RCLS
RESIDENCE COMMUNITY
LIVING STANDARDS

2019-2020 STUDENT HOUSING
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
Hello!

Your roommate, your best friend, your mentor, and maybe even your life partner are all people you will meet by living in residence! Meeting new people, adjusting to University, and living with others will be a lot of fun, but it can also be challenging at times. That’s why residence is so great, because there are people all around to support YOU and your academic success. The Residence Life Staff are a tremendous resource for you, so take full advantage... remember, they were once first-year students like you!

Learning and Community
You will learn a lot living in residence! You will learn how to share a common space, how to negotiate with a roommate, what a “boogie” is, ways to manage your time, appreciate different perspectives, and what it means to be a part of a community!

Our Philosophy
We know that mistakes will happen and, while we deal with serious issues in a manner appropriate to the behaviour, in most situations our goals with the conduct system are to help students:
• Learn appropriate behaviours
• Restore the situation by repairing harms
• Re-connect by rebuilding trust

To learn more about our approach and Restorative Justice philosophy; check out the Process section.

As a member of a residence community, you have agreed to contribute to this type of learning environment and abide by a set of expectations to support community living. This type of living environment is not for everyone. This document outlines standards to help support you and others to have a fantastic experience in residence this year.

Connect with us
We want to hear from you and answer any questions you may have. If we don’t know the answer we will get one for you. For general inquiries, visit Student Housing Services in Maritime Hall (8:30 am - 4:45 pm) or e-mail reslife@uoguelph.ca.

For questions regarding the Residence Community Living Standards (RCLS), contact the Residence Behaviour and Wellness Manager at rezrules@uoguelph.ca.

Residence Life Management, Assistant Residence Life Management offices and Residence Service Desks are located throughout our buildings. Check out our website for details.

Community Living
Community living works best when the rights of others are respected and individuals take responsibility for their actions. In a nutshell, they are as follows:

You Have the Right
• To an environment that is conducive to learning, wellness and academics
• To have your person, property and views respected
• To feel safe and secure in your residence community
• To be treated fairly and have an unbiased conduct process

You Have the Responsibility
• Not to contribute, condone or act in a way that infringes upon another student’s rights
• To treat all members of the residence community with respect
• To act in a responsible manner that does not compromise your own safety or endanger the health and safety of others
• To read, understand and abide by the Residence Contract, the RCLS and the University’s Policy on Non-Academic Misconduct

As a Resident, Student Housing Services Requires That You:
• Check and respond to your U of G email account regularly
• Follow all rules and regulations as established by Student Housing Services
• Follow all administrative procedures such as room check outs and lock outs
• Carry your University of Guelph student identification with you

We Ask That You:
• Obtain content insurance to safeguard belongings
• Report concerning behaviour, damages or safety concerns to the Residence Life Staff, Desk Staff or Campus Community Police
• You must be of legal age to possess or consume alcohol and/or cannabis in residence (outside of Orientation Week).
• Drinking games & activities that encourage the rapid consumption of alcohol are not permitted.
• Trafficking or distribution of cannabis or illegal drugs may lead to eviction.
• Tampering with any fire safety equipment threatens the life and safety of others and may lead to a $500 fine and/or eviction.
• Cooperation with staff is expected.
• Parties with alcohol and loud music are not permitted.
• Quiet hours start at 1:00 am on Friday & Saturday nights.
• Residents are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their guests.
• Residents found on any roof may be evicted.

TO ACCESS RLS ON CALL, CONTACT YOUR DESK: 519-824-4120

NORTH X 58122 OPEN 24 HOURS
SOUTH X 58123 OPEN 24 HOURS
EAST X 58124 OPEN UNTIL 12 MIDNIGHT

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, CONTACT CAMPUS COMMUNITY POLICE AT 519-840-5000.
Students who wish to request special consideration with respect to a accommodation request. In order to ensure clarity as to this exception and Living Standards, may be made to meet a medical, religious or cultural social, and academic success of students who live in residence. Exceptions Student Housing Services (SHS) is committed to supporting the personal, indicated by an asterisks * . These RCLS may be associated with common The RCLS which also fall under the Policy on Non Academic Misconduct are Security, and Dignity & Integrity. The RCLS also encourage you to take responsibility for your actions to ensure that everyone in residence has a safe and enjoyable experience. If you have any questions regarding the RCLS (please contact us at reslife@uoguelph.ca) or speak to your (Assistant) Residence Life Manager.

