

RESIDENCE COMMUNITY STANDARDS

Living in residence is an opportunity to be part of a unique and dynamic community – one that is grounded in mutual respect, shared responsibility, and a commitment to personal and academic growth. The residence experience complements the broader mission of the University of Toronto by creating an environment where students can thrive socially and intellectually.

This document outlines the community standards that guide life in Residence. These expectations are rooted in the values of respect, inclusivity, and accountability, and are designed to support a safe, supportive, and engaging living environment for all residents. By choosing to live in residence, students agree to contribute positively to the community and uphold the standards that make it a welcoming and enriching place for everyone.

Community Standards

1. Noise

- a. Residents have the right to a reasonably quiet living environment while in residence.
- b. Residents have the right to a quiet environment during established quiet hours. Quiet hours are in effect from 11:00pm to 8:00am, Sunday night through Friday morning, and from 1:00am to 8:00am on Saturday and Sunday mornings (i.e., overnight on Friday and Saturday nights). During quiet hours, all noise must be kept to an absolute minimum.
- c. The use of subwoofers and other sound amplifying devices is not permitted in the residence.
- d. The playing of musical instruments is only permitted in music rooms designed for this purpose.

2. Roommates & Suitemates

- a. Residents are expected to participate in good faith in the creation, maintenance, and adherence to roommate and/or suitemate agreements throughout the term of their occupancy.
- b. In the event of a conflict, residents should first refer to their roommate or suitemate agreement and make a genuine effort to resolve concerns directly through respectful dialogue. Where issues persist, residents are expected to engage in mediation or facilitated discussions with the support of residence staff.
- c. All residents share responsibility for maintaining a respectful, cooperative, and considerate living environment within their shared unit or suite.

3. Guests

- a. Residents who invite guests to the residence assume complete responsibility for their actions and conduct while they are on the premises. Any loss, damage, or violation of residence policy by a guest is

the responsibility of the resident(s) hosting them.

- b. Residents must sign in guests at the residence front desk prior to entering the building at some of our residences. If required, guests must present a piece of valid photo identification at the service desk before being signed in. Guests who are unable to provide such identification will be refused entry to the building.
- c. Residents must accompany their guest(s) at all times. It remains the responsibility of all members of the residence community to notify residence staff should there be any concerns with guests.
- d. Residence staff may, at any time, choose to refuse entry to a guest and/or request that they leave residence property immediately.
- e. Residents may only host four (4) guests in residence at a time. Residents may host overnight guests in residence for up to three (3) consecutive nights and for no more than six (6) nights per month.
- f. Residents living in double occupancy bedrooms must have the permission of their roommate to have overnight guests.
- g. Guests and/or residents are not permitted to sleep in any of the building's common rooms or amenity spaces.

4. Fire Safety

- a. Residents will not tamper with fire equipment, including but not limited to fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, sprinkler heads, and fire doors.
- b. Open flames such as candles, incense, and sparklers are not permitted in residence. Residents who require the use of an open flame for religious or spiritual purposes should contact residence staff.
- c. Residents must use only CSA-certified (or equivalent) electrical devices, avoid overloading outlets or power bars, and take reasonable precautions to reduce fire risk, including proper use and storage of appliances.
- d. Cooking is not permitted in individual residence rooms, hallways, or lounges not specifically designed for such purpose. This includes the use of appliances such as electrical frying pans, toasters, ovens, microwaves, rice cookers, and any device with a heating element.
- e. When the fire alarm sounds, all residents are expected to immediately exit the building using the nearest emergency exit and gather at the identified muster point.
- f. Corridors, including those within suites, must remain free from obstruction.

5. Smoking

- a. Smoking and smoking-related activities (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, vaping, e-cigarettes, hookahs, and other smoking devices) are not permitted anywhere inside the residence, including resident rooms, suites, and common areas. Additionally, as a smoke-free campus, smoking is not permitted on any University of Toronto property.

