

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY
University Policies and Procedures

4200 - RESIDENCE HALL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Statement:

Housing Agreement

The purpose of the Housing Agreement is to establish a contractual agreement between the student and Old Dominion University with regard to the terms and conditions of occupancy in university housing. The execution of the housing agreement represents acceptance of these terms and conditions. It is the student's responsibility to know these terms. It is also the student's responsibility to be familiar with the contents of this policy, as it is part of the Housing Agreement.

Room Entry/Inspection

The University recognizes and respects a student's right to privacy. However, there are times when room entry becomes necessary. The university reserves the right to enter and inspect any room to ensure that health, fire safety, and university regulations are maintained. This may be done on a monthly basis or when there is reason to believe that the occupants of the room are in serious physical or psychological distress. In addition, maintenance personnel are authorized to enter rooms to perform routine maintenance and repair services.

Quiet Hours

Creation of an environment conducive to study is a primary objective in the residence halls. This requires that each resident show consideration of others by keeping his or her noise level down, so that students who are studying will not be disturbed. The Vice President for Student Services will determine times for quiet hours for each residence hall. During these times, residents are expected to maintain a noise level which cannot be heard outside of their room or apartment. At all other times courtesy hours are in effect, and the noise level should not disturb fellow residents. In addition, the playing of musical instruments at any time is prohibited. Any student who fails to observe quiet hours is subject to disciplinary action.

Alcoholic Beverages

Virginia State law and university policy prohibit the purchase, use, or possession of alcoholic beverages by individuals who are under the age of 21. Students who are 21 years of age or older may consume alcoholic beverages in residence hall rooms only.

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages in public areas (any area outside of assigned rooms or

apartments) is strictly prohibited unless specifically authorized in writing by the Director of Residence Life.

Private Parties with Alcohol

Private parties with alcohol are not permitted in Rogers Hall, Gresham Hall, or the Mid-Rise. In the Powhatan apartments, only those apartments in which all four residents have reached the legal drinking age, as described above, may have a private party with alcohol. Powhatan residents must first receive approval from their Resident Director. Private parties must be in compliance with state drinking laws, and students under the legal drinking age may not attend such functions. Failure to comply with established guidelines will result in the loss of the privilege to host future parties and in strict disciplinary action.

Guest Policy

Overnight guests must be of the same sex as the resident and must be registered with the Resident Assistant. Visits are limited to three nights in succession. Failure to register an overnight guest will result in suspension of this privilege, and possible termination of the host's Housing Agreement.

Residents are responsible and accountable for the behavior of their guests. Students should remember that they share a room, and the wishes of the roommate regarding guests must be honored.

Damage Policy

Students and their roommates are responsible for the condition of the furnishings and the condition of the room/apartment. Unless a responsible party is identified for the purpose of billing, the following procedures will be used in rendering a bill for any damages that are not a result of normal wear:

- (1) Damage to student room -- charges will be divided equally among the occupants of the room.
- (2) Damage to suite bath facilities -- the occupants of the suite will each be billed an equal portion of the bill.
- (3) Damage to a Powhatan Apartment will be billed equally among all occupants. Damage to a bedroom will be divided among the occupants of that bedroom.
- (4) Damages to residence hall public areas -- all residents of the floor/wing/ building will be held accountable for an equal portion of the bill.

All bills will include the cost of both labor and materials. Damage bills must be paid within five days of the billing date at the Housing Office. Failure to make payment may result in the university instituting regular collection procedures which may include eviction and reassignment of space for

future semesters. Damages identified subsequent to a student's departure will be billed to the student.

Vandalism

There is no acceptable excuse for purposely damaging university or personal property. Any student who commits an act of vandalism will be charged for the damage and will face strict disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the residence halls.

Roofs, Windows, and Ledges

Because of the obvious personal danger and the potential damage to property, being on roofs, ledges, or climbing from windows is prohibited. Strict discipline will occur if this policy is violated.

Throwing or Dropping Objects

Throwing or dropping objects from windows presents a serious hazard to others and is strictly prohibited. Throwing objects out of windows will result in severe disciplinary action.

Solicitations

To protect the privacy of residents, solicitations, sales, canvassing, fundraising, and contribution drives are restricted. For more information contact the Office of Residence Life. If a student discovers that someone is soliciting on his/her floor, he/she should contact the front desk immediately.

Responsibility: Vice President for Student Services

Authorization: Joseph M. Marchello, President

Date: December 1, 1988