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Residence hall and dining license agreement, 2008-2009: undergraduate/graduate students

Northeastern University - Housing and Residential Life

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Introduction

Northeastern University's Residential Life system includes any living accommodations owned or leased by the school which provides housing each term to eligible students. All students must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the University's expectations, as stated in *A Guide to Residence Hall Living*, the *Student Handbook* and the *Residence Hall and Dining License Agreement* and any and all other applicable school policies, procedures, rules and regulations. Please note that all changes from the 2007-2008 License Agreement have been highlighted.

Acceptance of the License Agreement

In order to live in University housing, a student must read and agree to the terms of the 2008-2009 Residence Hall and Dining License Agreement at the time he/she applies for housing. By signing the License Agreement on-line and/or also by accepting keys or an encoded keycard to your room/apartment, the student has officially acknowledged and accepted the terms and conditions of this agreement. However, acceptance of the terms of this agreement does not guarantee the student a space in Northeastern University housing. Failure to sign the License Agreement may result in loss of housing privileges. The student agrees to live in University housing under any and all rules and regulations established by Residential Life and Northeastern University.

Residents will be subject to license revocation and/or disciplinary action for violations of any of the regulations or policies included in this License Agreement, or published in *A Guide to Residence Hall Living*, or the *Student Handbook*. Residents must abide by all disciplinary proceedings, including summonses to conferences or student-conduct hearings. Students are also obliged to give truthful testimony. Delivery of written notices will be considered sufficient if given to students personally, e-mailed, mailed to the student's home address, or put in the student's on-campus mailbox.

If Northeastern University is required to obtain legal services due to a student's violation of this license, or policies contained in either *A Guide to Residence Hall Living*, or the *Student Handbook*, then that student must pay to the University: (1) attorney's fees, and (2) any other related cost, whether or not formal legal action is taken against the student.

Eligibility

Fall & Spring Semesters

During Fall and Spring Semesters, University housing is available only to full-time undergraduate and graduate students matriculated in a degree-granting program. All eligible students may apply for housing during the designated application periods.

Summer Session I & II

Summer Session Housing eligibility is expanded, on a space available basis, to Northeastern students taking part-time coursework, working full-time on campus during the summer terms, or matriculating as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in the terms prior to and following the summer term.

Housing Assignment Process

Length of Assignment

I. Freshmen Students: The License Agreement period may be for one academic year, defined as two [2] consecutive terms, except for Intersession periods (including Spring Break) when the residence

halls are officially closed. Freshmen students are required to submit an application and a non-refundable housing deposit.

II. Transfer Students: The License Agreement period may be for one academic year, defined as two [2] consecutive terms and are only assigned housing when it is determined that space is available. If space is available, transfer students are required to submit a non-refundable, non-transferable housing deposit

III. Upperclass and Graduate students: The License Agreement period may be for any or all terms which comprise the entire academic year until capacity is reached. When determined that space is available, Upperclass and Graduate students are required to submit a non-refundable, non-transferable housing deposit.

Dates of Assignment:

Term	When a student is enrolled in classes		When a student is enrolled on co-op	
	Move-IN	Move-OUT	Move-IN	Move-OUT
Fall 2008	Fall Move-In Weekend*	7:00PM on the last date of finals	Fall Move-In	January 2, 2009 at 9:00PM
Spring 2009	Spring Move-In*	7:00PM on the last date of finals	Spring Move-In	April 24, 2009 at 9:00PM
Summer Session I 2009	Summer Session I Move-In*	7:00PM on the last date of finals	Summer Session I Move-In	June 26, 2009 at 9:00PM
Summer Session II 2009	Summer Session II Move-In*	7:00PM on the last date of finals	Summer Session II Move-In	August 1, 2009 at 9:00PM**

*Specific information and instructions for move-ins (including dates and times) will be mailed to students and families each term

** It is recommended that students on co-op with a non-continuous contract should start their off-campus leases on August 1st.

