

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

Answers to your questions about living in the residence halls at Cheyney University.

What items should I bring to campus? What should I not bring?

Please see the [Packing List for On-Campus Living](#) which includes a list of items to consider bringing as well as a list of prohibited items.

What sort of fire protection equipment is in the residence halls?

All residential buildings have a fully operating sprinkler system. All student rooms, as well as all common areas, have smoke detectors. All hallways have fire extinguishers.

Students who tamper with the fire protection equipment (for instance covering or removing pieces) may be processed through the University Conduct system as well as through the legal system.

If you accidentally set off the fire alarm (such as burning food in the microwave oven), you should contact University Police immediately at 610/399-2405.

Should I get renter's insurance?

The university does not sell renter's insurance, nor does it provide insurance coverage for personal property that may be damaged or destroyed as a result of theft, fire, smoke, water, excessive heat or cold, or other elements.

We recommend that you examine your or your parent's homeowner policy to see if personal items would be insured and, if they are, the extent of the coverage. We highly recommend that each resident has some form of personal property insurance to cover replacement costs for theft or damage.

What kind of cable television is available on campus?

Comcast is the cable provider on campus. Basic cable is available

Are the rooms carpeted?

Rooms in Emlen Hall, Living Learning Community (LLC), Humphreys Hall are carpeted. Bedrooms are carpeted in the suites.

Are escorts available so I don't have to walk across campus by myself at night?

Students are urged not to walk alone, especially during evening or early morning hours. To ensure their own safety, they should preplan activities and make advance arrangements to walk with others.

University Police operates an on-campus escort service from 9:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. daily. Students needing an escort should call University Police at 610/399-2405.

Can I get out of my housing contract?

The **Housing and Dining Agreements** are legal agreements and, once submitted, are binding for the academic year (fall and spring semesters). Students are financially responsible for both semesters

unless they participate in a university-sponsored program that takes them away from the Cheyney University area, or if they terminate their enrollment.

What furnishings are provided?

Each resident is provided with

- dresser/chest
- desk and chair
- bed and mattress
- closet or wardrobe
- mirror
- wastebasket
- active Ethernet connection and cable television service

Furniture is moveable in the suites and buildings.

Are microwave ovens and refrigerators provided?

All rooms in the Living Learning Community (LLC) suite-style building have refrigerators and microwave ovens. Humphreys Hall, Emlen Hall and Tubman Hall do not provide microwave ovens or refrigerators, but students can bring their own.

Are there any size or power-consumption restrictions for a refrigerator?

For safety reasons, refrigerators cannot exceed two amps and 3.1 cubic feet. If you are unsure of the power consumption of an appliance, ask a store clerk, or look for that information on the back of the appliance.

Are there laundry facilities in the residence halls?

Each residential building has a laundry room with washers and dryers. Laundry is paid for using student's ID-Card and their account. Funds can be added to the student's card at the Bursar's Office.

Are the residence halls air conditioned?

All residence halls are air condition except for Tubman Hall.

What size are the beds?

The mattress size is 36 inches by 76 inches. It is recommended that you bring extra- long twin sheets.

Do I have a meal plan?

Residents are required to purchase one of two meal plans. This ensures high-quality, nutritious meals. Many students attending college for the first time are not experienced with time management. Having a meal plan relieves the student of the responsibility of shopping, cooking, and cleaning up after meals, allowing more time for academic pursuits. Furthermore, residence halls are not designed for students to prepare meals. Of concern are the potential for fire, activation of smoke alarms, clogging of drains, improper disposal of waste and garbage, electrical overloads, insects and rodents.

What is the policy on noise?

Residents are responsible for maintaining reasonable conditions for study and sleep in our residence halls. Minimum courtesy and quiet hours have been established 10:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and midnight to 8:00 a.m. weekends. A 24-hour quiet period goes into effect prior to and during final exam periods. Courtesy hours, in effect 24 hours a day require students to be considerate of the needs of others at all times, and to comply with requests for maintaining a reasonable level of quiet. Quiet hours cover specific evening hours and require that noise be reduced so that nothing can be heard from within rooms when doors are closed.

Students are expected to confront individuals who infringe upon their right to study or sleep. Resident Advisors (RA) are available to help maintain a reasonable level of quiet on the floor; however, they are not expected to be the sole policy enforcers on the floor. No staff member can be available 24 hours a day to address every situation that may arise. At the same time, students are encouraged to practice the skills they need to be self-sufficient adults. When asked to settle a noise situation, a RA is likely to ask the resident if she/he has made any attempt to resolve the situation. If the resident has made an attempt and did not receive an adequate response, the RA will assist in intervention. If the resident has not made an attempt, the RA is likely to encourage her or him to address the matter with the student in question before seeking intervention.

