

Residence Center Community Agreement

Name: _____ Community: _____

Introduction

The community agreement, based on rules and guidelines for appropriate behavior, serves two purposes: to set the tone for an inclusive environment where members involve themselves in community decisions that impact their lives, and to provide stability through the use of guidelines that the majority agrees are fair and acceptable. Please complete this survey in preparation to discuss the standards this community will set for acceptable behavior and environment. *Return this survey to your RA by the deadline, which is set for your floor.*

General

In choosing to attend Indiana University, we realize that we agree to accept the standards established through the Residence Hall A-Z Handbook, RPS Diversity Statement, and Student Code of Conduct. We further understand that like all citizens, we are subject to local, state, and federal law.

Non-Negotiable

1. We realize that living in a floor and center community requires flexibility, tolerance, patience, understanding, and respect. We believe that solving problems between ourselves first must be a high priority.
2. We will treat others as we would like to be treated.
3. We realize each of us has a responsibility to other community members. This means being accountable to each other for the noise level, acts of vandalism, behaviors, and choices which impact others.
4. We understand there are standing policies, such as the alcohol policy, that are not negotiable as a community.
5. We realize that our choices should at all times take into account the rights of others.
6. We will consider others in the manner which we choose to represent ourselves both through our behavior and in the way we decorate our floor, including the outside of room doors.

Academic Environment

Non-Negotiable

1. We agree that being a student must be a high priority. We must respect each other's need for quiet, privacy and study/sleep time.
2. We agree that during quiet hours it is necessary to return to the floor quietly.
3. We agree that during quiet hours, all noise must be contained within a room. In other words, volume within a room cannot be heard outside the room door.

Negotiable

1. My GPA goal for this semester is: _____.
2. When I reach this goal, I would like to be recognized by:
 - a) a personal note from my RA
 - b) a sign from my RA
 - c) I prefer not to be recognized
 - d) a personal note from my Residence Manager
 - e) a letter sent to my parents/guardians
3. When our community reaches our GPA goal (to be determined by averaging the individual goals), I would like us to be recognized by:
 - a) a personal note from my RA
 - b) a sign from my RA
 - c) other: _____
 - d) a personal note from my Residence Manager
 - e) a letter sent to my parents/guardians
4. In an effort to maintain an academic environment, the following times were decided by our community to represent our proposal of floor quiet hours: (Note: Quiet hours must begin by **10 pm and end by 9 am.**)

Sunday through Thursday	Friday and Saturday
a) 8 pm to 9 am	a) midnight to 9 am
b) 9 pm to 9 am	b) 1 am to 9 am
c) 10 pm to 9 am	c) 2 am to 9 am

***If you are living in an academic community, you must select quiet hours from the following:

Sunday through Thursday

Friday and Saturday

a) 5 pm to 9 am

a) midnight to 9 am

b) 6 pm to 9 am

b) 1 am to 9 am

c) 7 pm to 9 am

c) 2 am to 9 am

5. We realize that courtesy hours are always in effect and identify the following distance as a measure of knowing what is too loud:

a) one door

b) two doors

c) three doors

Civility (Respect, Community Pride, Enforcement, Accountability)

Non-Negotiable

- Both residents and resident assistants (RAs) may confront situations that are policy or community agreement violations.
- The person confronting and the person confronted will treat each other with respect, courtesy, and consideration.
- We agree to comply with requests from duty RAs, other RAs and residents from our floor when asked to stop a policy violation or infringement on their rights.
- We will seek out staff assistance ONLY when our efforts to work out a problem have been ineffective.
- If a non-floor member confronts us regarding a policy that conflicts with our community agreement, we will be cooperative and try to work through the situation. If no resolution is reached, we will work with the RA and GS toward a resolution.

Negotiable

- When floor members or guests are being too noisy late at night we will
 - knock on our RAs door and ask for assistance in confronting the situation
 - call the RA on duty asking for the situation to be addressed
 - knock on their door and ask them to be quiet
 - other: _____
- If a floor member or guests is not civil towards another member of the community we will
 - ask him/her to be escorted off the floor
 - inform our RA to ask him/her to leave the floor
 - call IUPD
 - other: _____

Security

Non-Negotiable

- Each member of the community is expected to abide by the terms of this agreement.
- Community members are expected to hold individuals accountable to the standards of this agreement.
- We will not prop doors or allow unescorted guests in our community.
- We will not transfer our room keys to friends, guests, or other students.