RESIDENCE COMMUNITY LIVING STANDARDS (RCLS)

Behaviour that does not comply with our RCLS will typically be followed up by the Residence Life Staff (RLS). The RLS will identify any problematic behaviour and will take steps to resolve or document the incident. Additional information on how we address and resolve behaviour that does not comply with the RCLS is outlined in the Process section.

CANNABIS CONSUMPTION – ORIENTATION WEEK

Alcohol must be transported in a closed (original or sealed) container. Rooms/lounges. Alcohol consumption is prohibited on street level, residence desk areas, lobbies, foyers, elevators, stairwells, hallways, washrooms and common areas only. Alcohol consumption is prohibited in private and designated areas. Alcohol consumption is prohibited on street level, residence desk areas, lobbies, foyers, elevators, stairwells, hallways, washrooms and common areas/rooms/suites. Alcohol must be transported in a closed (original or sealed) container.

CANNABIS CONSUMPTION – ORIENTATION WEEK

Residence students of legal age may consume alcohol in private and designated areas only. Alcohol consumption is prohibited on street level, residence desk areas, lobbies, foyers, elevators, stairwells, hallways, washrooms and common areas/rooms/suites. Alcohol must be transported in a closed (original or sealed)

Mass Consumption

Drinking Games and other activities that result in the swill or high volume consumption of alcohol are prohibited in residence. Possession or consumption from an ‘common source alcohol’, or large volume alcohol container is also prohibited. Some examples of ‘common source alcohol’ include bubbas, kegs of any size and Texas Mikkels.

OPEN ALCOHOL*

Residence students of legal age may consume alcohol in private and designated areas only. Alcohol consumption is prohibited on street level, residence desk areas, lobbies, foyers, elevators, stairwells, hallways, washrooms and common areas/rooms/suites. Alcohol must be transported in a closed (original or sealed) container.
FIRE SAFETY

Behaviour which endangers the safety of others (e.g. tampering with a smoke detector, not evacuating during a fire alarm) is prohibited.

FAILUAKLE TO EVACUATE

All students and guests are required to evacuate the building at the time of a fire alarm.

FLAMMABLE MATERIALS

The use or possession of explosive or flammable material is not permitted in residence buildings (e.g. fireworks and propane/gasoline tanks). BBQs are only permitted at East Village Townhouses and must be located three (3) meters away from the building and meet required standards.

FIRE SAFETY EQUIPMENT & FIRES *

Discharging, tampering with or operating any fire prevention or detection equipment for any purpose other than the control of fire is strictly prohibited. Such equipment includes fire extinguishers, pull stations, alarms and smoke and heat detectors. Tampering with fire safety equipment will typically result in a $100 fine and/or evacuation. Any negligent or intentional fire started by any person can lead to a resident’s immediate eviction.

SMOKING *

Our campus community is tobacco and smoke free. Use of e-cigarettes, vaping, or use of any tobacco products (e.g. chew, dip, shisha, etc) is not permitted in residence or on campus. FULL POLICY.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Behaviour that jeopardizes or has the potential to jeopardize the safety & security of oneself, others or a residence community is prohibited.

DOOR PROPPING & INAPPROPRIATE USE

Any attempt to prop exterior residence doors or tamper with perimeter equipment doors is not permitted. Students are expected to abide by the access hours/restricted use posted on exterior residence doors and use main doors for entry and exit.

RESTRICTED OR UNAUTHORIZED AREAS *

Residents are not permitted in restricted or unauthorized areas (except in emergencies). For example, students found on a roof, restricted balconies, tunnels, attics, or on another resident’s room may be evicted.

DIGNITY & INTEGRITY

Behaviour that has the potential to or causes bodily harm, interference, fear or intimidation is not permitted. FULL POLICY.

CIVILITY

Residents must not intimidate, interfere with, threaten or otherwise obstruct any person, including Residence Life Staff.

