

# **RESIDENTIAL LIFE**

## **The Residence Halls (Student Housing)**

The University houses approximately 2400 students, or about 40% of the total undergraduate enrollment. The residence halls provide experience in hall government, social planning and group living. Trained personnel and selected student advisers are concerned with the educational and personal development of students. Students are enabled to develop social skills in an atmosphere conducive to their academic pursuits.

The directors of the respective residence halls encourage student participation both in residence hall governance and activities, and in the total campus community. Hall directors help develop hall government and assist in planning programs of interest to student residents.

### **Rules and Regulations Governing Residence Hall Living**

The rules and regulations appearing below are the same as those in the housing contract signed by all resident students. The privilege of maintaining status as a resident student requires compliance with ALL of the regulations below:

Each resident, by his/her signature on this contract, agrees to conform to the rules and regulations established by the University; those printed in the Student Handbook and the University Catalog and those contained in this Housing Contract. Any violation of these rules and regulations will subject the resident to fine(s), probation, and/or loss of housing, arrest, suspension or expulsion from the University.

1. Students are to comply with the instructions and directions of residential hall personnel (managers, custodians, resident hall assistants, etc.). Assault of a University Official is an expulsion offense.
2. The University reserves the right to inspect, repair, or otherwise maintain all student rooms during the period of the contract in keeping with University health and safety maintenance standards.
3. Students are required to become familiar with and abide by all regulations regarding safety, including those pertaining to fire safety. Students are not to remove "Evacuation Plans" from doors in rooms. Pulling fire alarms, tampering or handling fire extinguishers and other fire equipment when not necessary is prohibited. Violators will be subject to fines and/or suspension from the University. A \$100.00 reward will be given to anyone who has information leading to the conviction of violators. This reward will be charged to the account of the violator.
4. The University assumes **no** liability for damage to or losses of the student's personal property, or the property of others in the possession of the student, resulting from loss, fire, flood, theft, vandalism or other causes beyond its control.

Please lock doors securely (bolt) and keep your key with you at all times whenever you leave your room. **Each student is encouraged to provide his/her own property loss insurance.** [www.nssi.com](http://www.nssi.com)

5. Students are fully responsible for the care and custody of the assigned property in rooms (including telephones). Any items missing or broken will be chargeable to occupant(s) of said room. Room damage traceable to a particular student will be charged to the student's account. In instances where malicious destruction occurs in a room, hallway, or surroundings, the persons living in that room, on the hallway or in the facility may be charged a prorated share of the cost of repairs or replacement where perpetrators cannot be specifically identified.
6. Furniture is not to be moved from one room to another. Also, students may not remove glasses, china, or silverware from University Cafeterias for use in the residence halls.
7. Refrigerators, hot plates, microwave ovens and other appliances are prohibited in the residence hall rooms. Cooking is not permitted.
8. Students are to keep assigned rooms neat at all times and free of excessive trash. Students who consistently receive failing grades on room check and leave their room unclean when they check out, will be subject to fine(s) and cleaning fees.
9. Students are to refrain from attaching pictures and other material to the walls and doors which result in damage or defacement. **Alcoholic beverage containers, including empty containers, obscene or pornographic pictures and posters are prohibited in residence halls.**
10. Excessive noise is strictly prohibited in and around the residence halls at all times (i.e. banging on doors, loud talking or laughter, shouting, running and horseplay, etc.). CDs/Tape players, radios, etc. are to be played at room volume. Speakers are not to be placed in or near windows. Musical instruments are not to be played in the residence halls.
11. All resident students are required to attend monthly residence hall meetings.
12. Residents who fail to turn in a validated housing permit by the end of the second week of Fall Semester will face a fine and/or loss of housing. Squatters will be charged and disciplined, and the resident who permits the squatter will be subject to disciplinary actions and/or fines.
13. Rooms are rented as doubles. When a vacancy occurs in two (2) or more rooms occupied by two (2) students in the same residence hall, the remaining occupants have the following choices: (1) select a student who lives in the same residence hall and arrange to room together; (2) accept a roommate suggested by the residence manager.

14. Members of the opposite sex are not permitted IN STUDENTS' ROOMS (unless during Inter-room Visitation) including private and basement level rooms, hallways leading to rooms, rear and side entrances, and upper and lower level lounges. Each student, male or female, who is found violating this policy is subject to disciplinary action as indicated on the listing of housing fines and sanctions.
15. All non-residents should vacate housing by 12:00 midnight unless prior approval has been granted by a member of the residential hall staff. Students who permit persons to live in their rooms unauthorized are subject to disciplinary action, including fine(s) and/or denial of campus housing. **Under no circumstances is "babysitting" allowed.**
16. Students who vacate campus housing without withdrawing from the University or as a result of disciplinary action will forfeit all housing fees for that semester.
17. National, state and local laws and campus policy prohibit the unlawful use, possession, sale, dispensation or distribution of illegal drugs, alcohol or controlled substance. Violators will be subject to arrest and/or suspension, expulsion, or fines.
18. Smoking is prohibited in all areas of the residence halls. All buildings (including residence halls) are designated as **SMOKE FREE FACILITIES**. Burning of incense and/or candles is prohibited.
19. **The use of, and/or possession of firearms** (including those with a permit), fireworks, dangerous weapons (any or all items that could do bodily harm or cause physical injury), **and gambling are strictly prohibited.**
20. No pets are allowed.
21. The University does not provide housing during the interim and official closing of school without prior approval by the Vice President for Business and Finance.
22. All students living in University housing must sign a nine month contract (two academic semesters). **This contract is legally binding for the entire school year unless the student enters University housing during the spring semester, in which case the contract is binding only for the spring semester.** Once a student has paid (or deferred based on anticipated financial aid) for the residence hall space, he/she is bound to the contract and may only be relieved of the contract by the Vice President for Business and Finance for legitimate documented reasons.
23. All freshmen and sophomores are required to reside on campus the entire academic year.