Negotiable

We recognize the terms of this agreement may need to be revisited, as necessary, and outline the following process the community will take in order to revisit the agreement.

- Floor members who are interested in revisiting the agreement may work with their RA to create a meeting place and time. Floor members will be given _____ days notice of a meeting in which the agreement will be revisited.
- The floor members, with assistance from the RA, will notify the floor members of the meeting by:
 - large sign by main entrance to floor
 - knocking door to door _____ days before the meeting
 - mailbox flyers
 - email
 - other: _____
- In order to create a proposal for changes to the agreement, _____% of the floor needs to be in attendance at the meeting.
- Voting will be done
 - in the meeting by a hand vote
 - at the desk by ballot
 - in the meeting by ballot
 - other: _____
- The floor will need _____% of the floor members to vote and _____% of the voters in favor of the proposal in order for the changes to occur.

Common Space (Kitchen, Lounge, Laundry, Floor Maintenance, Recycling, Lounges)

Non-Negotiable

1. We understand that this floor and center is our home. We will respect the other members of the community by not damaging the building.
2. In instances of vandalism, we understand that the community will be held responsible for damages if an individual cannot or will not accept responsibility for these actions.
3. For fire safety concerns, we will not decorate the hallway or ½ of our room doors. In addition the information posted on the doors should not offend any community member, if so we will agree to remove the information.
4. If items are left in the lounge for more than 48 hours we will inform our RA and/or contact the entire community.

Negotiable

1. When the fire alarm sounds we will help evacuate the building by:
 - a) knocking on doors as we leave the floor.
 - b) electing fire marshals whose responsibility will be to knock on the doors of the floor.
 - c) Other: _____
2. If vandalism occurs on the floor, we would prefer:
 - a) the RA to document the situation and ask the graduate supervisor to investigate, understanding the whole community could be charged if no individual is found responsible.
 - b) to hold a floor meeting with center staff present to discuss the situation, hoping to determine the responsible party. If no responsible individual could be found, the community would accept responsibility for the damages.
 - c) to hold a floor meeting with center staff NOT present to discuss the situation, hoping to determine the responsible party. If no responsible individual could be found, the community would accept responsibility for the damages.
3. If the vandalism can be taken care of as a community (i.e., cleaning up a mess), we would like to be held responsible in the following manner:
 - a) the floor community will be immediately charged for the damages and/or clean-up.
 - b) the floor community will be given 1 day to repair and/or clean-up the damages; and if not done within this time frame, the floor community will be immediately charged.
4. We would like our floor lounge utilized in the following ways:
 - a) studying
 - b) socializing
 - c) both (studying and socializing)
5. The kitchen is available for all members of the community, and the community must take responsibility for its care. We agree that our kitchen should:
 - a) be left unlocked at all times
 - b) be locked on the RA's final round
6. Residence Center Staff can remove items left in the kitchen/bathroom if not removed within the following timeframe:
 - a) 24 hours
 - b) 48 hours
 - c) must be removed immediately
 - d) other: _____
7. We accept that it is our responsibility to keep our hallways free of trash. We agree that the trash rooms should:
 - a) be left unlocked at all times
 - b) be locked on the RA's final round

Community Identity

Non-Negotiable

1. We agree to discuss with roommates any situation that may make them uncomfortable, such as overnight guests or the need for privacy and quiet. We will be honest with each other and remember that each of us is entitled to an opinion.
2. We will always be courteous and civil with floor members and guests.
3. When anyone asks us to lower our noise level, we will do so immediately.
4. Guest of floor members will be escorted in the center at all times.

Negotiable

1. We have determined the following visitation policy for our floor:
 - a) Traditional (Sunday through Thursday, 9 am to midnight; Friday and Saturday, 9 am to 2 am)
 - b) Weekend (Monday through Thursday, 9 am to midnight; Friday 9am to Sunday midnight)
 - c) 24-hour unlimited visitation
 - d) Other: _____
2. While pornography is not allowed in public areas (such as hallways, study lounges or doors), our floor decides to handle other items deemed inappropriate by confronting each other if we are bothered by something outside someone's door.
 - a) Agree
 - b) Disagree.