

RESIDENCE HALL POLICIES

In addition to the following residence hall policies, residents are responsible for regulations outlined in the Student Handbook and the CNU Housing and Dining Services Contract. Please note these are subject to change at any time.

Advertising and Solicitation ([also see posting](#))

Bulletin boards are provided in hallways and common areas to keep residents informed of Residence Life and University activities. Residents may post information in approved posting areas on their floor as designated by their Resident Assistant (RA). Posting on other floors, in the lobby, and throughout the building must be approved by the Professional Live-In Staff (Hall Director or Area Coordinator) of that building. Approval will be limited to the promotion of recognized student organizations and advertisement of University approved events and activities.

Non-residents, clubs/organizations, and outside groups wishing to post in the halls must submit flyers to the Professional Live-In Staff for approval. Student Assembly approved flyers must also be approved by the Professional Live-In Staff before posting. Residence Life staff will then post the flyers within two business days. Posting on main lobby doors, community windows, floors, ceilings and building exteriors is prohibited. Material that is inappropriately posted will be taken down.

Door-to-door solicitation in the residence halls is prohibited. This includes solicitations for charitable donations or door-to-door advertising and solicitation by University student organizations. Solicitation in the lobby or lounge areas requires prior approval from the Professional Live-In Staff and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Student rooms may not be used as a place of business.

Student organizations may request to leave a donation box in Residence Hall lobbies for philanthropic activity. A request form is available in the Office of Residence Life and at each residence hall front desk. Requests must be submitted a minimum of one week in advance to the Residence Life Office. The request must include a point of contact and include dates of collection. The collection time period may not exceed 7 days. If approved, the Office of Residence Life and staff are not responsible for monitoring the box or donated items. The box must be visually appealing and clearly labeled. There must be a student who is a member of the organization or otherwise affiliated with the organization who resides in the building to take responsibility for the donation box. Residence Life cannot grant access to a non-resident to the building without a host.

Alcohol ([see prohibited items](#))

Amplification ([also see noise](#))

Placing stereo speakers or other sound amplification devices in windows, doorways, and common areas is prohibited unless for an approved event. Volume should be maintained at a

Contract extension may be denied or revoked if deemed necessary or appropriate. University Housing and Residence Life reserve the right to refuse contract extension requests as administratively necessary.

Please note that regular meal plans are not active during contract extension periods.

Cooking ([also see prohibited items](#))

Cooking is a leading cause of residential fires and is a major concern in university housing. Not only is it dangerous, but it can lead to great inconvenience and frustration when fire alarms are triggered accidentally from cooking food. Never leave cooking food unattended.

Damages

Residents are responsible for damages they cause to their room and room furnishings. For shared room items and space, roommates will divide the cost of repair or replacement equally, unless one roommate accepts full responsibility in writing. Residents are also collectively responsible for the condition of the common areas of their residence hall community (hallways, lounges, stairwells, laundry rooms, etc.). If individuals responsible for damages to common areas cannot be identified, residents of that unit, floor, wing or building may share the cost. Those residents found to be responsible for intentional damage or vandalism may be removed from housing. Anyone who accidentally causes damage in the residence hall is expected to take responsibility and explain the situation to a Residence Life staff member immediately.

Decorating ([also see prohibited items](#))

Residents interested in decorating their rooms must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Fire safety equipment must remain intact and uncovered ([also see fire safety regulations](#).)
- Tapestries, posters and other large wall coverings may not be hung from or across the ceiling; these materials may not cover over 50% of the aggregate wall space within the room; all items must have a clearance of 24 inches from the ceiling and at least 36 inches from any fire protection device.
- Decorations must not obstruct exits or access to fire safety equipment.
- Decorations, such as curtains, may be hung only if they meet Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code guidelines and NFPA 701 flame spread rating (flame retardant).
- No bookshelves, lamps, or other furnishings may be affixed to walls or ceilings.
- Decorative and holiday lights must be UL approved. Each string must have a direct connection to an outlet and may not be "daisy chained" or plugged end-to-end. They may not be left on unattended. They may not be strung through doorways or windows. Lava Lamps are prohibited.
- Live garland, wreaths, or trees are prohibited in residence hall rooms.
- Rooms may not be painted.
- Writing, painting, or using stickers and decals on doors, walls, or ceilings is prohibited.

