
Terms and Conditions

THE HOUSING/DINING CONTRACT

Virginia Tech seeks to provide housing and dining services for students at the lowest possible rate. For this reason, the University must operate the residence halls on a contract basis for the full academic year. Each student who resides on campus is required to sign a Housing/Dining Contract prior to assignment. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the terms and conditions of the contract. When the contract is signed and returned, it becomes a binding agreement—a **legal contract**—between the student and the University.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. **Eligibility:** All entering freshmen are guaranteed university housing and are required to live in the residence halls unless they:
 - (1) reside with their parents or close relatives who are established residents of the community;
 - (2) are married and live with their spouses;
 - (3) are military veterans of a least six months active duty; or
 - (4) are at least 21 years old.

2. **Period of Contract:** This contract shall be in force for one academic year, consisting of fall and spring semesters; contracts signed in mid-year shall be in force through the end of spring semester. Residents who apply and are accepted into a residential college at Ambler Johnson Hall are accepting a two-year commitment to housing and this contract shall be extended through the next academic year. Any resident who, for any reason, discontinues as a regularly enrolled student and later returns for classes during the contract period will be required to live in a residence hall. Residents must maintain full-time academic status, or obtain permission from the Housing Services to remain on campus as part-time students. Housing Services, at its discretion, may consider releasing students from their housing contracts when they drop to less than full-time status.

3. **Period of Occupancy:** A student's right to occupancy shall begin not earlier than the first day the halls open for each semester, date and time to be announced prior to each semester. The deadline for claiming the assigned room is the Friday of the first week of class of each semester. Failure to do so may result in the reassignment of the room; however, the contract will remain in force. Prior written notice is required to hold a reservation after the deadline. Residence halls are closed at the end of each semester and during official vacations at a time and date specified by Housing Services. The posted closing time at the end of each semester is for those students participating in commencement exercises. All other residents must vacate within 24 hours after their last examination. Residence halls (except Ambler Johnston, Cochrane, Newman, Harper, Hillcrest, Main Campbell, Donaldson Brown – Graduate Life Center, and Oak Lane Community (optional by organizational request)) are closed during the three breaks in the academic year calendar. Plans for the holiday periods and travel arrangements should be made well in advance. The athletic department, the Corps of Cadets, and Oak Lane organizations may coordinate with Housing Services to establish different occupancy schedules. Those organizations should be consulted for particulars.

4. **Prepayment Applied to Housing Fees:** For students who will reside in housing, \$100 of the required Admissions prepayment will be applied to the housing fees.

5. **Room & Board Payments:** Fees are due and payable in advance, and upon official notice from the University prior to each semester.

6. **Dining Services:**

- a. All on-campus students are required to purchase one of the dining plans offered to on-campus students.
- b. All on-campus students receive a Major Flex Dining plan as their default dining plan. If the student wants a different dining plan, changes can be made using the Hokie SPA web site, www.hokiespa.vt.edu, between June and mid-August. Changes made prior to July 1 will be included in the fall semester billing statement.
- c. Students may change their dining plan choice between semesters. No dining service is provided on campus during academic breaks.
- d. Students should refer to the Dining Guide (www.dining.vt.edu) for detailed information regarding dining plans and their operation.

7. **Room Assignments:** When students contract with the University for on-campus housing, they contract for a bed space in the residence hall system, not a specific room assignment. Although every effort is made to honor specific roommate and residence hall requests, space limitations and high demand for specific halls may prevent honoring all requests. **Roommate preferences can be honored only if both students request each other as roommates.** In making or changing room assignments, Virginia Tech complies with all federal and state regulations regarding nondiscrimination.

8. **Room Occupancy:** All rooms will be multiple occupancy, unless specifically designated as permanent single-occupancy rooms. Students are required to pay for the occupancy level they are assigned. If one of the occupants moves from the room, Housing Services reserves the right to assign a new roommate, or to reassign the remaining student to another room to consolidate space. The student agrees to accept an assigned roommate.

