

University Housing Resident Policies

Updated August 26, 2021

Land Acknowledgement

On behalf of Cal Poly, we would like to acknowledge that the land that we reside on today carries the heritage and culture of the indigenous people of San Luis Obispo County, the yak tit^yu tit^yu yak tiłhini, Northern Chumash tribe. We honor the indigenous people's connection to these territories and respect the land on which we live and work today.

Welcome

Welcome to University Housing. We strive to create a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all residents thrive. To do that, we rely on community members to uphold policies that benefit all residents. By electronically signing your University Housing license agreement, you have agreed to follow the policies outlined in this document. As a Cal Poly student, you are also responsible for following the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

University Housing Staff will document potential violations of these University Housing policies and/or the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Alleged violations will be reviewed by the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities (OSRR). Learn about Cal Poly's Student Conduct Process and potential outcomes by reviewing the [OSRR website](#).

Policies apply to all residents and guests of Cal Poly University Housing and are subject to updates based upon operational need, including but not limited to current public health conditions. Material changes will be communicated to residents through posted signage and/or communication to each resident's calpoly.edu email address. The current policy document will always be posted at housing.calpoly.edu.

Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Amnesty Protocol

The safety of community members is everyone's responsibility. If you see something, say something. The Cal Poly AOD amnesty protocol removes barriers when seeking help for community members in potentially life-threatening situations involving alcohol and other drugs or substances. This is both a Good Samaritan and Medical Amnesty protocol, encouraging a shared responsibility among all Cal Poly students to call for help without fear of consequences. This protocol removes punitive sanctions for first-time infractions involving alcohol and/or other drugs and substances for both the person making the call for help as well as the person experiencing the medical emergency. Please review this [campus policy](#).

University Housing Policies

1. Alcohol: Residents Under Age 21

Residents under 21 years of age may not possess alcohol or alcohol-related paraphernalia within University Housing. The following is prohibited for underage residents:

- a) Possession, manufacturing, and distribution of alcohol beverages in and around University Housing communities.
- b) Use, public intoxication, or being under the influence of alcohol beverages in or around University Housing communities. If you choose to consume, we encourage you to be aware of your safety and consume responsibly.

- c) Possession, collection, or display of alcohol containers or paraphernalia including but not limited to cans, bottles, flasks, shot glasses, empty containers of alcohol, beer bongs or other devices utilized for binge drinking, and kegs.
- d) Simulated drinking games (e.g., water pong, flip cup) or drinking games.
- e) Residents are to remove themselves from situations where any of the policies above are being violated.

2. Alcohol: Residents Age 21 and Over

The following policies apply to all residents who are 21 years of age or older, living in any apartment community, including the Cal Poly Lofts. University Housing expects residents over 21 to drink responsibly and follow all local, California State, and federal laws. If alcohol is being consumed, all residents assigned to live in the apartment must be 21 or older and mutually agree to permit alcohol within the apartment.

- a) The following is not permitted within University Housing:
 - b) Possession or consumption of alcohol within common areas, including, but not limited to, study lounges, courtyards, etc.
 - c) Common sources of alcohol, including kegs of any size.
 - d) Simulated drinking games (i.e., water pong, flip cup) or drinking games.
 - e) Collection or display of alcohol containers or paraphernalia, including, but not limited to: cans, bottles, flasks, shot glasses, empty containers of alcohol, beer bongs, kegs, and alcohol boxes.

3. Animals and Pets

Residents are expected to treat animals with respect; cruelty or abuse of any animal is not tolerated. Residents with an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) or Service Animal (SA) must be approved through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and register their animal with University Housing prior to move-in. Please visit the [Disability Resource Center](#) for more information.

- a) Residents may have a fish tank up to ten gallons in size (total per room or apartment for fish). Fish tanks are not allowed in the Cal Poly Lofts.
- b) Only approved Emotional Support Animals or Service Animals are permitted within University Housing.

4. Building and Room Access

University Housing facilities are accessible by residents, approved guests, and designated employees conducting approved work for the safety and security of residents.

- a) Residents are issued a key(s) for their room and/or apartment and are not permitted to loan their key or access card to others.
- b) Residents must ensure that the locking mechanism of their room door is always fully operational. Residents should not tamper with or alter the locking mechanism of the building or room doors.

5. Cannabis

As a drug-free campus, University Housing does not recognize Medical Marijuana 215 cards. The following are not permitted in student communities:

- a) Possession, use, consumption, or being under the influence of cannabis. Odor or disruptive behavior attributed to cannabis is also prohibited.
- b) Possession of paraphernalia (including grinders, bongs, pipes, papers, vaporizers or other devices used for cannabis consumption).

6. Community Respect and Responsible Action

University Housing encourages community accountability and respect. Residents are encouraged to use University Housing spaces for activities that uplift community or promote personal, academic, or intrapersonal growth. Behavior that is disrespectful of fellow residents or staff is not condoned. It is up to all residents to build a respectful community. Each resident is responsible for activities that occur in their assigned room, common room, bathroom, study lounge, and lounge.