- Residents are encouraged to use great care when hanging posters or decorations on the walls so as not to cause damage. Screws and nails may not be used to hang items. Residents may be billed for any damage their decorations leave.
- Obscene or patently offensive material may not be displayed in windows or on doors facing public areas. Residents may be asked to remove such materials from public view. When sharing space, roommates should be respectful and considerate of each other's feelings about posted material. ([also see posting.](#))

Drugs ([see prohibited items](#))

Elevators

Elevator doors should not be blocked or held open manually. Doing so damages the elevator and may inconvenience the community. Elevator malfunctions should be reported to the front desk or office immediately. It is expected that residents and guests maintain the cleanliness of the elevators as they would any other common area of the building. The bell and the phone in the elevator are designed to alert staff and University Police should an individual become entrapped. They should not be used in jest or for pranks. Misuse of the elevators may result in judicial action.

Emergencies

Students requiring assistance should contact the RA, front desk or University Police.

Emergencies requiring immediate assistance may include loss of electrical power, flood, fire, theft, assault or attempted assault, personal crisis, or injury.

Residents will be asked to submit a student information card annually which is kept on file and used to assist University staff in case of emergency response needs. All information is kept private and accessible to staff only. Medical information may be shared with emergency personnel if requested to assist in care of the student. All information shared by the student with university staff is optional.

Fire Alarms, Drills and Evacuation ([see fire safety](#))

Furniture

[Also see: Addendum: Policy modifications related to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic](#)

Residents are encouraged to arrange the furniture in their personal space to create a comfortable living environment. Residents may bring in additional furniture but are prohibited from removing university furnishings from their room. Any furniture brought into the room must comply with health and fire safety regulations. Students may be required to move or remove any furniture which causes concern in these areas. Additionally, all other university furnishings must remain in their original location. This requirement prohibits residents from swapping

Obscene and Indecent Behavior

Behavior or activities determined by residence hall policy or the University Student Code of Conduct as obscene or indecent are prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: public nudity, stripping, mooning, flashing, and streaking.

Pets ([also see prohibited items](#))

Residents may have fish for pets provided the tank does not exceed 10 gallons in size. All other pets (or stray animals) are prohibited and may not visit or stay in the room or apartment for any period of time. Residents found in violation of the pet policy will be referred for judicial action. Additional damage and cleaning charges may apply and become the responsibility of the student if found responsible for violation of the policy. Any animal not officially approved by the Office of Student Affairs as a service or support animal will be defined as a "Pet."

Service Animals

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, a service animal is an animal (usually a dog) that has been individually trained to perform disability-related tasks or work for the benefit of a person with a disability. Residential students requiring the assistance of a service animal must submit requests for approval through the Office of Student Affairs and provide proper documentation prior to arrival at the University.

Support Animals

Students may request the assistance of a support animal by submitting proper documentation through the Office of Student Affairs. These animals are restricted to residence hall in which the owner is assigned and must be approved through the request for accommodation process. Students should refer to the University Emotional Support Policy for additional guidance.

Posting ([also see advertising](#))

Decorations may be posted on the exterior of an individual room or apartment door provided the materials cover no more than 10% of the aggregate surface. Posting of profanity or obscenities is not permitted in public areas. This includes, but is not limited to, room doors facing public areas, windows, and common areas. Residents may be asked to remove postings from these common or public spaces and may be referred for judicial action. When posting in private rooms, residents should take into consideration the perceptions and interpretations of roommates, guests, and those who may be able to view the materials at any time. Residence Life desires to respect the rights of all individuals as well as develop a sense of understanding for differing perspectives.