Students are expected to occupy their assigned room. Students who choose to vacate their assignment without being officially released from the contract have abrogated their right to that space, and are required to return any key(s) to the vacated assignment as directed. Failure to return key(s) as directed will result in billing for associated lock change(s). Students remain liable for room-and-board charges during the life of the contract. Students returning during the contract period will be reassigned to an available space.

During periods of high demand for on-campus housing, Housing Services reserves the right to utilize expanded housing on a temporary basis until standard occupancy space becomes available. Students in temporary expanded housing will receive a prorated housing fee refund. Off-campus locations may be used to house students in the event of significant excess demand.

During periods of reduced occupancy, the student may be offered the opportunity to occupy the room at the higher single-occupancy rate.

9. **University Liability:** Although precautions are taken to maintain adequate security, the University assumes no responsibility for injury to persons, or loss of or damage to items of personal property that occurs in its buildings, on its grounds, prior to, during, or subsequent to the terms of this contract. Students (and their parents or guardians) are **strongly** encouraged to purchase and maintain appropriate insurance to cover such losses.

10. **Student Liability:** The student is responsible for the condition of the assigned room and all furnishings, and shall reimburse the University for all damages to or loss of these furnishings beyond ordinary wear and tear. Damages to the common areas may be charged to all residents in that area.

11. **Room Entry:** The University reserves the right to enter into student rooms for the purposes of inspection, improvement, repair, to control the rooms in the event of an epidemic or emergency, or for any other purpose in accordance with *University Policies for Student Life*.

12. **Room Check-Out:** Any student departing at the end of the contract is expected to properly follow check-out procedures. Failure to properly check out as prescribed will result in a penalty charge, plus appropriate charges associated with unreturned keys.

13. **Room Change & Contract Termination:** Room assignments may be changed, cancelled, or terminated by the University in the interest of order, health, maximum use of facilities, or disaster after due notice to the student. Willful disregard for the rights, responsibilities, and duties of others, interfering with a staff member engaged in the performance of job duties (includes, but is not limited to, verbal abuse, intimidation, or use of physical force), as well as the creation of circumstances that could jeopardize life, limb, or property are unacceptable and may be cause for judicial action, interim suspension of occupancy pending administrative review of a situation, and/or subsequent termination of the Housing/Dining Contract.

14. **Evacuation and Relocation:** In the event that a Force Majeure, or other exigent circumstances as defined by the University, requires evacuation or relocation of the resident, the resident must immediately comply with such evacuation or relocation orders from University officials. Failure or refusal by the resident to abide by any such directive or procedure may result in disciplinary action or removal by the University and/or the Virginia Tech Police.
15. **Conduct Action:** Students who are placed on deferred denial of housing or denial of housing conduct sanctions during the current academic year are not eligible for a residence hall contract during the next academic year. These students will be eligible for the housing lottery process for the next academic year following the completion of the conduct sanction. If the student receives a contract, and later receives one of the aforementioned conduct sanctions, the contract during the sanction period will be revoked. Serious violations also can result in immediate loss of a housing contract.
16. **Rules & Regulations:** Rules and regulations outlined in the *Hokie Handbook*, the *University Policies for Student Life*, and the *Housing, Residence Life and Dining Policies* as well as any revisions thereto as may be periodically instituted by the University, are incorporated herein and made a part of this contract. In the event of a conflict between the rules and regulations as they appear in the above named publications and the terms of this contract, the provisions of this contract shall take precedence.

CANCELLATION POLICIES

Cancellation Before Occupancy Begins

Students who accept the offer of admission and subsequently decide to withdraw should notify the Office of Admissions in writing. Please refer to the Final Requirements Sheet in your offer packet for refund policies. Transfer students who return a housing/dining contract cannot cancel their contract to move off campus.