Hall and Room Assignments

Room assignments for Freshmen and Transfer students are made based on the receipt date of the Housing Application (with any roommate preferences), a signed License Agreement, and Housing Deposit. Room assignments for Upperclass students are based on receipt of the Housing Application, eligibility as determined by the Upperclass housing process, a signed License Agreement, and a Housing Deposit. Room assignments for Graduate students are based on receipt of Housing Application, eligibility as determined by the Graduate housing process, a signed License Agreement, and a Housing Deposit.

Every effort is made to honor a student's preference for roommate, room type, and facility. However, Northeastern University does not guarantee the type or location of residence and/or roommate requests.

The University reserves the right to change the student's room assignment **at any time**. Also, if a student does not check into his/her reserved housing space it will be forfeited twenty-four (24) hours after the official move-in period, unless written notice from the student is provided to Residential Life before that time.

The University will attempt to accommodate students desiring a room change during the designated room change period each term or in an emergency. To explore room change options the student must first make an appointment with their Residence Director to obtain a room change referral form. Residential Life reserves the right to disband any residential unit, up to and including a floor, hall, or room, should the Department deem such action necessary for safety, health, or quality of life purposes. In the event that a new roommate is assigned to your room or apartment, you are required to ensure that your personal belongings only occupy

space to which you are entitled (one bed, closet, dresser, portion of common areas, etc.). Students who do not adhere to this policy may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges.

Disclosure of Address and Telephone Number

In letters notifying students of their room assignment, Residential Life provides home address, telephone numbers, and/or email addresses for each roommate in a given housing unit. Students find it beneficial to contact each other in advance to determine what each will bring to campus.

Upon completion of the Housing Application, residents may request that Residential Life not disclose either their home address and phone number, or their on-campus address.

Disclosure of Student Information

By signing this agreement, students consent to and authorize Residential Life to release any information provided by or about the student, including but not limited to information related to the student's health, safety and/or well-being and emergency contact information to University officials as the University deems appropriate and/or necessary. By signing this agreement, students also consent to and authorize the release of any such information from University officials to Residential Life. University officials/offices to which such information may be released or from which such information may be received include, but are not limited to, Public Safety, Disability Resource Center, University Counseling and Health Services, Athletics, and Facilities Services.

Closed Periods: *Intersession Between Terms*

I. Freshman and Transfer Students

University residence halls typically close during Spring Break and on the last day of Final Exams at 7:00 PM. Residence halls must be vacated at this time. **Between the Fall to Spring terms, if a student is remaining in housing, they do not need to remove all of their belongings, however it is suggested that valuables be removed during this time.** Transfer students living in an open building with continuing License Agreements in the same room in an open building may stay in their room during the Intersession Period, if their building is open.

The following buildings will usually close each Intersession period and during Spring Break: Stetson East, Stetson West, Speare, Kennedy, Light, Kerr, Smith, Melvin, White, 153 Hemenway, 319 Huntington Avenue, West Village F, and Northeastern at the YMCA. Additional buildings may be closed at the discretion of Residential Life.

II. Upperclass and Graduate Students

Only Upperclass and Graduate students (in classes or co-op) continuing in the same room (in an open building) may stay in their room during the Intersession period.

- (1) Students remaining in housing next term (whether enrolled in classes or on co-op), but moving to another assignment for the subsequent term, must complete their move from their old assignment to their new assignment within 24 hours of their new room becoming available.**
- (2) Students who are not remaining in housing for the next term and who are enrolled in classes must vacate the residence hall 24-hours after their last final or by 7:00 PM on the last day of Final Exams, whichever comes first.**
- (3) Students who are not remaining in housing for the next term and who are on co-op, must vacate their space by 9:00PM on the published co-op move out dates for each term published in this Agreement.** Failure of students on co-op to move out by the published dates will result in disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges.

Students who maintain residency during Intersession and then cancel their housing arrangement for the subsequent term will be charged for Intersession housing. Students will be charged at their current housing rate on a prorated weekly basis.

