



OFF-CAMPUS LIVING POLICY

NEIGHBORHOOD EXPECTATIONS

The expectation for appropriate student behavior does not end at the gates of the college. The College of the Holy Cross is an integral part of the College Hill neighborhood and the City of Worcester. Maintaining amicable and considerate relations between the college and local residents is essential to the college's mission. Student behavior that is disruptive of these relations will be addressed through the disciplinary system and appropriate community standards sections.

1. All students who wish to live off-campus must complete an application and receive permission to do so. Permission is granted for one year at a time and is not automatic.
2. The application process will take place during the Fall term prior to the year that students seek to live off-campus. Applications will be available following off-campus informational meetings. There will be a deadline for applications and the approval process set each year.
3. Under no circumstances should students enter into a lease agreement if they have not received permission to reside off-campus.
4. Applications will be reviewed by the Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards and the Director of Residence Life and Housing. Review will be done upon receipt of completed application materials.
5. Students who do not receive permission to live off-campus will automatically be contracted for campus housing and will participate in room selection held during the Spring Semester.
6. Only students who are currently in good disciplinary standing will be granted permission to live off-campus. Students with a disciplinary history which includes a record of College or Residence Hall Probation are likely not to be granted permission to live off-campus. Permission may be revoked if a student's disciplinary status changes after they have been approved to live off-campus. Students who are concerned about the possible academic impact of off-campus living should consult with their Class Dean and/or academic advisor.
7. Only students who have completed four semesters of study at Holy Cross will be eligible for off-campus residency. Students who have transferred to the college must be at least a Junior by the time they wish to live off-campus. Rising seniors are given priority for approval.
8. The college reserves the right to limit the overall number of students granted permission to live off-campus each year.
9. Students are required to provide the college with accurate off-campus contact information to include their address, apartment number and landlord contact information. Student must also return a copy of their leases to the Dean of Student's Office or designee as posted.
10. Varsity athletes should confer with the Athletic Department regarding additional criteria or team rules for off-campus living.

11. Students who are found responsible for any violation of the law, City ordinance or college policy can have their off-campus permission revoked immediately regardless of the financial impact of a lease. Students who have their permission revoked will be required to return to on-campus housing with its attendant expense, or move to another agreed upon housing arrangement.
12. The college does not inspect, review or otherwise recommend off-campus apartments and therefore cannot ascertain whether such properties are safe, sanitary or in compliance with local ordinances.
13. Tenants are encouraged to investigate living conditions, landlord practices and quality of dwellings prior to entering into a lease agreement. The college does not mediate landlord/tenant issues.
14. When the college is made aware that a property owner has failed to address or otherwise correct housing code violations, or quality of life issues at their property, the College may restrict students from residing at a particular property. The list of restricted properties will be maintained by the Dean of Students. The restricted property list will be reviewed and updated annually.
15. Student tenants are expected to fully cooperate with City officials carrying out their official duties; this includes permitting members of the City's Property Review Team access to their off-campus units to ensure compliance with housing codes and local ordinances.
16. Students are expected to be aware of and abide by housing ordinances that limit occupancy to no more than three unrelated persons per single living unit. The college will cooperate with City officials to ensure that students abide by this ordinance. Students who violate this ordinance can and have faced eviction.
17. Students are expected to keep their properties free of trash and debris. Students should also be aware of and abide by the City's trash and recycling policies. <http://www.worcesterma.gov/dpw/trash-recycling> . Violations will include campus fines, community service and progressive college discipline.
18. This policy shall not apply to students 24 years of age or older, those who are married or commuter students (living with a parent or legal guardian), or those who are the parents of dependent children. Students who do not meet these criteria but may have special circumstances should contact Student Affairs.
19. The application process and interpretation of this policy is under the authority of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.