



Community Standards

Residence Life at Concordia University of Edmonton strives to create dynamic, holistically engaging, living & learning community that celebrates student success and supports the development of resilience. Part of this process is administering a Residence Community Standards. By living in residence, all students agree to abide by the Residence Community Standards and report any violations so they can be addressed.

We provide a restorative and educational approach to breaches of the Residence Community Standards and work with students to develop an understanding of why and how certain behaviours are harmful to their community. Our community philosophy is that all students have the capacity to make informed positive decisions and our expectations align with that belief.

Please be advised that the Residence Community Standards are updated from time to time as required. The most up-to-date version can always be located on the CUE Residence website.

Concordia University of Edmonton's Residence Community Standards

Alcohol

Residence is no longer an alcohol-free environment. Beginning January 13th 2020, our policies changed to allow the legal, reasonable, and responsible possession and consumption of alcohol in residence. It is important to practice safe drinking and make yourself aware of the regulations around alcohol consumption and possession. Being under the influence of alcohol is not an excuse for impermissible behaviour. Residents are responsible for practicing responsible consumption and have the right to access supports and resources. Residents also have the right to live in an environment undisturbed from disruptions or unsafe conditions caused by alcohol.

Impermissible Conduct: Drinking games, underage drinking, possession of beer bottles, containers larger than 1L, unsealed/open alcohol in public places, alcohol use/possession during Residence Orientation, possession of paraphernalia (funnels, kegs, etc.), severe intoxication, or any other harmful behaviours.

Business/Advertising

Operating a business in residence is not permitted. Additionally, advertising for any businesses is not permitted in residence. No outside businesses are permitted to enter residence property without prior authorization, which includes non-Concordia cleaning services.

Cannabis

Following the legalization of cannabis in October 2018, we have expanded our campus and residence policies to permit the possession of the cannabis in residence. It is prohibited to consume or produce cannabis in residence. It is also important to remember that CUE is a smoke-free environment. Any cannabis consumption, of any kind, must be off-campus. Anytime cannabis is being stored in residence, it must be in a clean and scent-proof container. Residents are wholly responsible for managing potential community impacts from cannabis use.

Impermissible Conduct: On-campus consumption, storage anywhere except a sealed scent-proof container, producing cannabis products, or any other violations of the campus Cannabis policy.

Cleanliness

In order to maintain the facilities and keep a safe and liveable environment in residence, it is required that all residence students keep a minimum level of cleanliness in all areas of residence. Within personal bedrooms, it is important that cleanliness does not detract from the facilities or harm the community. In the common bathrooms and activity areas, all residence students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves and maintaining tidiness. In the event that damages or misuse take place in a common area, unless individual students are identified, all students will be charged equally for damages/cleaning and/or banned from using the facilities, as deemed appropriate.



Decoration

Most decorations are permitted in residence because your room should absolutely feel like home! In order to maintain our facilities and comply with fire code regulations, there are specific guidelines for decorating your space. Residence Life Staff reserve the right to remove objectionable, inappropriate or unsafe materials. Any decorations that depict or promote terrorism or violent behaviours that could reasonably lead to discomfort or harm in the community, are not permitted. Any decoration that is harmful or offensive in nature (or could reasonably be perceived as so) cannot be hung up in areas where others could see them (e.g. visible from outside of the room). Additionally, no extra furniture or any changes to the room (wallpaper, holes in wall, etc.) that cannot be reversed within a few minutes are permitted.

Discrimination

Residence is designed to be an equitable and diverse community that is enriched by our differences. Discrimination of any kind, in any way, is strictly prohibited and we take a zero-tolerance approach to discrimination cases. We are often unaware of the ways our privilege impacts our ability to treat others with respect, but we are all responsible for working towards being inclusive and respectful members of the residence community.

Most violations of the discrimination standards will be referred to the Vice President, Student Life & Learning to be addressed through the Concordia Code of Student Conduct and/or the Discrimination, Harassment, and Accommodation Policy.

Disruptive Behaviour

All residents are responsible for protecting the academic environment in residence. Our top priorities are safety and academic success. Disruptive behaviour often impedes the ability of the community to excel in this area. Making strong efforts to acknowledge and respect the needs of the community as a whole and actively protect those needs is a key right and responsibility for all residents. Everyone has a role to play!

Facilities

All residents have the right to live in a safe and functional space. All residents are responsible for contributing towards a high-standard of quality within residence spaces. All residents can submit maintenance requests via the provided Google Form.