6. Controlled Substances

- a. In accordance with provincial law, residents who choose to consume alcohol and/or cannabis must be at least 19 years of age. Residents under the age of 19 are not permitted to consume and/or possess alcohol and/or cannabis in residence.
- b. The provision of alcohol and/or cannabis to anyone under the age of 19 is prohibited.
- c. The residence front desk is unable to accept deliveries of alcohol and/or cannabis.
- d. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is only permitted in resident rooms and suites. The consumption of alcohol and conveyance of open alcoholic beverages in the common and public areas of residence is prohibited.
- e. Possession and/or consumption of “common source” alcohol (e.g., kegs, “Texas mickeys”) within residence is prohibited.
- f. Drinking games, funnels, and/or any event/activity/object that promotes excessive consumption and intoxication as its goal or inevitable end is not permitted.
- g. Residents must abide by the University of Toronto Alcohol Policy.
- h. Cannabis plants are not permitted in residence, nor is the preparation, production, or sale of cannabis and items containing cannabis.
- i. Residents are not permitted to store cannabis anywhere other than their bedroom.
- j. Residents who require the use of medical cannabis must register with Accessibility Services and consult with residence staff in order to develop an accommodation plan that meets their needs.
- k. Possession, use, and/or trafficking of illegal drugs and controlled substances is forbidden. The possession of drug paraphernalia in residence is not permitted.

7. Recreational Personal Mobility Devices

- a. Residents must not use or ride human-powered recreational personal mobility devices (e.g., bicycles, kick-scooters, rollerblades, skateboards, etc.) in residence.

- b. Electric-powered RPMDs (e.g., e-bikes, e-scooters, hoverboards, etc.) are not permitted in residence.

8. Photography & Video Recording

- a. Residents may not take photos or videos of others without the prior consent of anyone who may be captured. Personal photos or videos are permitted only when the primary subjects are the resident themselves or their invited guests.

9. Posters & Decorations

- a. Displaying any posters, materials, or objects in the windows the Residence is not permitted.
- b. All materials displayed in the residence must first be approved by the Residence.
- c. Any posters and/or decorations affixed in the residence must not cover or block any fire equipment, electrical outlets, lights, or any other such fixtures or means of egress.

10. Respect for Property

- a. Residents shall not destroy, steal, deface, or damage University property or the property of other residents.
- b. Removal of furnishings or other items belonging to the University from residence rooms or common areas within the residence is prohibited.
- c. Bringing outside furniture into the residence without receiving written permission to do so by the Residence.

11. Respect for People

- a. Abusive, profane, intimidating, threatening, or violent behaviour, real or perceived, toward any member of the residence community.
- b. Harassment and/or discrimination on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, marital status, receipt of public assistance, or record of offence;
- c. Any sexual act or act targeting a person's sexuality, gender identity or gender expression, whether the act is physical or psychological in nature, that is committed, threatened or attempted against a person without the person's consent, and includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, indecent exposure, voyeurism, and sexual exploitation.
- d. Residents are expected to respect and abide by decisions made by Residence staff in accordance with University and/or residence policies.

- e. Residents are required to respond to communication and meeting requests from Residence staff in a timely manner.
- f. Failing to or falsely identifying oneself or a guest to University staff.
- g. Any behaviour that compromises the safety or wellbeing of oneself or others.

12. Other Prohibited Behaviour

- a. The following behaviours are prohibited within residence:
 - i. Possession of firearms, ammunition, explosives (including fireworks, dynamite, firecrackers), or other weapons, including but not limited to bladed weapons, archery bows and arrows, slingshots, chainsaws, and homemade weapons, or any toy, replica, or decommissioned versions of the above weapons, in residence.
 - 1. Residents who require specialized equipment – such as a fencing sword – for a class or extracurricular activity must obtain written permission from the Residence before bringing it into the residence.
 - ii. Throwing or dropping objects from, at, or within the residences in such a manner that it may endanger the safety of others.
 - iii. Unauthorized entry into another resident's room or any restricted area including offices, rooftops, mechanical rooms, or other controlled-access spaces.
 - iv. Possession of any animal in residence for any duration of time, unless it is a Service Animal as defined in the University's Service Animals Guideline. Residents who own a Service Animal and wish to bring them to residence are encouraged to register with Accessibility Services and notify residence staff prior to arrival in residence.
 - v. Participating in or hosting gaming activities or games of chance that involve or promote the exchange, winning, or loss of money or goods.
 - vi. Commercial activities or operating a business venture of any kind.
 - vii. Soliciting, canvassing, electioneering, or selling within the residential floors of the residence unless there is expressed written consent from the Residence.

13. Other Standards

- a. Residents shall comply with all University policy including but not limited to the Code of Student Conduct and the Policy on Appropriate Use of Information and Communication Technology, including the Residence Network Usage Agreement.
- b. Any act that contravenes municipal, provincial, or federal law is strictly prohibited.

