

OFFICE OF RESIDENCE LIFE & HOUSING



RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY LIVING AGREEMENT

What is a residential community?

Residential living is a unique experience. Your hall is a place where you will find opportunities to grow as a person, test new ideas, learn new skills and learn the importance of being part of the community. You will probably see yourself differently when the year is over. You will make new friends, rediscover old ones and hopefully realize that life holds many possibilities. It is our hope that the changes and experiences you have in the residence halls will be positive ones, which will enhance your self-confidence and help you achieve independence.

As part of that independence, each individual hall will be working together to establish community living standards. These students will help determine how each hall will manage itself. Halls will meet on a monthly basis to discuss issues within the hall, define the community standards and discuss any problems that might arise.

Is a Residential Community Living Agreement necessary?

You and your fellow residents will be accountable and responsible to each other. If there are things on your floor that you would like to see handled differently or you think that other members of your hall are not upholding the standards you set as a hall, it will be your responsibility as a community to discuss these issues.

Community living standards will not replace the student conduct code or residence life policies but will instead work in conjunction with them to help make sure each hall is a unique home environment for the students who live there. We have staff in each building to assist you and help facilitate positive change. This staff is made up of a Hall Coordinator (HC), a Graduate Assistant (GA), Community Assistance Officers (CAO) and Resident Assistants (RA) who will work with you to ensure your hall is a good place to study, rest and socialize. RAs are students like you, who live on each floor and will act as facilitators as each hall community develops its own community living standards.

Am I responsible for being aware of community standards?

You and your fellow students will be responsible for the quality of life in your residential community during the coming year. You are expected to be familiar with policies and procedures, which have been established to guide student conduct. Remember, you are part of a community in an academic environment and being part of any community brings with it responsibilities, including courtesy, consideration and empathy.

Community Living Standards and Conditions



Each community member must agree to live by the community standards set forth in order to ensure there are adequate measures in place to create and maintain a living and learning environment in all residence halls and living and learning communities (i.e. quiet study atmosphere, Leadership, First Year Experience). Each community member must also respect the community in the residence hall and abide by community standards when visiting other residents and/or when utilizing common area space.

In the event that a community member is found in violation of the community standards, the Office of Residence Life and Housing will work with the student in violation regarding sanctions; or, if the violation is of a more serious nature, with the University Police Department and the Office of Judicial Affairs regarding sanctions and/or legal or criminal action.

I have read and understand the living and learning community principles and information and will abide by it during the 2009-2010 academic year.

STUDENT SIGNATURE_____

DATE_____



I further agree that my signature below on this form, gives permission to officials employed in the Office of Residence Life and Housing at Norfolk State University the full right to use my photograph(s) and/or videotaped image and sound byte in its recruitment, public relations and promotional efforts. I willingly agree to have my photograph(s), videotaped image, sound byte taken at any Residence Life and Housing event (to include Freshmen Transition Week, Residential First Year Experience programs, LEGASI programs, RHA programs, hall meetings, Battle of the Residence Hall Step Show, Battle of the Residence Hall Basketball game, etc) at any time during my educational career at Norfolk State University and used in various publications (brochures, websites, flyers, applications, etc.) for publicity and marketing purposes.

STUDENT NAME (printed): _____ DATE _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____

I further agree that my signature below on this form, acknowledges that I am aware that there are certain infractions that will render an immediate decision to remove me from my room or residence hall immediately. I further acknowledge that such infractions are not limited to those described below and that I am also responsible for being aware of all residential policies and procedures, the Spartan Student Code of Ethics, and the Judicial Student Handbook.

- 1. Initiating a false fire alarm, improper discharge of a fire extinguisher or vandalism and/or unauthorized use of fire/safety equipment. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
2. Repeated warnings of unsanitary living conditions (upon violation of final written warning notification). Initials _____
3. Conduct which is deemed to threaten the safety of self or others (weapon, throwing objects from windows, threat/intimidation...). Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
4. Repeated warnings of noise infractions (upon violation of final written warning notification). Initials _____
5. Disrespect of residential hall staff that is deemed hostile or intimidating. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
6. Drug and/or alcohol violations. Drugs, alcohol and smoking are prohibited. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
7. Discrimination and/or harassment practices to any community or hall member or residential staff based on factors such as race, sexual orientation, religion, or political affiliations. A community is made of individuals from various backgrounds and beliefs. It is an environment where residents are strongly encouraged to learn about their similarities and differences and to challenge their viewpoints to foster a learning environment that extends beyond the classroom. Behavior or acts that may be deemed inappropriate may result in allegations of a hate crime. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
8. Pranks. Pranks are prohibited. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University sanctions. Initials _____
9. Stealing, entering an individual's room without knowledge or permission is prohibited. Students in violation may be subject to arrest and/or legal action in addition to University's sanctions. Theft of property is often the number one incident on college campuses. NSU is not responsible or liable for theft of items for any reason. Students are strongly encouraged to keep their doors locked at all times and to obtain renter's insurance. Initials _____
10. Repeated warnings and/or counseling on display of behavior, actions, conduct and/or attitude deemed unsatisfactory in a community environment. (Removal from residential community living upon violation of final written warning notification). Initials _____
11. Students who fail to follow treatment and/or orders prescribed by medical personnel may be subject to removal from campus housing. NSU reserves the right to refuse housing to any student who refuses to abide by medical procedures identified to be in the best interest of the resident and/or campus community. Initials _____

STUDENT NAME (printed): _____ DATE _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____



We appreciate your taking the time to help us ensure your Spartan residential experience is rewarding and that you will be able to live in an environment which promotes academic excellence!