Guests

The guest policy applies to all students living in residence and is designed to protect the safety and academic environment of our facilities. We strongly encourage and support making friends with students outside of residence and students who live on other floors. That being said, our guest policy exists to balance community development with safety and academic success. All residents are expected to let their Resident Advisor know if they are hosting a guest. A guest is



any student who does not live on your floor. It is also required that any roommates approve the visitation in advance. Hosts are responsible for the behaviour of their guests at all times.

Impermissible Conduct: Hosting guests without consent of a roommate, exceeding the limit of how many guests are permitted, or any other harmful behaviour.

Harmful Behaviour

All residents have the right to live in a respectful, academically engaged, safe, and inclusive environment. Harmful behaviour is a broad term that is used to describe a wide range of behaviours that have, or could reasonably be expected to have, a harmful impact on the residence community.

Impermissible Conduct: any behaviour that causes harm to the community (or reasonably could), or ignoring a request from any CUE employee including RAs and Campus Security.

Illegal Drugs

Consumption or possession of any illegal drug, in any capacity, is strictly prohibited in residence. Any infractions of the illegal drug policy will result in eviction. All residents have the right to access harm reduction resources and relevant supports that will lead to success in residence, in school, and in life. Additionally, all residents are responsible for maintaining a safe and legal environment while in residence which includes not remaining in the presence of illegal drugs possessed or being consumed by others.

Impermissible Conduct: Any possession or consumption of illegal drugs or remaining in the presence of illegal drugs.

Noise

Our residence system strives to provide the highest level of service to our residents and create an unmatched environment that is conducive to academic and personal success. Unreasonable levels of volume challenge other community member's ability to positively engage in their residence experience. A certain level of noise is unavoidable and community development doesn't happen in a quiet room! That being said, all residents are responsible for working to balance these two areas to respect themselves and others.

Quiet hours are in effect Sunday-Thursday beginning at 11pm and ending at 8am. On Fridays and Saturdays quiet hours begin at 1am and end at 10am. All residents are expected to be aware of and abide by the quiet hours policy. Courtesy hours are in effect 24 hours a day 7 days a week! We should always be mindful of our neighbours and create respectful communities.

Room Entry

Residence Life Staff and associated campus partners are permitted to enter any residence bedroom at any time to conduct reasonable and/or scheduled inspections, maintenance, or to



respond to concerns of any nature. Typically, staff members will only enter a bedroom if there is reasonable belief that there is a threat to safety or if there is an ongoing community disturbance that needs to be addressed. Staff will make every effort to respect all community member's privacy by knocking loudly and announcing themselves before and during room entry. Maintenance staff will enter any area of resident after 11am to complete requested or routine maintenance and submitting a maintenance request is deemed as permission to enter the space to complete the maintenance. All common areas including hallways may be entered by staff at any time and residents are responsible for appropriate behaviour and dress in these areas. Residents have the right to have their property and space respected and must obtain consent before they enter any bedroom that they do not live in.

Safety

All students have the right to live in a safe environment free from undue hardship and risk. This right extends to living in residence and we take your safety seriously.

Impermissible Conduct: Anything that jeopardizes or reasonably could jeopardize the safety of the residence community which includes but is not limited to propping open access doors, the use of candles or other flammable materials, using public areas for personal storage, or anything else that is harmful to others in the community.

Many violations of the safety standard will be referred to the Vice President, Student Life & Learning to be addressed through the Concordia Code of Student Conduct, and other policies as applicable.

Sexualized Violence

Concordia University of Edmonton stands against sexualized violence, and with survivors. Please refer to the campus policy which can be located here: <https://concordia.ab.ca/student-services/student-life-learning/support-services/reporting-sexual-violence/>

All resident students are expected to have a strong understanding of consent and being active contributors to creating a campus and residence culture that values consent. Sexualized violence refers to a range of harmful behaviours targeted at sexuality and education is available across campus to support students in respecting each other and always attaining consent. We all have a role to play in developing a safe residence life experience. Residence Life also provides a high-level of support and referral for students who have experienced sexualized violence. We take a survivor-focussed approach to all situations- all survivors will be believed and treated with respect.

Most violations of the sexualized violence standards will be referred to the Vice President, Student Life & Learning to be addressed through the Concordia Code of Student Conduct, the Sexual Violence Policy, the Discrimination, Harassment, and Accommodation Policy, and other policies as applicable.



Theft

Every resident has the right to have their property respected at all times. This means not stealing from others in the community and asking for permission before borrowing things that belong to others. All residents are expected to keep their doors locked when they are not in the room to help ensure the safety of the residence facility. Additionally, any property in residence that belongs to the University including appliances and furniture may not be moved to a resident's bedroom or taken off the property at any time, for any reason.