DISCRIMINATION *

Any conduct that results in adverse treatment of an individual or group based on race, gender, origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, ability or other human right protected grounds, is strictly prohibited.

HATE ACTIVITY *

Any comments or actions against a person or group motivated by bias, prejudice or hate based on any individual right or protection (e.g. race, ancestry, religion, sex, age, marital status etc.) is prohibited within residence. This includes but is not limited to, hate crime, hate propaganda, telephone/electronic communications promoting hate, and the display of hate through any notice, poster, sign, symbol or emblem.

HARASSMENT *

Any attention or conduct (oral, written, virtual, or physical) by an individual/group who knows or ought to reasonably know that such attention or conduct is unwelcome, unwanted, offensive or intimidating is not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, bullying, harassing, or racist slurs.

GRAPHIC MATERIALS

Displaying pornographic or graphic material in public areas, common areas, or where it is visible to the residence community or public is prohibited.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE *

Sexual Violence is any sexual act or acts 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 or group who knows or ought to reasonably know that such attention or conduct is unwelcome, unwanted, offensive or intimidating is not permitted. Any form of Sexual Violence will not be tolerated within residence and can face severe consequences such as eviction.

VIOLENCE *

Physical aggression (consensual or not) will not be tolerated. Residents are strongly encouraged to vacate the premises and call for assistance when encountering violent situations. Any student who engages in physically aggressive behaviour, regardless of the intention, can face severe consequences such as eviction.

BUILDING CARE

Actions that have the potential to or cause damage to a residence building or compromise services provided by Student Housing Services are not permitted.

CLEANLINESS STANDARDS

Students are expected to keep their rooms/units and shared living areas clean and at a standard acceptable to Student Housing Services to avoid issues such as pests, bed bugs, and irritants to others. For example, removing garbage in a timely manner is required.

EQUIPMENT STORAGE

Students are not to store any personal belongings or room property in common/shared living areas (e.g. bicycles, hockey equipment, musical instruments or items of furniture).

PETS

Pets are not permitted in residence with the exception of non-poisonous fish in small aquarium and service animals that have been approved by the Director of Student Housing Services.

POSTERING & DECORATING

Residents are permitted to poster/decorate in designated areas provided it is in accordance with the DS6 Poster Policy.

PROPERTY DAMAGE *

Acts of vandalism are prohibited in residence. Residents are encouraged to come forward with information when accidental or intentional damage to property occurs.

PROHIBITED ITEMS & USE

Lil candles/incense, air conditioning units, hoverboards and helium balloons are not permitted. Students who require candles/incense for religious purposes should contact your RLM. Electrical or other cooking appliances (e.g. toaster, hot plates) are permitted only in areas with approved kitchen facilities. Prohibited items may be confiscated.

REMOVAL OF STUDENT HOUSING PROPERTY *

Removing, unloading, and/or relocating furniture or other items from lounges, residence areas and any common living areas is not permitted.

SOLICITATION

Residents are not permitted to use any space or service in residence for commercial purposes (e.g. profit-driven activities, promoting goods or services and/or hosting events which are intended to promote/self sell).

TELECOMMUNICATIONS & PIRACY

Students are to comply with the University’s Acceptable Use Policy and the ResNet Computing Agreement. Residents shall not install unmonitored internal routes, wires, cables or other electronic connections between rooms, in hallways or outside buildings between windows.

MOCk RESIDENCE BURN

How fast do you think fire moves? How much time do you have to evacuate your residence room? The answer might surprise you. Check out the video above or the live Mock Residence Burn demonstration during Orientation Week.

UNAUTHORIZED KEY POSSESSION/USE *

Residents are not permitted to copy, lend or be in the possession of unauthorized keys, fobs or student IDs.

THEFT *

Possession of another person’s or University property without permission is prohibited.

WEAPONS *

Firearms or any other weapons or items that are created or intended to cause harm, could be seen as intimidating or mistaken for a weapon are strictly prohibited. Examples include, but are not limited to, restricted weapons, fencing foils, ceremonial or decorative swords, air soft guns and paintball guns.

