

The Residence Community Standards (RCS) help sustain a constructive, experience in a civil, inclusive, and supportive environment that promotes community and academic excellence. The RCS outline various expectations for residents concerning behaviour, and potential consequences if they are found responsible for violating the community standards.

The Agreement

The RCS is incorporated into the Residence/Tenancy Agreement which is a legal contract between a resident and the university. All residents are required to comply with the RCS. Ignorance of the Residence/Tenancy Agreement or RCS is not an excuse.

Application and Jurisdiction

The RCS apply throughout all residence complexes, to all residents in single student housing, tenants and their family members in Family Housing, and guests. It is each resident's responsibility to be aware of and abide by the Residence/Tenancy Agreement, the RCS, and all relevant University policies, including the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy which can be found here: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-conduct/policy>.

Information on University policies, and procedures for investigating and responding to violations can be found here: www.ucalgary.ca/policies.

Community Membership

A resident who perceives any possibility that a person may be in danger or pose some risk should immediately contact Campus Security (403-220-5333). In emergency situations call 911 first, then Campus Security.

Confidentiality and Referral

Resident's personal information is confidential. Staff will not share information with other residents, parents or guardians. Criminal activity will be reported to Campus Security and may be reported to Calgary Police Services. Residents are required to provide an emergency contact as part of the application process. In the event of an emergency, Residence Services will contact your emergency contact.

When there is reasonable cause to do so, any case or situation may be referred to other campus offices, including Student Wellness Services, the Student-at-Risk team, Campus Security, and the Student Conduct Office.

Residents' Rights

Residents have the right to the following, within reasonable limits:

- privacy in their units
- study and sleep in their units without undue noise or interference from others
- a clean and safe environment
- security of their personal property and personal information
- access to their units and facilities
- consideration of their concerns
- cooperation in sharing common areas
- an environment free from intimidating, harmful or prejudicial conduct
- respect of personal dignity in both actions and words

Residents must ensure their behavior does not limit the ability of other residents to enjoy the rights outlined above.

CONDUCT REQUIREMENTS

Alcohol

- Residents must abide by all federal, provincial, and municipal laws, and University policy www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/alcohol-policy.pdf regarding alcohol use and consumption.

- Open alcohol is only allowed in private areas; room, suite, apartment or townhouse. Open alcohol includes but is not limited to any container for which the cap, tab, cork, lid or seal has been broken, any re-capped container and anything containing poured alcohol, including but not limited to cups and glasses.
- It is prohibited to promote or participate in drinking games or excessive drinking in residence.
- Unopened alcohol must be concealed when transported outside a private area.
- It is prohibited to advertise alcohol brands or imagery of bars or similar establishments, or events happening at bars, such as cabarets. Posted materials must not promote mass consumption or other irresponsible use of alcohol or drugs. This includes the use of languages such as party bus, crawl, and all you can drink.
- Alcohol brewing is prohibited in residence.
- If an individual reports alcohol use in contravention of the RCS in order to seek emergency medical assistance the priority in responding to the report will be to help the individual requiring medical assistance.

Cannabis

- Cannabis consumption in or on University Facilities, including residence, is prohibited per the University of Calgary Cannabis Policy www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/cannabis-policy.pdf.
- Cannabis plants may not be grown in or on University Facilities, including University residences.
- Cannabis and cannabis accessories must be stored in sealed, scent proof containers.
- Residents must not dispose of cannabis byproducts, or accessories, or process dried cannabis into an alternate form in residence.
- If an individual reports cannabis use in contravention of the RCS in order to seek emergency medical assistance the priority in responding to the report will be to help the individual requiring medical assistance.

Electoral Activity

- All campaigning activity for the Graduate Students' Association, Residence Students' Association, and Students' Union must be approved by Residence Services. This also applies to any other electoral activity, except that which is authorized by law.

Offensive Materials

It is prohibited to publish or display anything that:

- is likely to expose people to hatred or contempt, for example, based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexuality, ability, age, family status or socioeconomic status;
- uses offensive or discriminatory language or imagery;
- is sexually obscene;
- is pornographic;
- contravenes the Criminal Code;
- advertises tobacco or cannabis products or accessories, as per the University's Smoking Policy (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/smoking-policy.pdf) and the Cannabis Policy (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/cannabis-policy.pdf).

Protection of Privacy

- It is prohibited to audio or video record, photograph or broadcast another person without that person's expressed consent.

Sexual Violence

- All forms of sexual violence are prohibited, per the [University of Calgary Sexual Violence Policy](#).

Sports Activities

- It is prohibited to engage in sports activities indoors, including hockey, rollerblading, skateboarding, scooter-riding, bicycling and wrestling.
- It is prohibited to engage in reckless/unsafe conduct that might put members of the community in danger

Resident Leadership

Resident leaders are expected to set a positive example in following all RCS, and otherwise adhering to the requirements of the Residence/Tenancy agreement.

