measures to be effective, students must make proper use of these features. Residents are encouraged to lock their doors when leaving the room/suite/apartment for any reason and while sleeping. Residents are also reminded that propping open exterior doors for any reason is also a safety hazard since it may allow unwanted visitors access to the building and is a policy violation subjecting the resident to disciplinary action. Residents must not allow others to enter the residence via any locked door other than the main entrance.

(27) Reporting Misuse

It is an expectation that all community members take an active role in ensuring the safety of the residential living spaces on campus. Misuse of keys, personal entry devices (PEDs) or BG1 Card must be reported to an Office of Residence Life staff member immediately.

(28) Tornado Procedures

- (a) Tornado Watch. A tornado watch indicates that weather conditions are such that a tornado could develop in this area. Should a tornado watch be issued, residents are asked to follow the accompanying procedures.
  - (i) Residents should make certain they are familiar with the location of the shelter area in their building so that should the need arise, they will know where to find appropriate shelter.
  - (ii) Residents should be prepared to move to that area in the event that a tornado warning is issued.

- (iii) Residents are encouraged to listen for a radio, TV or hall PA announcement, or county sirens indicating the need to take shelter, and be checking for a text message from AlertBG if they have signed up for this service.
- (iv) Residents should use their best judgment when deciding whether to leave the building during a Tornado Watch.

(b) Tornado Warning

A tornado warning indicates that a tornado has been sighted in the area. Should residents hear the county tornado warning sirens or otherwise be advised that there is a tornado warning in effect for the region, residents are to seek shelter immediately and follow the directions of Office of Residence Life staff regarding emergency evacuation and remain in the shelter areas until the all-clear is given by the appropriate staff member or official. Note: Wood County conducts a test of tornado sirens on the first Saturday of every month at ten a.m.

(M) University Residence Behavior Policies

- (1) As with all large residential communities, there are behavioral parameters within which all community members are expected to conduct their affairs. Individuals who choose not to act responsibly and violate the Community Living Standards, the Code of Student Conduct, and/or local, state and federal laws will be held accountable for their decisions. The regulations and policies contained in this section should not be regarded as a comprehensive code of desirable conduct; rather they describe the minimum standards needed to reconcile the principles of maximum freedom and necessary order to achieve the basic purposes and goals of the University. By forming a code of ethics and rules and regulations, the University does not absolve each student from accepting responsibility for his or her own behavior. Indeed, the University reaffirms the principle of student freedom coupled with an acceptance of full responsibility for individual action and the consequences of such action. Residents have the right to file a complaint in the event that their rights within the residential

community are being violated by another's failure to follow these policies. Such complaints may be registered through residence hall staff or through the Office of the Dean of Students.

- (2) Students are expected to respect the rights of others within their residential community. Residents will be held responsible for their actions and decisions, as well as the actions of their guests. In striving to provide an environment for all residents to study, sleep and interact, it is expected that students be familiar with, and abide by, the policies which appear in this publication.

- (3) Apartment and Greek Unit Policies

In addition to the Student Code of Conduct, and the Community Living Standards, additional policies apply to those students living in university apartment(s) or Greek units. Additional policies and procedures for Apartment(s) and Greek units, may be found on the Office of Student Housing's website on the "[Forms and Resources](#)" section.

- (4) Alcohol

- (a) The University is committed to maintaining an academic and social environment conducive to the intellectual and personal development, safety and welfare of all members of the University community. While alcohol is a widely accepted part of American culture, students under the age of twenty-one may not consume or possess alcohol. Students who are of legal age may drink in their rooms or in the rooms of people who are also twenty-one or older. Students who are under twenty-one and choose to drink are not only violating hall policy, they are breaking the law. Offenders may be subject to the campus conduct process, legal prosecution or both.
  - (i) The University adheres to and enforces all federal and state legislation governing alcohol.
  - (ii) In a University residence, alcoholic beverages may be possessed or served only in student rooms/suites/apartments where a resident of the

room is of the legal drinking age. Alcohol is not permitted in common areas including but not limited to hallways, lounges, recreation areas or outside of a student room or suite.

