

University of Pittsburgh Safety Manual	EH&S Guideline Number: 01-009	
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RESIDENCE HALL SAFETY

1. Security of Residence Halls

Considerable effort and resources have been invested to maintain the safety and security of residents in University of Pittsburgh facilities. It is the responsibility of each resident to ensure that they and their guests adhere to the University security policies and procedures for Residence Halls (e.g. visitors must sign in and out of Residence Halls, and visitors must be escorted). Anyone observing suspicious persons or activities should immediately contact University Police (412-624-2121 on Pittsburgh Campus).

2. Environmental Safety of Residence Halls

It is the responsibility of the residents and staff of each University Residence Hall to report unsafe conditions or practices to the Resident Assistants, Residence Hall security staff, or University Police. Residence Life staff and occupants of University Residence Halls should observe the following environmental safety guidelines:

- 2.1 Avoid contact with any biological or biohazardous materials such as blood, body fluids and wastes, needles, or any other type of potentially infectious substances. Anyone identifying such material should contact the Housing Department at (412) 648-1100, Security Desk of the Residence Hall, or University Police.
- 2.2 Report all uneven surfaces, tripping hazards and general hazards like broken glass immediately upon discovery to the Housing Department, your Resident Assistant or the security desk for your Residence Hall.

3. Residence Hall Fire Safety and Life Safety

All University Residence Halls are equipped with sprinkler protection, fire alarm systems and various fire protection systems such as smoke detectors, smoke alarms and heat detectors for resident protection.

- 3.1 Tampering with fire equipment and fire protection systems, arson or the deliberate initiation of fire or smoke, deliberate engaging fire alarm pull stations without sensing an emergency situation, failing to immediately evacuate during a fire alarm, or entering a building without authorization are all violations of the University of Pittsburgh Student Code of Conduct. Many of these acts of misconduct are also serious violations of State and local laws or fire codes.
- 3.2 Residents with disabilities or any impairment that prevents or diminishes the resident's compliance with emergency or evacuation plan of the Residence Hall should notify EH&S. An individualized evacuation plan will be developed for the safety of the resident.

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- 3.3 Residents of University Residence Halls should observe the following fire safety guidelines:
- 3.3.1 Keep halls and stairwells clear to ensure safe egress.
 - 3.3.2 Do not prop open fire doors (e.g. doors to stairways).
 - 3.3.3 Smoking is prohibited in all University buildings.
 - 3.3.4 At no time should the placement or storage of items (such as clothing, books, posters, and other materials) obstruct doors, EXIT signs, sprinkler heads, fire hose cabinets, fire extinguishers, fire alarm pull stations, smoke/heat detectors, fire alarm notification devices, or light fixtures.
 - 3.3.5 The following items are NOT permitted in University Residence Halls:
 - 3.3.5.1 Toaster ovens, waffle irons, hot plates, deep fryers, and propane stoves
 - 3.3.5.2 Torchiere-Style Tubular Halogen Lamps
 - 3.3.5.3 Multi-outlet plug strips or surge suppressers other than UL-approved, 125V AC, 60Hz, 1875 watt or less, circuit protected;
 - 3.3.5.4 All weapons, “weapon-like projectiles,” air guns, paint guns, stun guns, starter pistols, firearms, or ammunition;
 - 3.3.5.5 Fireworks, sparklers, flares, or any type of flammable materials;
 - 3.3.5.6 Explosives or incendiary devices (e.g. blasting caps, percussion caps, fertilizers, black powder), and any other type of material used in the manufacturing of explosives;
 - 3.3.5.7 Candles, incense and devices using open flames