Students who are not authorized to stay during Intersession will not be given access to the building.

It is the responsibility of the resident to make move-out arrangements with the residence hall staff. Failure of the student to contact their current and new Residence Director or failure to enter or vacate in accordance with move-in and move-out dates published by Residential Life, will result in disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges. For more information about move-out periods, please refer to *A Guide to Residence Hall Living* and/or read the intersession move-out materials which are printed each term and distributed to residents approximately one month before the end of each academic term.

Room and Dining Program Charges

Dining Program Rates for the 2008-2009 academic year will be available late in the spring of 2008. Note that room and dining program charges are subject to revision by the President and the Board of Trustees at any time. Charges are assessed each term.

All freshmen students residing anywhere on-campus or any undergraduate students residing in traditional residence halls or suite-style apartments are initially billed for the 15-meal plan, except those who are assigned to 319 Huntington Avenue and West Village F who are initially billed for the 10-meal plan. During Summer Orientation and/or after you arrive on campus; you may reduce your meal plan to 10-meals per week by clicking on 'meal plans' in the myNEU Portal. Questions about meal plan changes can be directed to Student Accounts in 120 Hayden Hall.

Students may also put money on their Husky Card for meals or snacks. The Husky card is accepted at over 100 locations including a variety of dining options, hair salons, bookstore, hardware store, etc., on and around campus. For information about adding money to the Husky Card, go to www.registrar.neu.edu/husky.html

Additional Residence Hall Fee (optional air conditioner rental)

You may rent an air conditioner from the University for University-owned residence facilities only during the summer terms. Students are not allowed to bring or install their own units. Students who bring their own units will be subject to disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges.

**2007-2008 Air Conditioning Fee* (Summer Terms only):
Northeastern air conditioner (window unit)**

\$195/per term or \$270/full summer

*Actual fee for 2008-2009 will be available in the spring of 2008.

Termination Charge and Room Rate Adjustments

The University provides on-campus and leased accommodations that are assigned each term. Students are billed at the beginning of each term and are obligated to pay the full charge for the term. The high demand for on-campus housing makes it necessary for Residential Life to enforce its cancellation policy strictly.

It is imperative to note that a student whose Residence Hall and Dining License Agreement is revoked for disciplinary reasons is subject to the same financial assessments as outlined below.

Students who are suspended or expelled from the University will have their current and any active housing application(s) cancelled effective the date of suspension. When suspension or expulsion is sanctioned, the student will be charged in accordance with the *Termination Fee Policy for Withdrawal from the University* (see below). All housing deposits on file will be forfeited. Upon re-admittance to the University, the student must reapply for housing and if capacity has been reached, the student will be placed on the housing wait list.

I. Termination Credit Policy for Withdrawal from the University as follows:

Fall & Spring Semester

Official Withdrawal From University	Percentage of Room Charge Adjustment
1 st week	100% of term room charge credited
2 nd week	90% of term room charge credited
3 rd week	80% of term room charge credited
4 th week	60% of term room charge credited
5 th week	40% of term room charge credited
5 th week+	0% of term room charge credited

+ These students withdrawing after the fifth week incur a 100 percent room charge for the term.

Summer Session I & II

Official Withdrawal From University	Percentage of Room Charge Adjustment
1 st week	100% of term room charge credited
2 nd week	75% of term room charge credited
3 rd week	50% of term room charge credited
4 th week	25% of term room charge credited
4 th week+	0% of term room charge credited

+ These students withdrawing after the fourth week incur a 100 percent room charge for the term.