- (iii) Common containers including but not limited to beer balls, kegs, wine boxes, and containers of mixed punch of any kind are not permitted.
- (iv) If residents twenty-one years of age or older elect to keep alcoholic beverages in the room/suite/apartment, they are responsible for and must take affirmative steps to ensure that underage individuals do not gain access to alcohol.
- (v) Alcohol may not be sold or purchased in University residences.
- (vi) Devices that allow for the drinking of large quantities of alcohol, such as a beer bong, are not allowed in University residences.
- (vii) Games that promote or involve drinking are not permitted in the University residences.
- (viii) Alcohol containers (whether full, partially full or empty) may not be possessed or used as decorations by those under the age of twenty-one in University residences.

(5) Animals: Service and Emotional Support

- (a) In order to provide reasonable accommodations and in compliance with federal law, the Office of Student Housing allows qualified students to have one service animal or one emotional support animal (ESA) in the residence halls. Students must first contact the Office of Accessibility Services (38 College Park Office Building, 419-372-8495) for approval.

- (b) Definitions of a service animal, an emotional support animal, and a pet appear in [Policy 3341-2-42, Service Animal and Assistance Animal Policy](#), which is also applicable. The “owner” is the person who is responsible for controlling a service animal or emotional support animal.
- (c) Owner Care and Handling
  - (i) Animals must be properly licensed in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws.
  - (ii) Service and emotional support animals must be in good health and have all vaccinations.
  - (iii) A service animal may accompany the owner to any location at any time. An emotional support animal may not leave the owner’s room, with the exception of allowing the animal to relieve itself, and must not create a disturbance while the owner is away from the room.
  - (iv) Service and emotional support animals must be under the control of the owner at all times.
  - (v) The owner of a service or emotional support animal must maintain a clean, healthy, and odor-free living space.
  - (vi) The owner of a service or emotional support animal is responsible for cleaning up after their animal’s waste and should carry sufficient and appropriate equipment to clean up after the animal. Waste must be bagged and discarded in waste receptacles located outside of the residence halls.
  - (vii) The owner of a service or emotional support animal must assure the animal doesn’t interfere with the daily routine or activities (ability to sleep, enter or exit the hall, study, etc.) of residents who reside in the hall.

- (viii) The owner of an animal is financially responsible for any damage caused by the animal. This includes bodily injury or property damage.

(d) Non-Owner Actions

- (i) Individuals other than the owner should never touch or handle an animal unless invited to do so.
- (ii) Individuals other than the owner should not feed the animal.
- (iii) Individuals other than the owner should take care not to startle the animal.
- (iv) Individuals other than the owner are not to attempt to separate the animal from the owner.
- (v) Individuals are not to inquire for details about the owner's disability or reason for having a service or emotional support animal.

(e) Removal of Approved Animal

The Office of Residence Life, in consultation with the Office of Accessibility Services, may exclude or remove an approved animal if:

- (i) The animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
- (ii) The animal causes substantial damage to the property of others (including University property);
- (iii) The animal's presence requires or results in a fundamental alteration of a University program or function;
- (iv) The owner consistently fails to comply with the policy governing animals in the residence halls; or

- (v) The animal or its presence creates an unmanageable disturbance or interference with the university community.

(6) Bicycles, Scooters, and other Personal Conveyance Vehicles

Campus regulations regarding the parking and storing of bicycles, scooters, and other personal conveyance vehicles must be observed. Motorized vehicles (including electric scooters and hoverboards) are not permitted inside a University residence. If a resident brings a non-motorized personal conveyance vehicle into the residence, it may not be parked or stored in corridors, restrooms, lounges, entryways, trunk rooms or in any area of the building other than the owner's room/suite/apartment. The owner is responsible for any damages or soiled carpet caused by bringing a personal conveyance vehicle into a residence. Riding bicycles and other personal conveyance vehicles inside a building is prohibited. Bicycles and mopeds must be registered with the Bowling Green City Police, 175 W. Wooster St. For more information please call 419-352-2571. Bicycles and other personal conveyance vehicles may only be locked to bike racks and not to ramps, stairwells or other stationary objects. See the [Parking Rules and Regulations](#) regarding designated parking areas.