Violence

Violence of any kind is strictly prohibited in residence and everywhere else on campus. *Most violations of the violence standards will be referred to the Director, Security Services and/or the Vice President, Student Life & Learning to be addressed through the Concordia Code of Student Conduct, and other policies as applicable.*

Relevant Policies

Residents are required to be aware of and review the following campus-wide policies which intersect with, or impact the Residence Community Standards:

1. **Concordia Code of Student Conduct:** <https://concordia.ab.ca/student-services/registrar/academic-calendar/2024-2025/8-0-student-life/8-7-code-of-student-conduct/>
2. **Sexual Violence Policy:** <https://documents.concordia.ab.ca/s/Kegj8bQBTpqC6fiQCJYLtw>
3. **Discrimination, Harassment, and Accommodation Policy:**
<https://documents.concordia.ab.ca/s/VHePgqxqJTSiPnZDFyQNT0A>
4. **Access to Information Policy:**
<https://documents.concordia.ab.ca/s/UZZeSTwNSgaWBWWwO4RJcw>
5. **Cannabis Policy:** <https://documents.concordia.ab.ca/s/juxBTeCqQIWlb2yZ3rZAlw>
6. **Statement of Policy Regarding a Smoke-Free Campus:**
<https://documents.concordia.ab.ca/s/uG6zaeRwRZafkR5QWvT1cw>

Low and mid-level violations of the Residence Community Standards will typically be addressed through the Residence Community Standards conduct process. However, high-level violations and any others deemed necessary by university administration may be addressed in conjunction with, or exclusively by, other relevant policies and procedures.



Residence Conduct Process

The residence conduct process is designed to be educational, collaborative, and restorative in nature. We seek to create a strong balance of supporting you to navigate challenging situations where harm has occurred while also challenging you to take accountability for your actions and repair harms whenever possible.

Step 1

• Occurrence

- Incident occurs and Residence Life Staff completes either an Incident Report or Community Resolution.

Step 2

• Classification

- Residence Life Coordinator reviews the IR/CR and determines which policies have potentially been violated.
- Residence Life Coordinator assigns a case manager: Residence Community Development Lead; Residence Life Coordinator; Director, Student Life & Learning; Director, Security Services; or Vice President, Student Life & Learning

Step 3

• Review

- Case Manager reviews the incident documentation and initiates an investigative process as appropriate.
- Case Manager notifies resident (and other relevant individuals) of their meeting dates and times via email to their CUE email address.
- Residents are required to attend their meetings to understand the potential violations of policy and share their perspective.

Step 4

• Outcomes

- Case Manager will determine level of responsibility on a balance of probabilities utilizing relevant policies and available information.
- Case Manager will either: 1) notify resident of the outcome via email, or 2) schedule an additional meeting to detail the outcome.

Appeals: For violations of the Residence Community Standards, residents can appeal decisions made by the Case Manager by replying in writing within 7 calendar days. Appeals are granted on the basis of either: 1) substantial new information not available at the original time of investigation, or 2) evidence of bias or unfair procedure relating to the conduct process.



Outcomes for Violations of the Residence Community Standards

Concordia University of Edmonton believes that all residents are capable of behaving in a way that promotes community development, safety, and academic success. We hold all residents accountable to this belief and provide a supportively challenging environment that equally promotes success and accountability. Our response to misconduct will always value learning, be community centered, and seek to maintain the highest level of procedural fairness possible.

Mediation

Residents involved in the misconduct will meet together with the Case Manager to explore the harm that has occurred and work collaboratively to move towards an outcome.

Remediation

Residents who harmed the community will work to directly repair the harm caused.

Community Service

Residents will support the Residence Staff team to build their community.

Community Education

Residents will partner with their Resident Advisor to plan and execute a Community Development Experience in order to positively contribute to their community.

Educational Reflection

Residents will complete a guided reflection paper on relevant Residence Community Standards.

Alcohol & Drug Use Contract

An agreement signed by the resident to further limit their capacity to possess and consume alcohol or drugs beyond the rules outline in the RCS and other relevant policies.

Written/Verbal Warnings

Outline the harmful behaviour and potential alternatives to be used in the future.

Fines

Requires a resident to pay an agreed upon amount of money in restitution for the harm.

Residence Suspensions

Requires a resident to temporarily move out of residence pending an investigation or completion of another relevant outcome.

Eviction

Requires a resident to permanently move out of residence and be issued a No Trespass Order.