Community Standards Procedures

The purpose of this procedure is to outline the process by which an allegation of Residence Community Standards will be investigated, evaluated and resolved.

Complaints in Residence

Residents may submit a complaint to their Community Advisor in person or via email. Residents can also submit a complaint via email to the residence office at residence@ucalgary.ca. A complaint should include a detailed description of the incident including the name(s) of the resident (s) involved, dates and times of the incident.

Residence Services will respond to complaints received in accordance with the relevant University policy or procedure. Where appropriate, Residence Services will be available to support and assist residents in connecting with the relevant members of the University community.

Hearing

Whenever possible, hearings for the incidents that occur in residence will be heard by a Hearing Officer of the Student Conduct Office within the Residence Precinct. If a resident is alleged of violating the residence community standards, a hearing will be scheduled. A hearing is a meeting between the resident and a Hearing Officer or Hearing Board. The resident is welcome to bring an advisor to the hearing if they choose. The hearing is an opportunity for the resident to present information and to discuss the details of the alleged violation. After the hearing, the resident will receive written notification that outlines if the resident has been found responsible for the alleged violation, the rationale for the decision, the assigned sanction(s) and information about the appeal process.

Sanctions

A sanction may be applied to a case depending on the severity and impact of the conduct, the resident's past conduct, whether or not the resident accepts responsibility for their behaviour. Any resident found responsible for violating the RCS is subject to restitution charges for all related expenses.

Sanctions may include:

- written warning;
- written reprimand;
- discretionary sanction- work assignments, educational assignment, restorative measures, service to the University or other discretionary assignments that are considered appropriate by the Hearing Officer, Hearing Board or Appeal Board;
- letter of behavioural expectations- an undertaking not to engage in certain behaviour and setting out the consequences if the requirements set out in the letter are not followed;
- monetary compensation for loss, damage or injury or replacement of damaged or destroyed property;
- monetary fine;
- access restriction (prohibits access to one or more areas or buildings)
- alcohol probation (restricts or prohibits the use and/or possession of alcohol)
- no contact order (prohibits contact between two or more people)
- denial of tenancy agreement extension
- guest probation (restricts or prohibits guest privileges)
- reassignment to an alternate room/suite/ apartment or townhouse
- residence probation (results in more severe sanctions than would normally be applied for any future conduct issues)
- residence withhold (voids any offer/booking, prohibits re-applying and bans the resident once the current agreement ends)

- academic withhold (prevents student access to course registration)
- other appropriate sanction as determined by the Hearing Officer, Hearing Board or Appeal Board.

Compliance with Sanctions

Failing to complete sanctions will result in a monetary fine for non-compliance, and/or an academic withhold.

Appeals

A respondent may appeal the decision of the hearing officer or hearing board on any of the following bases;

- The procedures for alleged violations were not properly followed by the decision-maker
- There is new information which would have significantly affected the decision
- The severity of the sanction imposed exceeds the nature of the misconduct for reasons identified by the Respondent;
or
- Any other basis detailed in the written appeal

Residents wishing to appeal a decision must complete an online residence appeal form within three business days of the date of the decision letter <https://www.ucalgary.ca/ancillary/residence/current-residents/services/important-forms/residence-appeal-form>.

A hearing before the appeal board or appeal officer will be scheduled with the respondent within ten business days of filing the appeal. At the appeal hearing, the respondent may be accompanied by an advisor of their choice. The advisor will not be permitted to speak during the hearing on the Resident's behalf.

The respondent will be provided with written notice of the outcome of the appeal hearing within five business days of the decision being reached.

CRITICAL SITUATION PROCEDURES

There can be critical situations requiring special authority and processes due to heightened concern for safety, security, health or wellbeing. The following procedures are in place to facilitate swift action to protect an individual or community in such situations. They supersede the regular procedures for alleged RCS violations.

A Residence Services manager (or designee) is authorized to assess whether a critical situation exists, including whether:

- a resident has harmed another individual or appears to pose a threat
- a resident has been harmed by another individual or appears to be in danger
- a resident has inflicted self-harm or appears to be in danger
- a severe incident involving incivility has occurred

A Residence Services manager (or designee) in consultation with the Student Conduct Office and/or Campus Security is authorized to act quickly and decisively in all matters associated with a critical situation, including:

- determining the appropriate response
- applying sanctions on an interim basis
- relocating those involved to other rooms/suites/apartments/townhouses on an interim basis
- banning those involved from residence on an interim basis
- applying further sanctions and/or taking further steps if those involved fail to respond or comply

The termination of an agreement, application of sanctions, relocation of those involved or banning of those involved will be reviewed at a subsequent meeting to determine whether any or all steps should be made permanent, modified or discontinued. Such meetings will be held as soon as possible, considering staff and resident availability, time required to investigate the situation and other contextual factors.