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WHAT HAPPENS IF I VIOLATE A RESIDENCE COMMUNITY LIVING STANDARD?

WE’LL TALK WITH YOU
In most cases when there is behaviour that may not comply with the RCLS you will be approached by one of our Residence Life Staff. They will talk with you about the problematic behaviour (i.e. if your music is too loud) and ask you to make adjustments so that your behaviour isn’t impacting others in a negative way.

WE WORK TO FIND A RESOLUTION
If the situation is resolved quickly and readily then the RLS may just say THANKS! In some cases, the Residence Life Staff will need to ensure that the behaviour stops, you understand how others may have been impacted, and there is agreement from you that it will not continue in the future. In these situations, the Residence Life Staff will work with you to develop a resolution and will then summarize the conversation as a Community Resolution which you will receive via your University of Guelph email account. If this attempt fails or the situation cannot be resolved then the RLS will complete an Incident Report.

WHAT IS AN INCIDENT REPORT?
There are, of course, situations that the Residence Life Staff cannot resolve quickly as they require more time, information, or support. For these incidents, the Residence Life Staff will document the facts in an Incident Report. You will be sent a link to access any Incident Report(s) and will be given the opportunity to respond. An Incident Report is then reviewed, typically by a member of Residence Life Management Team (such as Bhavya and Sam).

HOW IS A DECISION MADE?
Upon reviewing the facts documented in an Incident Report, a meeting may be requested (by either party), or further information may be gathered. You are always encouraged to express your point of view. A meeting is typically used to discuss what happened, who was impacted and how to move forward. Decisions may take into consideration your acceptance of responsibility, intent of actions and prior residence behaviour.

AM I NOTIFIED IN WRITING WHEN A RCLS IS VIOLATED?
Yes, you will receive a link to access Community Resolutions, Incident Reports, and any decisions to your University of Guelph email account.

WHAT DOES A RESTORATIVE APPROACH MEAN?
Our primary goal is to help you learn from behaviour that has had an impact on others (i.e. harms) and to “make things right” by repairing harms and rebuilding trust within the community. RLS will always try through their conversations to understand what harms may have been created and how things can be mended, or made right. Ultimately, we want students to learn and for communities to grow.

WHAT IS A CIRCLE?
A circle is a process that RLS may use to address community concerns or restore a situation. It looks as it sounds: those students who were both affected and responsible come together to discuss community experiences and issues in order to find a resolution and move forward.

Check out our website to learn more about Restorative Justice and our approach.

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OUTCOMES

WHAT WILL THE DECISION BE?
Our hope is that students will learn from mistakes, work to repair any negative impact from problematic behaviour and rebuild trust in the community. In order to accomplish these goals, one or more of the outcomes listed below may be used.

POSSIBLE OUTCOMES

BEHAVIOUR CONTRACT:
A set of behaviour expectations or conditions that are determined with the student.

CONFINEMENT OF PROPERTY:
Items which do not comply with the Residence Community Living Standards may be confiscated or destroyed as per the Confiscation of Property Policy.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY:
An opportunity to learn, develop, reflect or make amends (eg. Community Service hours, projects, interactive seminar, online workshop or reflective assignment).

EVICTION:
The termination of a student’s Residence Contract requiring them to vacate residence by a specific date or immediately, if deemed necessary by Student Housing Services. Other conditions including posting may apply.

LOSS OF PRIVILEGES:
Specific privileges may be suspended or revoked for a given time period (ie. access to lounges, hosting a guest, consuming alcohol in residence). A loss of privilege may also be associated with a probation period in which any subsequent violations may result in further action, including revocation of privileges or sanctions from the University Judicial Committee.

CONFISCATION OF PROPERTY:
Items which do not comply with the Residence Community Living Standards; b) University policies and regulations; and/or c) Federal, Provincial and Municipal laws may result in staff addressing problematic behaviour.

POSTING:
A student’s prior behaviour (including prior Community Resolutions or Incident Reports) is considered when outcomes are issued. Outcomes are progressive as violations of the RCLS occur. Prior behaviour in residence may also be considered at University Judicial Committee hearings.