Students who continually show disrespect for the rights of others and/or refuse to cooperate with requests to keep the noise level down are referred to the Director for disciplinary action. Repeated violations could lead to a student's loss of eligibility for campus housing.

Courtesy hours are in effect for all residence halls, seven days a week. Quiet hours are in effect in all residential building during evening hours. When quiet hours are not in effect, courtesy hours require that students be considerate of the needs of others and comply with requests for maintaining a reasonable level of quiet. These policies help make residence hall rooms suitable places to study. Other places for studying include residence hall student lounges, the library, Marcus Foster Student Union, and the Academic Success Center.

How do I pay for my room?

Payment of semester room and meal fees must be made according to the deadline dates indicated on the university billing statement for each semester.

What happens when a student violates policy?

Students who violate policies can expect to experience the consequences of those decisions. For a lesser violation, a student will be required to meet with the Director to discuss the situation and participate in an action plan. Action plans may include a formal written warning, a contract for behavior change, and/or an educational assignment designed to help the student gain new information and insight.

If the incident requires investigation, the student is a repeat violator, or the situation is particularly serious, a referral to the residence hall judicial system may be initiated via the Office of Student Conduct. When appropriate, Cheyney University Police are invited to participate in investigations. University Police are contacted for all alcohol related policy violations and all matters involving alleged criminal activity. A hearing time is established when a university hearing officer or judicial board will review information concerning the student's behavior; including testimony from the accused student

and any witnesses, then decide whether the student is in violation of any policy. If a violation is determined, the officer or board will decide on sanctions or consequences appropriate to the case.

What do I do if I have problems with my roommate?

The relationship between roommates often impacts one's satisfaction with college life. Components of a positive relationship are the assertive expression of one's needs, the recognition and respect for the unique needs and lifestyles of others, and the positive management of conflict. Students are expected to take primary responsibility for ensuring the development and maintenance of a positive roommate relationship. Students are strongly encouraged to invest themselves fully in working together to resolve differences by speaking directly to roommates, sharing concerns, expressing feelings in an honest manner, and jointly resolving conflict. In some cases, a roommate may be unresponsive or difficult to approach. In either situation, the student should seek help from his/her Life Coach. RAs are trained to assist students in expressing themselves to their roommates or in negotiating a living agreement.

What staff manage the residence halls?

All residence halls are managed by a Director for Student Housing and a Director for Housing Operations as well as Residence Advisors and Life Coaches. These individuals are trained specifically in working with college students in a residential setting. Most residence halls have two RAs per floor. RAs are responsible for working with students to create and maintain a floor community conducive to academic, social, and personal needs. RAs are expected to confront violations of university policy, act as role models, encourage residents to take responsibility for their own actions/choices, and encourage respect and appreciation for each other.

In addition, there are custodians, maintenance, and other housing personnel who might be in the building. Each residence hall has 24-hour security located at the main entrance.

What is the policy on visitors?

Overnight guests are not permitted in the residence halls.

The right to sleep, study, and have privacy supersede visitation privileges.

Guests entering the building must be escorted by their host or hostess at all times when they are in the building. Residents are directly responsible for the actions of their guests. Residents may face disciplinary action and be held financially responsible for any behavior of a guest that results in property damage. The university reserves the right to deny access to any guest if it has been determined that he/she has disturbed, endangered, or disrupted residents.

Can I bring a vehicle to campus?

Parking permits are required and available (for a fee) through University Police. For more information, call the police directly at 610/399-2405.

What type of window coverings are provided?

All student rooms have window shades or blinds. Residents may install their own fire-retardant draperies. You may not install additional curtain rods using screws, but you can use a tension curtain rod to hang additional draperies.

How do students gain access to their building and room?

The university ID card performs numerous functions, one of which is building access. Your ID card has been specifically programmed so that it can be swiped through the card reader(s) at your building community to allow you access. Your ID card is programmed for use at this/these card reader(s) only and will not work in any readers in any other building on campus. If you have a problem gaining access to your residence hall with your ID card, report to the Housing Office.

A metallic key(s) is issued to each student at move-in for their room. During the semester, if students changes room, they must go to the Housing Office to receive a new key.

Some suites have separate bedrooms. In these types of suites, students will be issued a metallic key to their bedroom.

Are there video cameras?

Electronic video surveillance cameras are installed and operational at all exits/entrances of each residential building and can be used in the investigation of criminal activity. There are also cameras in each hallway.

Are any doors alarmed?

In order to eliminate the unsafe practice of propping doors, all exterior access doors in your building have been alarmed. Many exterior doors have an immediate alarm which will sound as soon as the door is opened, while other exit doors will alarm after 10 or 60 seconds.