II. Termination Charge Policy for Cancellation from the Residence Halls for matriculating students as follows:

Failure to provide timely, written notification of cancellation of housing will result in a charge to students for their assigned space (**i.e. if you are assigned to a room for the Fall Term with a rate of \$4,365 and you cancel your housing on 6/20/08, you will be assessed 50% of your room rate, which is \$2,183 – NOT 50% of your deposit for the fall term**). If the cancellation deadline has passed, students who can demonstrate a significant change in academic, co-op or financial circumstances may petition for a waiver of this charge. See cancellation charge schedule that follows:

Amount Charged	Notification Received		
	Fall 2008	Spring 2009	Summer I & II 2009
Deposit refunded; NO Charge	Before 5/15/08	Before 11/3/08	Before 3/3/09
25% of term room charge*	After 5/15/08	After 11/3/08	After 3/3/09
50% of term room charge*	After 6/13/08	After 11/17/08	After 3/17/09
75% of term room charge*	After 7/15/08	After 12/1/08	After 4/1/09
100% of term room charge*	After 8/1/08	After 12/15/08	After 4/15/09

* The student's deposit for the term is applied to the Cancellation Charge assessed.

Use of University Housing Facilities

Residence halls, suites, and apartments owned or leased by Northeastern University are available only to students living in our residence community, their invited guests, and other persons authorized by Residential Life. Unauthorized entry to, or use of, University housing facilities is prohibited. Residents are not permitted to use their residence hall room or mailbox for the purpose of conducting profit or not-for-profit business transactions and/or commercial enterprises.

Appliances

Only a limited number of appliances approved by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) are permitted within the Residential Life system. Prohibited personal items include: plastic milk crates and stackable

storage containers that are not fire resistant, non-metal waste baskets, candles, incense, halogen lamps, sun lamps, immersion heaters, etc. For a detailed list of approved appliances and policy statements, please refer to *A Guide to Residence Hall Living*.

Alterations to Premises

Residents are prohibited from defacing their rooms or any other part of the residence hall. This can include but is not limited to: removal of any University equipment or furniture; altering or replacing door locks; making electrical or structural alterations; use of nails, screws, or any material that defaces surfaces; construction of lofts; and painting of the residence. **For fire safety and health code reasons, residents are not permitted to add personal furniture, including but not limited to futons, mattresses, and couches to their room/apartment.** Students who do not adhere to this policy may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for disciplinary proceedings which may result in the loss of housing privileges.

In-Room Safes

In-Room Safes have been installed in some residence halls through the vendor *SafeDecisions*. The rental agreement of in-hall safes is an agreement that applies only to *SafeDecisions* and the student; this agreement is between the student and *SafeDecisions*. Northeastern University is, in no way, associated with the agreement between *SafeDecisions* and the student, and will not be held liable under any circumstances. Students may not reassign this agreement or sublet the safe or any part thereof. Students agree to follow all instructions provided by *SafeDecisions* for the operations and use of the assigned safe. Students will not store any perishable items, explosives, highly flammable, toxic or otherwise dangerous material or materials prohibited by law in the safe. Students will not operate or use the safe in any manner that violates any law, regulation or rule including any University rules or regulations, policies or procedures.

During the rental term, upon reasonable notice to the student, *SafeDecisions* staff accompanied by University staff may and will inspect the safe. In the event that the safe needs repairs, *SafeDecisions* staff accompanied by University staff will perform the repairs during daytime hours. In the event of an emergency or proper request from law enforcement authorities, the University has the ability to and may unlock and open the safe for inspection.

Maintenance and Housekeeping

Student requests for repairs to residence hall furnishings or equipment must be made on-line at www.workreq.neu.edu. If you have any questions about this process or need further assistance please contact your hall staff. Repairs to University-owned or leased facilities must be completed by authorized University personnel. For urgent matters, (i.e. flooding, heating problems, etc.) students should contact Facility Services Customer Services at 617.373.2754 (available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week).

As the Licensor, Northeastern may enter the premises to make repairs, to inspect, or to show the premises to a prospective purchaser, licensee, mortgagee, or its agents. Northeastern may also enter the premises if the premises appear to have been abandoned by the Licensee, if a university policy is violated, in the event of an emergency, for any health or safety reasons, or if otherwise permitted by law.

