

2023-24



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
Housing and Residence Life



**community living  
expectations**

# the mission of housing and residence life

To foster a residential experience that engages individuals as students, community members and learners through academic support, civic responsibility and personal development. We have developed policies that support positive academic behavior and prepare students for life beyond Western Michigan University. These policies reflect the values of our campus and our on-campus housing, including civility, diversity, personal investment and personal safety.

## civil and respectful community

All WMU students residing in on-campus housing are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that does not infringe on the rights of others or interfere with the educational functions of the University and its facilities. All students deserve to live in an environment free from harassment, intimidation, or emotional distress. Students are expected to abide by the community standards of the residence halls and WMU Apartments, which promotes accountability for one's own actions and respect for the rights of all. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action. Additionally, residents are accountable for the misconduct of their in-room visitors.

## invested community

Residential living promotes individual and group responsibility through positive communities. The Community Living Expectations balances the rights and responsibilities of the individual and those of the community. In order to carry out its educational mission, Housing and Residence Life aspires to create and maintain learner-centered environments that are social and educational. Students are encouraged to participate in the many progressive leadership opportunities available within the residence halls.

## diverse community

Housing and Residence Life values and encourages students to be globally engaged, to gain exposure to thoughts and ideas of others as an active participant in their community, which stimulates personal growth and development. This is in keeping with values of Western Michigan University, which prohibits discrimination or harassment that violates the law or constitutes inappropriate or unprofessional limitation of employment opportunity, University facility access, or participation in University activities on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, protected disability, veteran status, height, weight or marital status.

## healthy and safe community

Living on campus is a shared living experience where all residents are responsible for maintaining a healthy and safe community environment. Students are expected to do their part by collaborating with Housing and Residence Life staff and other University departments, engaging in healthy and safe behaviors and reporting potentially dangerous situations.

# community living expectations policies are a legally binding adjunct to your housing contract.

If a student enters an area where a violation of policy is occurring, or a violation is initiated in an area where the student is present, the student should leave immediately. Otherwise, by choosing to remain, the student assumes responsibility for all behavior and items in that location, regardless of participation.

All students are responsible to know, understand and adhere to all policies and procedures published by WMU. Full versions of the Student Code and Community Living Expectations can be found at the following websites:

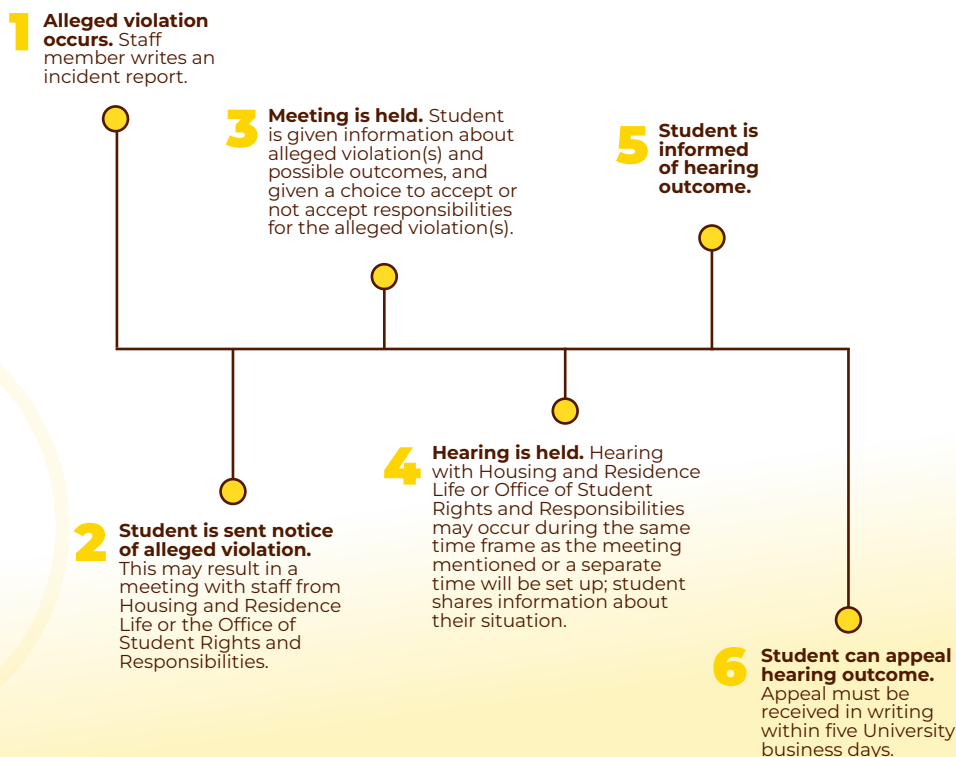
student code

[wmich.edu/conduct/code](http://wmich.edu/conduct/code)

community living expectations

[wmich.edu/housing/info/policies](http://wmich.edu/housing/info/policies)

## conduct process flow chart



# **the following are prohibited conduct in the western michigan university residence halls:**

1. Possession or use of alcohol (or empty alcohol containers) by a minor; sale or provision of alcohol to a minor; possession of alcohol in public areas or those occupied by minors.
2. Possession, use, sale or provision of any controlled substance, illegal drug or related paraphernalia; includes recreational and medical marijuana per federal law.
3. Possession of any weapon (see WMU weapon policy for further clarification).
4. Interference with or obstruction of Residence Life or University officials in the performance of their duties; obstructing or impeding entrance to or exit from a residence hall or apartment complex; providing false information to officials; failure to comply with reasonable requests from officials.
5. Engaging in noisy, disorderly or disruptive behavior, which interferes with others' abilities to sleep, study or be present in one's own apartment or residence hall; or creates an avoidable urgent situation to which University officials are required to respond; check with hall staff regarding hall quiet and courtesy hours.
6. Unauthorized entry into any secured or restricted space in a residence hall or WMU Apartment complex or any space for which one has not been authorized.
7. Setting or fueling a fire of any size; possession or use of candles or incense; use of tobacco products or e-cigarettes on University property; possession, use, or manufacture of explosive, flammable or harmful materials.
8. Damage to or misuse of fire safety equipment; use of unapproved appliances; failure to evacuate during a fire alarm.
9. Misuse of identification; possession, sale, distribution or manufacture of false identification; misuse or unauthorized possession of room keys, building keys, or access cards.
10. Physical or verbal misconduct toward another individual; harassing or threatening any person so as to interfere with that person's ability to sleep, study or be present in one's own residence hall or apartment.
11. Sexual and gender-based harassment and violence, intimate partner violence and stalking are prohibited. Please see [wmich.edu/sexualmisconduct](http://wmich.edu/sexualmisconduct) for information regarding sexual misconduct complaints and their resolution.
12. Destroying, damaging, or defacing any public or private property; theft of property or services; knowing possession of stolen property; unauthorized removal or possession of property or furnishings from common areas.
13. Misuse of University-owned and/or personal computers, phones, telecommunications, or networks systems, including illegal file sharing or downloading of copyrighted materials.
14. Placing signs, posters, decorations, etc. anywhere on University property without proper authorization.
15. Bringing or housing an animal inside a residence hall or apartment; aquarium fish are permitted in tanks under 20 gallons; does not apply to designated service or support animals.
16. All residents are required to use bathrooms specified for their gender.
17. Failure to maintain living spaces in an orderly and sanitary condition; failure to properly dispose of room trash in outside dumpsters.
18. Failure to monitor guests' behavior in order to assure adherence to residence hall policies; failure to escort guests at all times; guests under age 18 are not permitted in the residence halls; overnight guests are limited to two consecutive nights with roommate/suite-mate approval; no cohabitation.
19. Use of sporting or recreation equipment inside of the residence halls.
20. All forms of solicitation, including commercial solicitation and political/social solicitation; use of on-campus housing location or information as a place of business.
21. Violations of Residence Life policies and procedures published in the Community Living Expectations (CLE) and/or policies posted within the residence halls or apartments. Full text of the CLE can be found at [wmich.edu/housing/info/policies](http://wmich.edu/housing/info/policies).