- a) Allowing behaviors or items that violate University Housing policy is prohibited.
- b) Passive participation, including presence, in events that violate University Housing policies is prohibited.

7. Compliance with Staff

Residents are expected to open their doors upon reasonable request, provide accurate identification, and cooperate with university staff (including Resident Advisors, Coordinators of Student Development, the Cal Poly Police Department, etc.).

- a) Residents must comply with reasonable requests from university staff.

8. Drugs and Paraphernalia

Drugs are defined as any illegal substance that is not prescribed to an individual by a medical professional. The following is not permitted in student communities:

- a) Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any state or federally banned drug.
- b) Possession of paraphernalia, such as pipes, water pipes, bongs, vaporizers, scales, grinders, hookahs, rolling papers, or any other devices created for drug use.
- c) Selling, distributing, or misusing prescription medication.

9. Fire and Life Safety

Residents are encouraged to decorate their rooms. However, for the safety of our community, some items are not allowed in student rooms or apartments. For a complete list of items to bring and to leave behind, see [here](#). To prevent fire and protect the safety of our community, please be mindful of the following regulations:

- a) Use or possession of items with a heating element, including, but not limited to, barbecues, electric grills, hot plates, and space heaters, is not permitted.
- b) Highly flammable materials — including, but not limited to, gasoline, industrial cleaning solvents, spray paint, charcoal, lighter fluid, vehicle parts, fuel, and oil — is not permitted.
- c) Possession of candles, incense, or other flame producing materials is not permitted.
- d) Room occupancy is limited to six persons per residence hall room or twelve persons per apartment (Cerro Vista and Poly Canyon Village).

- e) Blocking of any door or emergency exits, including window access, is a fire hazard and is not permitted.
- f) Tampering with, discharging, or damaging a fire extinguisher when no fire is present is prohibited.
- g) Residents may not block access to a fire extinguisher.
- h) Tampering with or damaging fire life safety equipment, including but not limited to sprinkler system, fire alarms, etc. This includes hanging items from any life safety equipment such as pipes, sprinkler heads, pull stations, etc.
- i) Tampering with or jumping in elevators is prohibited.
- j) Residents are not permitted to possess or use items that create a fire hazard, including permitted items in excessive quantities.

10. Furniture

Due to safety concerns, only furniture provided by University Housing may be used in student rooms. If you would like to bunk your bed, please put in a Service Request in your Housing Portal. Please note, not all beds are able to be lofted or bunked.

- a) All university-owned furniture must be maintained in its assigned area. Lounge furniture is not allowed in individual student rooms or outdoors.
- b) Personal furniture is only permitted if approved as an accommodation by the Disability Resource Center.
- c) Furniture or other items may not block doors to rooms or buildings.

11. Gambling

Gambling is defined as activities played for money, checks, credit, or any other item representing value. On State property, the California Penal Code forbids the dealing, playing, conducting, betting on, and providing facilities for games involving cards, dice, and other devices for money, checks, credit, or other representation of value.

- a) Gambling of any kind is prohibited.

12. Guests and Visitors

University Housing reserves the right to prohibit visitors and guests at any time based upon operational and/or public health needs. Notice will be communicated via Cal Poly emails and websites.

Guests are defined as any non-residents (individual who does not have a license agreement with University Housing) who spend the night.

Visitors are any non-residents in or around University Housing who do not spend the night.

- a) Residents are responsible and accountable for their own actions, as well as the actions of their guests and visitors.
- b) Visitors and guests must be accompanied by the host resident while in or around University Housing.

- c) Residents must register all overnight guests which are limited to two per resident at any time. Any unapproved guest will be required to leave. Please see the Overnight Guest Registration Procedures in your Housing Portal for more information.

13. Noise

Out of courtesy and respect for their fellow residents, always be aware of your noise level and limit noise to reasonably avoid disturbing other residents.

Quiet Hours are in effect:

- Sunday – Thursday from 11 p.m. – 8 a.m.
 - Friday - Saturday from 1 a.m. – 10 a.m.
 - 24/7 during entire period of finals week beginning at 5 p.m. the day prior to finals until all final exams for the term are complete.
- a) During Quiet Hours, noise should not be heard coming from student rooms. Excessive noise is always prohibited.

14. Public Health Guidelines

All residents are required to comply with Cal Poly policies regarding public health, including, but not limited to, face coverings, physical distancing, size of gatherings, testing requirements, vaccination requirements, etc. Updated policies will be communicated via Cal Poly emails and websites.

For more information on the current COVID-19 pandemic, please visit Cal Poly's Cal Poly Covid-19 website at <https://coronavirus.calpoly.edu/>.

15. Refrigerators and Microwaves

University Housing provides refrigerators in all areas. Refrigerator styles vary based upon room types. Additional refrigerators and/or accommodations must be approved through the Disability Resource Center.