Residents are expected to keep their rooms orderly, safe, and sanitary. The University provides professional housekeeping services in common areas such as lounges, hallways, and bathrooms. Please note that only traditional residence hall bathrooms are cleaned by University personnel; bathrooms, kitchens, and common living areas in suites and apartments must be cleaned and maintained regularly throughout the term by the resident(s). Failure to maintain a minimum standard of cleanliness may result in a cleaning charge and/or disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges.

Accessible Rooms for Disabled Students

Residential Life reserves the right **at any time** to utilize specially designed rooms, suites, or apartments to provide for the residential needs of students

who have disabilities. However, the department will attempt to reassign non-disabled students during the move-out/room assignment period at the end of each term.

Abandonment

Students are responsible for removing all personal possessions when they vacate their rooms, apartments, or suites. Any possessions left in campus housing facilities after the voluntary or involuntary termination of the License Agreement will be considered abandoned, will be discarded by the University, and the student will be billed an additional charge for removal. Students may also face disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges.

Student Room Inspection Tours

The University reserves the right to conduct in-person inspections of student rooms for the purpose of assessing furniture inventory, general room condition, as well as emergency or general maintenance needs. Except in case of emergency, Residential Life will notify residents (via poster, flyer, or memo) prior to entering a student's room.

University staff will conduct routine inspection tours several times during the academic year. Inspections typically occur during the 4-6th week of the term.

Damage/Cleaning Charges. The student is responsible for all Northeastern University property in his/her room and elsewhere in the residence hall. Upon check-in and check-out, residents must complete a Room/Apartment/Suite Condition Form with hall staff. This form confirms the condition of the room/suite/apartment. Any pre-existing conditions in the apartment/bedroom should be noted at check-in by the resident. Failure to do so may result in supplementary charges for any damage which may occur through the length of the resident's occupancy in the room. Residents will be billed for damages that are beyond normal wear and tear. If a resident does not complete the check-out process with hall staff, s/he waives the right to appeal supplementary charges. If damage cannot be attributed to any one individual, charges will be assessed equally among all room occupants.

If there is loss/damage to common areas of any campus housing facility and Northeastern University cannot identify the individual(s) responsible, the University may require several or all of the hall's residents to pay a prorated group charge covering the cost of common area repair/replacement. Students will be billed for replacement of furniture and reinstallation costs in the case of vandalism. Additionally, students may also be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges.

Sample Charges* Include:

Chair (plastic)	\$75.00
Chair (fabric)	\$240.00
Broken Window	\$100.00
Paint Wall	\$90.00
Replace Desk	\$295.00
Replace Bureau	\$290.00
Replace Mattress & Frame	\$200.00
Broken Door Glass	\$300.00
Excess Cleaning	\$60.00 per resident/per hour (residence hall room)
Excess Cleaning	\$100.00 per resident (suite/apartment)

*Please note this is not an exhaustive list of charges and that Residential Life reserves the right to adjust charges based on market value of materials and labor. All non-routine repairs will include charges for labor and materials.

Liability

Northeastern University will not be liable for loss or damage to students or students' guests' property located in any campus housing facility. This includes, but is not limited to, damage caused by fire, flood, accidents, or loss or interruption of heat, electricity, burglary, theft, or vandalism.

Sublicense

Students may not convey their right in university housing to anyone. They may not sublicense their housing space, their license agreement or make any arrangement for someone to take over housing payments or move into the space assigned to them without the express written permission of the university. A student who violates this policy will lose all future opportunities to apply for housing and be liable for all costs incurred by the university including any expenses related to the removal of any third party. In addition, students face sanctions for violations of the University's Code of Student Conduct. Students residing in University owned or sponsored facility without the written permission of the University are trespassing and will be removed immediately.