Cancellation after Occupancy Commences:

1. Students who have signed a contract and who have commenced occupancy in University residence halls are responsible for fulfilling their obligations under the contract.
2. If a student completes requirements for graduation, or for other reason(s) is no longer enrolled for the duration of the contract, the contract shall be terminated.
3. At its discretion, the University may release a student from the contract during the academic year. Information about the contract review process can be obtained from Housing Services.
4. Rooms shall be vacated within 48 hours from the time of a student's official withdrawal or suspension from the University. Residence hall students who leave before any semester is half over are eligible for a partial refund. A residence hall student who leaves after the semester is half over will be charged full room and board fees.

VISITATION OPTIONS

The residence hall visitation program is administered by Residence Life and Housing Services.

Option 1: Visitation in student rooms by members of the opposite sex is permitted only on Friday through Sunday during the following hours: Friday 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday; Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday; Sunday 10 a.m. to midnight (Option 1 is available on a by-room basis only)

Option 2: Visitation in student rooms by members of the opposite sex is permitted each day during the following hours: Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m. to midnight; Friday 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday; Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday

Option 3: Visitation in student rooms by members of the opposite sex is permitted each day during the following hours: Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.; Friday-Sunday 10 a.m. Friday to 2 a.m. Monday

Option 4: Visitation in student rooms by members of the opposite sex is unlimited (24 hours/day, 7 days/week)

Students may visit other residence halls in accordance with that hall's visitation program. Each hall's visitation program is listed below.

All designations listed below are subject to change due to program requirements.

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| A | Dedicated to Corps of Cadets | G | Dedicated to members of on-campus Greek organizations |
| B | More restrictive hours are designated for the Corps of Cadets by the Commandant | H | Dedicated to Honors College |
| C | Corps of Cadets and civilian sections | I | Dedicated to Residential Leadership Community |
| D | Upperclass Students Only | J | Dedicated to Graduate Students |
| E | Primarily Upperclass Students | K | Code not in use |
| F | Freshman Year Experience Program Only | L | Residential College |

Co-ed Residence Halls			
<i>Name</i>	<i>Visitation Option</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Ambler-Johnston, East	3	H, L	322
Ambler-Johnston, West	3	L	851
Campbell, Main	4	H, J	135
Cochrane	4		334
Donaldson-Brown GLC	4	J	115
Main Eggleston	B	A	215
Eggleston, West	3, B	C	198
Harper	4		249
Hillcrest	4	H	108
Lee	3		811
Monteith	B	A	202
Newman	3		273
New Residence Hall East	4	E	220
New Hall West	4	E	260
Oak Lane Community	4	G	32 or 36
O'Shaughnessy	3		341
3	341		
Payne	4	E	249
Peddrew-Yates	4	I	219
Pearson	B		547
Pritchard	3		1,016
Slusher Tower	3		324
Slusher Wing	3		305
Thomas	B	B	227
Vawter	3		326
Male Residence Halls			
Barringer	3		221
Miles	1,2		217
Female Residence Halls			
East Campbell	3		164
Johnson	1,2		181

You should retain these terms and conditions for your reference. Remember: the Terms and Conditions of the Virginia Tech Housing/Dining Contract are legally binding. Complete the Housing/Dining Contract and return according to the instructions in the accompanying offer letter.

For further information contact Housing and Dining Services Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. voice: 540-231-6205; fax: 540-231-6818; TDD 540-231-0858; e-mail: housing@vt.edu; web: www.housing.vt.edu

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination should contact the Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office.

If you are a person with a disability and desire assistive devices, services, or other accommodations, please notify Housing Services, Suite 144 New Hall West (Mail Code 0428), Blacksburg, VA 24061, VOICE (540) 231-6205 or TTY (540) 231-0858, or the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, 310 Lavery Hall Mail Code (0185), Blacksburg, VA 24061, VOICE (540) 231-3788 TTY (540) 231-0853 FAX (540)231-3232 or E-mail: ssd@vt.edu