MONETARY SANCTIONS:
Includes fines and conditional fines which are placed on a resident’s account. Monetary sanctions range from $25 to $500.

What will the student do to make amends for their actions?
Our hope is that students will learn from mistakes, work to repair any negative impact from problematic behaviour and rebuild trust in the community. Students receive one appeal route only per decision. All appeal outcomes are final and cannot be appealed further. For additional information on appeals please visit our website.

RIGHT TO APPEAL
Once you receive your decision and if you wish to appeal, you must submit a written appeal to the Residence Behaviour and Wellness Manager (RBWM) within three (3) business days of receiving the decision letter. Your letter of appeal must be based on the following grounds:

- A lack of procedural fairness;
- The outcome is unreasonable given the behaviour involved;
- New information has come to light that was unavailable at the time of the original decision.

Upon receiving your appeal, a meeting will be arranged with the RBWM to discuss the contents of your appeal and possible resolutions. The RBWM will then work with you to discuss all options available to pursue your appeal.

Students receive one appeal route only per decision. All appeal outcomes are final and cannot be appealed further. For additional information on appeals please visit our website.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RIGHT TO APPEAL

ON NOTICE:
A status to inform students that their behaviour or conduct history is unacceptable. Generally used for less serious incidents or for students who have prior Community Resolutions or Incident Reports. Normally, if a student is On Notice and there is repeated subsequent behaviour, the student may be placed on Residence Probation.

PROBATION (RESIDENCE & NON- ACADEMIC):
Is a formal status, typically imposed for one or more semesters. During the probation period, privileges (eg. alcohol, guests) may be lost and any subsequent violations may result in further action, including revocation of privileges or sanctions from the University Judicial Committee.

RESTITUTION & COMMUNITY BILLING:
Is a monetary reimbursement for actual damages or loss of University or personal property.

SUSPENSION:
A period of time where a student is temporarily prohibited from residing in residence space and is posted from all residences.

TRANSFER:
When a resident is required to relocate to an alternative residence or room (room costs will be applied).

WRITTEN APOLOGY:
An expression of remorse for an action or behaviour that includes a commitment to make amends to those impacted and change in behaviour in the future.

INDIVIDUAL & PROCESS PROTECTIONS

STANDARD OF PROOF
The model used within the Residence Community Living Standards is a balance of probabilities. If, after all credible information has been heard, the Student Housing Services’ personnel involved believe that the resident is more likely to have occurred than not and there is reasonable proof that the person(s) responsible can be determined, then the standard of proof has been met.

AUTHORITY
The RCLS are governed by Student Housing Services under the authority of the University of Guelph and in accordance with the Policy on Non-Academic Misconduct. Any behaviour by a resident or individual within a defined Residence Area that does not comply with the Residence Community Living Standards; b) University policies and regulations; and/or c) Federal, Provincial and Municipal laws may result in staff addressing problematic behaviour.

PRIOR BEHAVIOUR
A resident’s prior behaviour (including prior Community Resolutions or Incident Reports) is considered when outcomes are issued. Outcomes are progressive as violations of the RCLS occur. Prior behaviour in residence may also be considered at University Judicial Committee hearings.