Check-out Policy

Living on campus is a privilege, not a right. **Failure to enter or vacate in accordance with move-in & move-out dates published by the department will result in formal disciplinary action up to and including revocation of housing privileges.**

Residence Hall Staff

Each on-campus housing facility, including leased properties is managed by a Residence Director who supervises a trained staff which includes Graduate Assistants and Resident Assistants who have the authority to enforce this License Agreement.

Students are obligated to respect the authority of the Residential Life staff and comply with requests that are made by staff members in the performance of their duties.

Residential Life Policies

Resident students are prohibited from engaging in any of the following behaviors: conduct in or about any residence facility that poses a threat to the health or safety of themselves, others, or property; behavior that interferes with the rights or well-being of others; or personal actions that violate any provision of this agreement, or any rule, regulation, or policy of the University or any applicable law.

Fire Safety

All persons are expected to observe fire safety policies and procedures. Fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, alarm systems, and fire escapes are not to be tampered with by any student. ***If a fire alarm sounds, ALL occupants must exit the facility at the nearest emergency exit.***

Restricted Areas

Any resident student or guest of a resident student who is found in restricted areas (including balconies and residence hall rooftops) will be subject to termination of this Agreement and loss of housing privileges.

Keys and University Identification Card

Resident students are not permitted to transfer, duplicate, or give keys or university identification cards to other persons, nor to change door lock(s). Students will be charged for the loss of room keys and/or required core lock changes. A detailed policy of the lock-out procedure is contained in *A Guide to Residence Hall Living*.

Students may not install any lock device that prohibits University personnel from entering the building, apartment, or individual room. Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to: dead bolts, door chains, slide bolts, and lock sets.

Guests

Guests must be escorted and signed in by the ***specific resident student*** with whom they are visiting, and both must show proper photo identification to the Proctor (residence hall security representative). The guest must be escorted by the resident student at all times, and must also observe all rules that apply to the resident student. The resident student is responsible for the conduct and behavior of his/her guest. Any damage or vandalism by the guest is the responsibility of the resident student. Overnight guests must be at least 16 years old and may not stay overnight beyond three (3) consecutive nights. Guests younger than the age of 16 may not stay overnight.

Pets

For health reasons, animals other than fish and approved Seeing Eye™ or service animals are not allowed in any housing facility owned or leased by the University. Fish are permitted in containers with a maximum volume equal to or less than 25 gallons.

Dining Services

Each resident participating in the dining service program must present their University identification card at the dining hall in order to be served a meal. This meal card is non-transferable, is the property of Northeastern University, and must be surrendered to any University official upon request. Alteration or use of this card for any unauthorized purpose will result in additional charges, disciplinary action which could include loss of housing privileges, and/or confiscation of the meal card. Food and related articles may not be taken from the dining room, except as permitted by Dining Services. To prevent loss and theft, the University reserves the right to inspect knapsacks and bags at the exits of the dining halls. During weekends, vacations, and official closings, the University reserves the right to consolidate dining facilities.

Leased Properties

Any students living in Leased Properties will receive and must review additional materials concerning Safety and Security, including Fire Safety.

Family Housing

Northeastern University does not provide housing for married couples, spousal equivalents, or dependent children.

Age of Residents

All residents residing in Northeastern University housing must be seventeen years of age or older at the time of move-in. If under the age of 18, a parent or legal guardian must also sign this Agreement.

Emergency Contact Information

All students must provide emergency contact information to Northeastern University and are responsible for keeping this information current and accurate.

Exceptions to Any Provision of This Agreement

The Dean of Campus Life (or designee) reserves the right to make changes to this License Agreement and/or official administrative policies as deemed necessary in the interest of order, health, safety, discipline, or for educational purposes. A student may request an exception to any provision of this Agreement or may appeal any charge assessed by Residential Life. To request an exception, the student should submit a written petition explaining the nature of and reason(s) for the request to:

Department of Residential Life
Northeastern University
4 Speare Commons
Boston, MA 02115-5000

Violations of any of the terms of this License Agreement may result in disciplinary actions and/or revocation of the License Agreement and housing privileges.