**Exemptions:** 1) Students who graduate from Madison County Alabama High Schools and reside with parents in Madison County; 2) Part-time students; 3) Married students; and 4) Military personnel.

## **SANCTIONS AND/OR FINES FOR STUDENT HOUSING VIOLATIONS**

1. **Weapons** (All firearms, knives, etc., if used, found in possession or displayed in an altercation.)

All cases go to University's Judiciary Board

2. **Illegal Drugs** (If caught in your room or in your possession; whether you are in the room or not; applies to each student present.)

Possession, sale, distribution, and/or use of narcotics, marijuana, hypnotic or similarly harmful, habit-forming or controlled substances within the jurisdiction of the University or conspiracy to possess, sell or distribute such substances.

All cases go to University's Judiciary Board

3. **Drug Paraphernalia** (If caught in your room or in your possession; whether you are in the room or not; applies to each student present.)

All cases go to University's Judiciary Board

4. **Possession of Alcohol/Consumption of Alcohol** (No alcohol containers, including empty containers, allowed in residential facilities.)

First Offense - \$50.00 Fine, Refer to Counseling

Second Offense - \$100.00 Fine and/or Loss of Housing, Probation or Suspension

5. **Curfew Violations** (Non-residents are required to vacate campus housing by 12:00 midnight unless prior approval has been granted by a professional member of the residential staff.)

Students who permit persons to live in their rooms unauthorized are subject to a fine and referral to the University's Judiciary Board.

6. **Unauthorized Visitation** – Female residents are not allowed in the public or private areas of male residential facilities after midnight and vice versa. Male residents are prohibited from visiting or loitering in the vicinity of female residential facilities after midnight and vice versa.

First Offense - \$200.00 Fine

Second Offense - \$400.00 Fine

Third Offense – Loss of Housing, Probation or Suspension

7. **Disorderly Conduct** (Includes, but not limited to, use of profanity, public nudity, drunkenness and lewdness.)

First Offense - \$100.00 Fine, letter of reprimand and refer to counseling  
Second Offense - \$200.00, 48 hours to vacate campus housing

8. **Fighting**

All cases referred to University's Judiciary Board

9. **Pulling Fire Alarms**

48 hours to vacate campus housing and refer to University's Police Department for prosecution.

10. **Tampering with Fire Safety Equipment**

First Offense - \$250.00 Fine

Second Offense - \$350.00 Fine, 48 hours to vacate campus housing

11. **Destruction or Defacing University Property** (Includes, but not limited to, graffiti, holes, burns, etc.)

First Offense - \$50.00 Fine and Up, depending on nature of destruction, and/or Referral to University's Judiciary Board

The following charges will be imposed on all students guilty of destruction of State Property in our residence halls.

1.	Key replacement	\$ 50.00
2.	Locks	165.00
3.	Door (Wood) (Fire Proof)	300.00
4.	Door (Metal)	350.00
5.	Light fixture/bulb	70.00
6.	Bed	250.00
7.	Mattress	150.00
8.	Dresser	200.00
9.	Desk w/light	210.00
10.	Window Glass	50.00-310.00
11.	Window Frame	375.00
12.	Blinds (tousle)	50.00-110.00
13.	Floor tile	10.00 per sq.
14.	Door knobs	30.00
15.	Passagework	30.00
16.	Replace all three locks	35.00
17.	Electric plugs	
18.	Speaker	150.00
19.	Elevator (repair)	150.00
20.	Fire Extinguisher	45.00
21.	Fire Extinguisher Case	55.00
22.	Smoke Alarm Complete	210.00
23.	Blinds	50.00
24.	Exit Lights	155.00

## **Lounge Area:**

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|-----|--------------|----------------|
| 25. | Tables       | 250.00         |
| 26. | Chair        | 150.00         |
| 27. | Couch (3)    | 350.00         |
| 28. | Couch (2)    | 250.00         |
| 29. | Coffee Table | 100.00         |
| 30. | Blinds       | 100.00         |
| 31. | Speaker      | 150.00         |
| 32. | Glass Door   | (panel) 200.00 |
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12. **Disrespect of University Official** (Threatening/Bodily Harm/Profanity/Insubordination)  
Referral to University's Judiciary Board
13. **Any Riotous Behavior**  
First Offense - \$100.00 Fine, Refer for Counseling and/or Referral to University's Judiciary Board
14. **Smoking** – Smoking is prohibited in all buildings on campus.  
First Offense - \$50.00 Fine, Refer to Counseling  
Second Offense - \$100.00 Fine  
Third Offense - \$150.00 Fine and 48 hours to vacate campus housing
15. **Gambling** –All cases referred to University's Judiciary Board
16. **Excessive Trash**  
First Offense - \$50.00 Fine plus Cleaning Fee  
Second Offense - \$100.00 Fine plus Cleaning Fee  
Third Offense - \$150.00 Fine and 48 hours to vacate campus housing