RESIDENCE CONTRACT
Serves as the overarching document that defines the relationship between the student and Student Housing Services.
For more information, e-mail rezrules@uoguelph.ca or check out our web- 
apon an appeal of a residence violation. The RCIB is a panel of residence students trained to consider and decide looking to get involved in residence? We want you! EMERGENCY CONTACT By providing Student Housing Services with your emergency contact information on your application, you authorize the University to communicate with you in the event of an emergency as determined by the University or Student Housing Services. EMERGENCY SERVICES • Campus Community Police is the University’s police service; call 519-824-4120 or x52245 for general inquiries or 519-840-5000 for emergencies. • Emergency poles with a blue light and emergency telephones are located around campus. • Safewalk is an after-hours walk-home program available at x52100. • Dial x2000 from any residence yellow call box. PHOTO IDENTIFICATION BADGES All Student Housing Services staff working in the residences are required to display photo identification badges while in the residence buildings. SEXUAL VIOLENCE TALK TO: • Someone you trust (friend, relative, roommate or counsellor) A member of the Residence Life Staff (RA or Residence Life Manager) CONTACT: • Sexual Violence Support Services x51020 or svinfo@uoguelph.ca • Campus Community Police x52245 or local police • Guelph-Wellington Women In Crisis (1-800) 265-SAFE (24hrs/7days) • Student Health Services x56046 • The Wellness Centre x53020 or svinfo@uoguelph.ca • Guelph Community Police x52245 or local police • Sexual Violence Support Services x51020 or svinfo@uoguelph.ca • Your local hospital • The Wellness Centre x56046 VISIT: • The Sexual Assault Care & Treatment Centre (519) 837-6440 x2210 located at Guelph General Hospital • Your local hospital View more on Sexual Violence on our website. ADMINISTRATIVE FEES Residents must check out of residence as per guidelines outlined by Student Housing Services. The following are fees that may be applied: Improper Checkout $125.00 Lock Change $75.00 Abandoned Property Permision $25.00 Key Sign Out (after 3 per semester) $5.00 Late Extension Requests $20.00 Late Key RETURN $20.00 * Fees are not inclusive of all fees that may be applied. Additional fees and administrative policies are available on our website. DEFINITIONS BEER BOTTLES: A glass beer bottle is defined as a glass container that contains any alcoholic beverage considered to be a ‘beer’, ‘lager’, ‘draft beer’, ‘ale’ or ‘ale’. CONDITIONAL FINE: Act as a guarantee for future behaviour and is removed if there are no subsequent violations of the RCLS. CONSIDERATION HOURS: Consideration Hours are in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. An individual’s right to reasonable quiet supersedes another’s desire to make noise. COMMUNITY BULLYING: When vandalism occurs and cannot be attributed to a specific individual, the incurred damage costs are split among the residents of the floor/ building where the incident occurred. COMMUNITY RESOLUTION: If an incident is not of a serious nature AND can be resolved readily by staff, the RLS will facilitate and engage in restorative conversations and discussions around harm. A community resolution includes expectations for future behaviour. DRUG SUSPICION: Is defined as specific and direct observations regarding the physical surroundings or the behaviour, speech, or smell of an illegal drug. GUEST: A guest is a non-resident of the building who is associated with a host- resident (i.e. registered, let into the building, provided access etc.) HATE ACTIVITY: Any comments or actions against a person or group motivated by bias, prejudice or hate based on any individual right or protection (e.g. race, ancestry, religion, sex, age, marital status etc.), is prohibited within residence. This includes but is not limited to, hate crime, hate propaganda, telephone/electronic communications promoting hate, and the display of hate through any notice, poster, sign, symbol or emblem. PHYSICAL AGGRESSION: Any offensive or defensive action or attack that results in an individual being compromised. These behaviours include, but are not limited to, hitting, punching, slapping, kicking, poking, pulling, fighting, intimidation, sexual assault, and threats of violence. PROBATION STATUS: Alcohol Probation is a status that restricts an individual’s privilege of consuming, possessing or being under the influence of alcohol. Guest Probation indicates that an individual is not permitted the privilege of hosting guests in residence. Non-Academic Probation is a status under the Policy of Non-Academic Misconduct which indicates that further violations may result in additional outcomes such as Level II Non-Academic Probation or suspension/expulsion from the University. Typically Non-Academic Probation is only applied to non-residence students who are within a residence zone, significant violations, or for violations that occur towards the end of the Residence Contract. Residence Probation is a status that indicates that further infractions of the RCLS may result in eviction from residence. SEXUAL HARASSMENT: Any sexual comment, sexualized attention or behaviour that is inappropriate or unwelcome. Examples of sexual harassment can include displaying pornographic images, saying “no” and having another resident continually ask you out or contact you, or being harassed about your sexual orientation. SEXUAL VIOLENCE: Any sexual act or 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. Sexual violence can also include coercing or pressuring someone to have sex and/or sexual contact with someone who is incapacitated or sleeping. UNINVITED PERSON: A non-resident of a building who is present in a residence area without a host-resident will be required to vacate residence (at minimum). VANDALISM: Is defined as the intentional or malicious destruction or defacement of public or private property.