(7) Cooking in Rooms/Suites

Approved combination microwave/refrigerator units for food preparation are permitted in all University residences. Individual microwave units of no more than 900 watts are permitted in student rooms. Refrigerators no larger than five cubic feet, thirty-six inches in height and one and half amps are also allowed. For fire safety considerations, however, hot plates, toasters, toaster ovens, George Foreman Grills, waffle irons/makers, air fryers, crock pots, and similar devices are not permitted in student rooms/suites.

(8) Dining Room Property

Dining room property, which includes trays, plates, glasses and silverware and other equipment/furnishings, must not be taken



from kitchens or any dining facility to any area, including student rooms/suites/apartments and lounges. Violation of this policy is considered theft and may result in University conduct action, or possible criminal action. University Dining Services refrigerators and freezers are not available for storage of personal food supplies or beverages.

(9) Drugs

The use and/or possession and/or provision of a place for the use of illegal/controlled drugs is governed by local, state and federal laws. All cases or evidence of use, possession, cultivation or sale of drugs in University residences will be handled by the appropriate law enforcement agencies and reported to the Office of Dean of Students. This includes the possession of prescription drugs not prescribed to the student in possession of them. Note, while Ohio has legalized both medical and recreational marijuana, the use, possession, and/or storage of medical or recreational marijuana is strictly prohibited on University premises and at University sponsored events and activities because marijuana remains illegal under federal law.

(10) Explosives, Firearms, Fireworks and Weapons

Explosives, firearms (actual, or novelties/toys reasonably resembling actual firearms), fireworks, firecrackers and similar devices, and weapons of any kind create a potential safety hazard and, therefore, the use or possession of these items is prohibited in University residences. Weapons include, but are not limited to, knives with blades over three inches, guns, bb/pellet guns, airsoft guns, paint guns, tasers, bows and arrows, machetes, Ninja stars, nunchucks, grenades and swords.

(11) Guests

(a) General

- (i) A visitor is defined as any person who is a student and is not an assigned resident of the University hall or house being visited.
- (ii) A guest is defined as any person who is not a student.
- (iii) A host is defined as a person who is assigned to the particular University student room being visited. In

order to maintain a living environment that respects the privacy of all residents, guests and visitors must adhere to the following specific policies:

- (a) Guests and visitors are subject to the same rules, regulations and expectations as a resident, and the host is responsible for informing his or her guests of the rules, regulations and expectations in advance.
- (b) The needs of roommates/suitemates to sleep, study and otherwise be free from interference and disruption as well as the right to privacy are paramount and supersede the right to host a guest and/or visitor. Roommates reserve the right to reasonably refuse guests at any time.
- (c) Hosts assume full responsibility for the behavior and activities of their guests and visitor regardless of whether the host is present to observe their behavior. Whenever reasonably possible, hosts are expected to accompany their guests at all times.
- (d) For safety and security reasons, guests and visitors must be escorted by their host whenever they are outside their host's room.
- (e) Guests and visitors may only enter the building if they are accompanied by a host who is a resident of the building. Guests and visitors will be required to present a picture ID and sign in to gain entrance to the building regardless of their time of arrival to the building.
- (f) During the course of their visit, guests and visitors are expected to behave in a way that positively contributes to the residence

community, showing respect and consideration for others and for property.

- (g) Guests and visitors who are acting inappropriately may be asked to leave the residence.
- (h) Guests and visitors will not be issued keys or PEDs, nor are residents to permit guests or visitors to use keys, BG1 Card or PEDs.

(12) Overnight Guests

Overnight guests or visitors are allowed to stay in University residences with the prior consent of both the host and the host's roommate(s). However, the needs of roommates/suitemates to sleep, study and otherwise be free from interference and disruption as well as the right to privacy are paramount and supersede the right to host an overnight guest or visitor. With prior consent of the roommate(s), guests/visitors are allowed to stay a maximum of three consecutive nights in a ten-day period. Guests/visitors may not sleep in lounges or on lounge furnishings and may not sleep in any bed without the prior consent of the individual assigned to that bed.