- a) Residents may not have an additional mini-refrigerator or microwaves within their room or apartment, unless approved by the Disability Resource Center.

16. Roommates

Residents are required to be open to and accepting of new roommates. University Housing may place a new resident into an empty bed space at any time.

- a) Residents must be welcoming to a current or prospective roommate with or without advance notice. Residents are not permitted to refuse a roommate.

17. Room Personalization

University Housing encourages residents to make their assigned living space feel comfortable; however, some décor poses safety risks to the community. Any item that blocks the window or can be seen from outside of the room should only be placed there for the benefit of the interior space, not the outside space (see 26.3 policy for more information).

- a) String lights must be battery operated.
- b) Posters, banners, flags, and tapestries must meet a minimum fire-retardant level.

- c) To prevent damage to walls, residents are expected to use command hooks or painters' tape to affix items to walls or furniture in their room.

18. Smoke and Tobacco Free Environment

- a) Per Executive Order 1108, Cal Poly is a smoke and tobacco-free campus. Smoking and tobacco are not allowed on campus in any form including vaping, chewing, etc.
- b) Possession, use, and/or consumption of tobacco is prohibited.

19. Solicitation and Business Enterprises

Residents seeking to operate a business must obtain written approval from University Housing to operate a business (i.e., if you reside within the Cal Poly Lofts).

- a) Residents must seek approval from the Executive Director or designee before engaging in any soliciting or operating a business within University Housing.
- b) Posting of any type of advertisement must be approved prior to display.
- c) Prior approval must be obtained for door-to-door solicitation, slide ads/fliers under doors, or door hangers.

20. Sports

Residents are encouraged to utilize the sporting equipment and spaces provided by the University. Due to the potential for personal injury and property damage, sports in hallways within all University Housing communities is prohibited. The intended use of billiards, basketball, table tennis, and foosball equipment is permitted in designated areas only.

- a) Residents must utilize designated areas outside to engage in sports or play.
- b) Behaviors that are disruptive and potentially dangerous — including, but not limited to, wrestling, boxing, climbing, parkour, slacklining, hammocking, jumping, water sliding, and acrobatics — are only allowed in designated locations.

21. Theft

Theft is the tampering with and misuse of personal property or property in and around University Housing, including, but not limited to, vending machines, furniture, walls, and laundry machines.

- a) Possession of stolen property or property obtained without the direct and expressed permission of the owner is prohibited.

22. Trespassing

Residents may not enter another resident's room, apartment, or any University Housing facility without direct and expressed permission from an authorized resident. Residents should not let unknown individuals into the building. Anyone you let into the building will be considered your guest and you will be held responsible for their behavior.

- a) Unauthorized entrance into any area in or around University Housing, such as, offices, mechanical rooms, custodial closets or storage areas, roof tops, front desks, and areas marked for restricted access is prohibited.

23. Vandalism

Vandalism is defined as an action involving deliberate destruction of or unintentional damage to public or private property.

- a) Damage to any University Housing facility, university or individually owned property is prohibited (includes removal of or altering of fliers or signage posted by University Housing) and will result to charges to individuals or community.

24. Weapons

Weapons (including but not limited to, firearms, airsoft/paintball gun, fireworks, ammunition, stun guns, tasers, weapon replicas including costume props, brass/metal knuckles, explosives) are strictly prohibited. This policy extends to costume/replica weapons and/or sports equipment, including, but not limited to, martial arts weapons, replica swords, fencing weapons, and color guard rifles, etc.

- a) Non-kitchen style knives are prohibited. Kitchen-style knives are permitted if used for intended purposes if used in designated kitchen locations.
- b) Improper use of self-defense mechanisms (including but not limited to pepper spray, mace, other aerosols, chemicals, etc.) are prohibited.

25. Wheeled Devices (Bikes and Motorcycles)

As a theft prevention measure, we encourage you to register your bike with Cal Poly Police Department. Residents are responsible for securing their own bicycles in designated bike areas. Bicycles may be stored in a resident's room if permission is received from all roommates, but not in any communal building facilities (hallways, community spaces, lobbies, etc.).

- a) Recreational equipment with wheels, including, but not limited to, bicycles, scooters, skateboards, rollerblades, and electric scooters, is not allowed to be used inside University Housing buildings.

26. Windows, Roofs, and Balconies

- a) Residents may not hang signs, flags, clothing, banners, etc. from any window or balcony. Due to the potential for harm to others, residents may not drop, roll, throw, or toss anything out of a window or balcony.
- b) Window coverings installed in each room are not to be modified or tampered with.
- c) Objects placed in windowsills are allowed only if they are meant to enhance the interior décor of room and not block the use of the window. Stickers, post-it notes, and decorative gels are not to be placed on windows.
- d) Accessing roof tops, balconies, ledges, entering/exiting through windows, and fire escapes outside of emergencies is strictly prohibited.