RESIDENCE HALL REGULATIONS

These are implementing regulations, based on American University’s Student Conduct Code, and are incorporated as an addendum to that document. Violations of these regulations may result in referral to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution Services for review and appropriate action. The residence halls include the halls and any areas contiguous to the halls, as well as properties managed by AU Housing & Residence Life to include the Frequency apartments. Engaging in prohibited conduct may be a violation of both the Student Conduct Code and the Residence Hall Regulations.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGE

Residents will be held responsible for damage to residence hall buildings and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life, or furniture and will be billed for repair or replacement where they have caused damage in their own rooms or in common areas. In the event of willful damage to the common areas located in the immediate vicinity of a student’s room, or to the furnishings or facilities located therein, if the willful perpetrators of such damage cannot be identified, all resident students served by that common area may be assessed for repair or replacement costs.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR GUESTS

Residents will be held responsible for the behavior of their guests and any other persons in their residence hall rooms, pertaining to the regulations for conduct at American University, and may be charged in lieu of the guest or visitor with violating the respective sections of these policies.

The following conduct is expressly prohibited:

I. RELATED TO RESIDENCE HALL SAFETY AND SECURITY

1. To enter any residence hall and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life without swiping an access card and/or showing an access card or proper identification to a Housing & Residence Life staff member, or upon the request of a staff member.

2. To allow a guest to enter any residence hall and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life, unescorted or to permit any non-affiliated individuals to enter a residence hall and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life without expressed permission from a Housing & Residence Life staff member.

3. To open, prop, or block fire or other exit/outside doors without the permission of a Housing & Residence Life staff member, except during a fire alarm.

4. To sound any elevator alarm bell without due cause, or to interfere with the normal operation of elevators.

5. To duplicate any university issued keys or access cards.

6. To distribute or share any university issued key including mail keys or AU One Cards.
7. To fail to return a spare key or access card within 10 minutes of signing it out at the front desk.

8. To enter or exit the residence hall and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life, through a window, unless in response to an emergency.

9. To enter restricted areas including, but not limited to building roofs and reception desks in any residence hall, and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life, without authorization from the community director.

10. To drop or throw any object or any liquid from windows.

11. To possess weapons or dangerous materials, including but not limited to firearms, air or CO2-powered weapons, and fireworks in any residence hall and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life.

12. Residents are expected to abide by posted occupancy limitations in all residential spaces. For current occupancy limits in private residential spaces such as rooms and suites https://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/policies-procedures.cfm

II. RELATED TO FIRE CODES

1. To set a fire inside a residential building and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life, or in areas contiguous buildings.

2. To use any appliances in student rooms, on carpeted floors, in hallways, or other non-designated areas that have an external or exposed heating source, as outlined on the Housing & Residence Life prohibited items listed found here: (https://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/packing.cfm).

3. To place in a residence hall room and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life any refrigerator larger than 4.5 cubic ft. in size.

4. To cook indoors with charcoal or any open flame device.

5. To possess or burn any candle or incense indoors.

6. To fail to immediately and properly evacuate the buildings when a fire alarm sounds, or to reenter any evacuated building before receiving permission from a Housing and Residence Life or AUPD staff member.

7. To tamper with fire equipment, or to carry or remove fire extinguishers from their mounts or storage boxes, except in case of a fire.

8. To pull or activate any fire alarm when no fire is present, or to falsely report a fire or other emergency.

9. To fail to plug electronic equipment and heat-producing appliances directly into electrical outlets and to fail to use UL-approved surge protectors/power strips for all other items requiring electricity.

10. To tamper with any smoke detector.

11. To run electrical wires beneath any rug or carpet.
12. To smoke or vape in any residence hall room, or residential space and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life, including but not limited to stairwells, lobbies, or any space not designated for smoking.

III. RELATED TO PROPERTY

1. To remove furniture from any bedroom, living unit, or general floor common area without authorization of housing staff.

2. To place waterbeds in student rooms.

3. To keep any pet, except fish, in student rooms. Fish must be fresh water and contained in tanks no larger than 10 gallons.

4. To mark, deface, steal, harbor, or damage any property belonging to the university, any hall, resident, or commercial vendor (such as doors, walls, carpet, vending machines, video games, washing machines, dryers, telephone equipment, ceiling tiles, etc.).

5. To make material alterations to an assigned residential space and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life.

IV. RELATED TO COMMUNITY DISRUPTION

1. To engage in any disorderly conduct or to interfere with the rights of other students. This specifically and especially pertains to other residents’ rights to an environment conducive to study and to sleep.

2. To engage in sports activity within the residence halls or within 50 feet of any residence hall.

3. To create excessive noise by any means. This includes creating excessive noise within 50 feet of any residence hall, shouting or creating disturbances from any residence hall window, playing loudspeakers through room windows at any time, noise audible outside a student room or in public areas, especially, but not limited to during quiet hours. The following times are considered quiet hours: Sunday through Thursday (11pm-8am) and Friday-Saturday (1am-8am).

4. To refuse to follow a directive from a Housing & Residence Life staff member when acting in the performance of his or her duties.

5. To solicit, canvass, post, or distribute any materials within the residence halls and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life without the approval of the community director or to violate the university or residence hall posting policies.

6. To run, operate or solicit business in university housing and/or property operated by AU Housing & Residence Life.

7. To fail to comply with any Health and Safety guidelines or directives published by the university related to the Communicable Disease policy.