(13) Identification

Residents are expected to carry their Student Identification Card with them at all times. Residents may be asked to produce their ID in a number of instances, including but not limited to: entering the building during posted hours, checking out equipment, obtaining lock-out keys, or during documentation of policy violations. Failure to produce university identification upon request of a university official may result in denial of services and referral to student conduct.

(14) Kitchen Use

Most residence halls are equipped with a small, limited use kitchen that is intended for use by residential students. These kitchens are typically equipped with a stove, refrigerator, sink, and cabinets.

Residents are expected to follow the Guidelines for Use document posted in each hall.

After use, each kitchen must be thoroughly cleaned (stovetop, countertop, sink, dishes, floor, trash, etc.). Failure to clean the kitchen may result in the facility being locked. Dry goods may not be stored anywhere in the kitchen. Students may store cold/wet items in the refrigerator as long as each item is labeled with a name and date. All items in the refrigerator will be disposed of after one month or when the item is no longer useable. Limited cooking equipment is available for use at each hall front desk and must be returned clean. Students using the kitchen should be familiar with the location and use of the fire extinguisher.

Students using the kitchen do so at their own risk and the University will not be liable for lost, stolen, or disposed of items including but not limited to food and cooking utensils.

Greek and apartment units have their own kitchens with a modified version of the Guidelines for Use document. Residents of the Greek and apartment units must adhere to the Guidelines for Use document posted in their kitchen.

(15) Laundry

Laundry facilities are provided for each residence. Use of the laundry facilities by residential students is paid for as part of the room fee (exceptions include leased apartment facilities). Use of the laundry facilities by non-residents is prohibited. Violators of this policy will be referred to the student conduct process. Do not leave your laundry unattended. Clothes should not be left in the laundry room for more than forty-eight hours. Residents should always clean the dryer filter trap after every use.

(16) Lost and Found and Abandoned Property

Each residence hall will maintain a Lost and Found system at the front desk. Items brought to the lost and found will be kept for one month. If the individual owner can be identified, hall staff will make a reasonable attempt to contact the owner, first by phone and then by e-mail. At the end of the one-month period, unclaimed

items will be deemed abandoned and disposed of, destroyed, or donated.

(17) Lounges and Common Areas

Every residence unit contains a variety of common area spaces. Some are designated study lounges, while others are used for program events and meetings. Residents wishing to reserve space in a building must contact the supervisor of the residence. All lounge furniture and wall hangings should remain in their assigned location for use by all community members. Lounges are not to be used to provide overnight accommodations for residents or guests.

(18) Mail

- (a) USPS paper mail, such as letters and magazines, is delivered daily, Monday through Friday, to the residence hall front desks and placed in the student mailboxes provided to all on-campus residents. No mail is delivered on weekends or University holidays. Student packages, from all carriers such as USPS, UPS, and FedEx, will be delivered to the Student Package Center located at the Information Desk on the first floor of the Bowen Thompson Student Union. Students will receive an email notification when the package is ready for pickup. A valid BGSU ID is required for package pickup. For more information, visit the Postal Services website: [www.bgsu.edu/postal](http://www.bgsu.edu/postal) Residence hall and Greek unit mail should be addressed to the street addresses provided by the Office of Student Housing. A complete list of halls and street addresses is available on the Office of Student Housing web site.
- (b) Only the following items may be placed in residence mailboxes:
  - (i) U.S. mail delivered by the Post Office
  - (ii) Individually addressed campus mail

- (iii) Office of Residence Life approved announcements. Notices, unaddressed items, or unaddressed advertising of any nature will not be placed in residence mailboxes unless approved by the Office of Residence Life.

(19) Musical Instruments

Because different musical instruments can be played at different volumes, some may not be appropriate for use in the residence halls. Acoustic guitars, non-amplified electric guitars and electronic pianos are some examples of instruments that can be played at a reasonable level and are permitted in the residence halls. Many living units have practice rooms that may be reserved for those choosing to bring wind, orchestral, percussion or amplified instruments to the University. To the extent that such instruments violate the courtesy or quiet-hours policies, they are not permitted in the residence halls.