Investigations & Sanctions

When an apparent breach of the Occupancy Agreement and/or Community Standards occurs, it is typically documented by residence staff and forwarded to a member of the Residence Life team for consideration. They will review available documentation, gather additional information, and conduct interviews with anyone who may have information related to the investigation.

Upon conclusion of an investigation, residence staff will determine whether a violation of the Residence Occupancy Agreement and/or Community Standards has occurred, using the standard of balance of probabilities – meaning it is more likely than not that the alleged misconduct took place. If a resident is found responsible, an appropriate sanction will be determined and the resident will be informed of the outcome.

In those cases where the allegations of behaviour are serious and, if proven could constitute a personal safety threat to other members of the residence community, the Dean of Residence & Director of Student Life (the “Dean”) may feel it imperative for the resident concerned to comply with a variety of measures, which could include but is not limited to temporary relocation, temporary eviction, and/or other temporary limits, while the investigation occurs.

Sanctions

If a resident is found to have breached the Residence Community Standards or Occupancy Agreement, formal and/or supplementary sanctions may be imposed to address and deter such behaviour from recurring.

1. Formal Sanctions

- a. *Verbal Warning* – An informal conversation in which a resident is made aware that their behaviour is inappropriate or in violation of residence rules, and is advised to correct it moving forward.
- b. *Letter of Warning* – A written notice that formally documents the unacceptable behaviour and serves as a caution that further violations may result in more serious consequences.
- c. *Disciplinary Probation* – A formal sanction indicating that the resident is in serious violation of residence policies. During this period, the resident is expected to strictly comply with all rules, and any further misconduct may result in more severe penalties, including removal from residence.
- d. *Termination of Occupancy* – The most serious sanction, in which the resident’s right to live in residence is revoked, and they are required to vacate their room by a specified deadline due to a significant or repeated breaches of policy.

2. **Supplementary Sanctions** are additional measures that seek to promote accountability, education, or restitution. These include but are not limited to: apologies to wronged parties, educational sanctions, loss of residence privileges, room/building transfers, fines (see Appendix A), restitution of costs, required removal of offending property, refusal of readmission, suspension, and/or Behavioural Contract.

Appeals

Residents may appeal any decision made by residence staff pursuant to the Residence Community Standards and related policies. Appeals must be submitted in writing by email to the Associate Dean, Residence Life, within seven (7) calendar days of the date of the outcome letter. Decisions made by the Associate Dean, Residence Life, may be further appealed in writing to the Dean within the same timeframe.

Appeals will be considered only on the following grounds:

- there was a significant procedural error that impacted the outcome;
- the sanction imposed was disproportionate to the nature or severity of the violation(s); or
- new, relevant information has become available that could not reasonably have been presented earlier.

APPENDIX A: COMMON FINES

The following table outlines common fines that may be issued in response to violations of residence policies. Fines are considered supplementary sanctions and may be levied at the discretion of residence staff in addition to formal and/or other supplementary sanctions. The amounts listed are intended as guidelines and may vary depending on the severity, context, and frequency of the behaviour, as well as any mitigating or aggravating circumstances. Repeated or serious infractions may result in higher fines or additional disciplinary action.

Violation	Description	Typical Fine
Tampering with window/balcony mechanisms	Disabling, removing, or altering window restrictors, balcony locks, or other safety features.	\$100-400
Irresponsible activation of fire alarm	Causing a building-wide fire alarm due to negligent and/or prohibited behaviour.	\$300-500
Tampering with fire safety equipment	Covering, disabling, or tampering with smoke detectors, sprinklers, and/or fire extinguishers.	\$100-500
Smoking indoors	Smoking, vaping, or use of other prohibited inhaled substances inside the residence.	\$100-300
Failure to evacuate during a fire alarm	Not leaving the building immediately when a fire alarm sounds.	\$100
Lost key, access card, or fob	Replacement cost for lost key, fob, or access card.	\$30-100
Unauthorized room change	Moving without approval from residence staff.	\$100-250
Lending of keys, fobs, or meal cards	Lending or attempting to lend residence keys, fobs, or meal cards to others.	\$50
Frequent lockouts during desk closure	Repeatedly requiring assistance to gain access to one's room outside of service desk hours.	\$30
Failure to return a limited use key on time	Not returning a limited-use key within the time specified by residence staff.	\$30
Improper garbage disposal	Failure to sort or dispose of waste/recycling properly.	\$25-50
Prohibited item in room	Possession of banned items (e.g., appliances, candles).	\$25-50