(20) Pets

Pets are not permitted in University residences, including student rooms/suites/apartments, except fish in an aquarium no larger than twenty gallons. Electrical aquarium accessories must be unplugged during extended vacation periods. If any unauthorized pet is kept in a resident's room, disciplinary action will be taken, and a cleaning fee may be charged to that resident.

(21) Posters, Table Tents and Advertising

The display of posters and fliers in University residences is governed by the Office of Residence Life. A full copy of the applicable policy, including appropriate numbers of posters is available in brochure form at this office. Only University departments and recognized student organizations in good standing are eligible to display posters/fliers in University residences, after obtaining the requisite approval from the Office of Residence Life. After obtaining approval, items must be submitted to the front desk of the hall and may only be distributed within the hall by persons employed by the Office of Residence Life. Failure to follow this policy may result in the elimination of the privilege of displaying

posters and fliers on the part of the organization or department. The display of table tents in dining facilities is governed by Dining Services. A full copy of the applicable policy is available at this office.

(22) Quiet Hours and Consideration of Others

- (a) The University strives to provide its residents with a living environment that is conducive to learning. Residents and their guests are thus expected to respect the rights of others with regard to quiet for studying, sleeping and individual lifestyle choices. Quiet hours and courtesy hours are the vehicles for achieving this environment. In each residence, a program of quiet hours is established initially by the supervisor of the residence. That program of quiet hours must fulfill the following minimum requirements:
- (i) Sunday through Thursday: Quiet hours must begin no later than eleven p.m. and continue until at least eight a.m.
  - (ii) Friday and Saturday: Quiet hours must begin no later than midnight and continue until at least nine a.m. (Note: Specific quiet hours for each hall may be adjusted within the minimum guidelines at the first Hall Council/house meeting. The established hall quiet hours can be reviewed at any time when deemed necessary by residents of each hall within the established guidelines listed above.)
  - (iii) Twenty-four-hour quiet hours are in effect at all times during final exam periods. These quiet hours will begin at midnight the Sunday prior to the final exam period and continue until the residence closes at the end of the semester. No alterations of the twenty-four-hour policy during finals week are permitted.
- (b) During quiet hours, the noise level in the living unit must be kept at a minimum. Music, talking or other sounds are too loud if the sound can be heard by neighbors, in the

corridor, or outside the building. At no time is a person to create a disturbance or noise that disrupts the activities of another person within the residence. All requests for quiet are to be immediately complied with by discontinuation of the activity causing the disturbance or noise. In the spirit of community, stereo speakers/subwoofers and stereos must not be directed out the windows/doors or used outside the residence without permission.

- (c) The use of headphones is also strongly encouraged. Repeated disregard for the noise level in use of sound equipment may result in the removal of the equipment from the student room/suite/apartment.
- (d) Courtesy hours: defined as hours of reasonable quiet, are to be maintained at all times, even during those times not designated as quiet hours. During courtesy hours, residents are expected to keep noise and activities at a level which will not disturb neighboring residents, including those living on other floors. All requests for quiet are to be immediately complied with by discontinuation of the activity causing the disturbance or noise. Residents are expected to anticipate and respect the needs of other students; specifically, the need to live in an environment with minimum annoyances or obstacles to academic pursuits and student wellness.

(23) Roommate Agreements

Since sharing living accommodations is a new experience for many students, all roommate pairs will be asked to complete a roommate agreement. This agreement encourages honest and open communication between roommates and establishes agreement for standards to be followed in the room. No agreement is permitted to contain clauses that allow for the violation of any University policy. If assistance is needed in establishing this agreement, you are encouraged to meet with your Resident Advisor or hall/house staff. Since the needs and routines of roommates change during the year, it is recommended that the roommate agreement be modified as needed. Failure to adhere to the roommate agreement may result



in referral to student conduct.

(24) Routers and Rogue Hotspots

Students living in the residence halls are not permitted to use wireless routers or devices that transmit a wireless signal that creates interference with the University owned Wi-Fi system. Student wireless devices may disrupt internet services for other students and staff. Residents found in violation of this policy will be asked to disable the wireless device immediately and may be referred to student conduct.

(25) Smoking

The University recognizes the need to create and maintain an environment that sustains and enhances the general health of its faculty, staff, students and visitors. Therefore, by resolution of the University Board of Trustees, effective January 1, 2014, and by Ohio state law, smoking is prohibited in all facilities owned or leased by the University and on the grounds of any property owned or leased by the University. Smoking is defined as inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or other lighted smoking device for burning tobacco or any other plant, per section 3794.01 of the ORC. This includes all buildings owned or controlled by the University, shelters, indoor and outdoor athletic facilities, indoor and outdoor theatres, walkways, sidewalks, residence halls, and parking lots (unless otherwise designated). Smoking is prohibited on sidewalks that adjoin University property. Smoking is also prohibited in any vehicle or equipment owned, leased or operated by the University. Application of this policy to university owned detached single-family residences shall be determined by University Facilities at the time any such lease is executed. Cigarette butts and ashes must be disposed of in the appropriate receptacles located in designated smoking areas. The use of e-cigarettes (electronic smoking devices, vaping) in Residence Halls is strictly prohibited.

(26) Soliciting/Selling

Soliciting in residences is not permitted. Solicitation is defined as any activity designed to advertise, promote or sell any product or

commercial service or encourage support for or membership in any group, association or organization and includes door-to-door canvassing. Soliciting/selling includes conducting a business in a University residence such as baby-sitting, beer distribution, or selling such items as cosmetics, food, hair supplies or hair cutting/styling, raffle tickets, magazines, bagels, candy bars, etc. Advertising signs, posters and fliers in connection with such solicitation or selling may not be distributed or posted in University residences. Fundraising events/soliciting are not permitted in residences unless authorized by the Director of Student Housing or their designee.

(27) Sports and Roughhousing

Indoor sports and roughhousing are prohibited in all areas of the residence halls/houses, as such activity may disrupt the living/learning environment and is considered unsafe relative to persons and property. Prohibited activities include (but are not limited to) tossing, bouncing, or kicking of balls or objects, wrestling, the use of roller blades, Nerf guns, and the use of water guns or water balloons.

(28) Storage

When a student checks out of their residence hall room but does not remove personal belongings from his/her room, the items become the property of the university and will be disposed of after thirty days. Students claiming items within the thirty-day time period may be assessed a storage and packing fee. There is no storage of personal items at any time. This includes temporary storage of lofts or personal furniture. Personal items may not be stored in the hall common areas (hallways, study lounges, kitchenettes, trash rooms, bathrooms, custodial closet, etc.)

(29) Wall and Door Decorations

You may make your room feel more like home by putting posters and pictures on the wall. White adhesive putty is the recommended way to do this. Avoid the use of two-sided tape, colored putty, or nails as these items create residue that must be removed or holes

that must be filled. No more than twenty percent of the surface area may be covered.

(30) Windows Coverings and Screens

Regulation window coverings (blinds/drapes) are installed in every residence hall room. These window coverings must not be removed. Personal drapery may be hung using only a spring tension rod. Personal drapery and decorations must not be visible from outside the hall. Personal drapery and decorations must not interfere with egress. Window screens and/or storm windows must not be removed at any time. Residents assume any associated costs of replacement, repair, and re-installation of window screens.

(31) Use of Telephones in Student Rooms

- (a) Every room has the capability of having a telephone line activated. Students must request to have an active telephone line provided in their assigned residence hall room. It is the responsibility of the student to request a phone line be activated through [Information Technology Services](#) (ITS). Students requesting an active phone line for their residence hall room will be billed an additional fee that corresponds to the requested level of service provided.
- (b) Per University policy and applicable law, it is unlawful to obtain or attempt to obtain telecommunication services by use of a false, fictitious or counterfeit number. It is unlawful to charge telephone calls to the telephone number or credit card number of another person without valid authority. Avoiding or attempting to avoid payment for telecommunication services by use of any fraudulent scheme, device, means or method is prohibited by law and by University regulations. Criminal prosecution and/or disciplinary action may be taken.
- (c) Students are responsible for any long-distance calls made from the telephone line in their room.

Equity impact statement: The policy has been assessed for adverse differential impact on members of one or more protected groups.

Registered Date: December 20, 2021

Amended Date: April 1, 2023; August 24, 2023; December 14, 2023