

## Western Residence Contract Behaviour Expectations 2024–2025

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This document provides an alphabetical guide to what we expect of you as a Residence Student and the rationale for those expectations. Expectations are in place to help ensure the safety and security of you and your residence community, and to help foster a positive living environment for all. At one of the first floor meetings of the year, you will discuss these Conduct Expectations and the reason for them. During this floor meeting, you will also develop a community accountability agreement. These expectations are listed in the Contract you signed when you accepted your admission to residence.

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### Orientation Week

Alcohol and cannabis are not permitted from the first move-in day until September 9, 2024, regardless of your age. This means that you can neither possess nor consume these substances during Move-In and Orientation Week. We reserve the right to notify your parent/ guardian/emergency contact and/or suspend you from residence for the remainder of Orientation Week should you come to our attention during Orientation Week for substance-related behaviour.

*Rationale:* Orientation Week is a time to explore your new home, meet new people and enjoy events. It is also a time when most students living in residence are not yet of an age where they can legally consume alcohol and cannabis. By not permitting alcohol and cannabis during this time, we help support student safety and encourage students to enjoy the events offered during Orientation Week.

Hazing is not a part of the orientation experience and is strictly prohibited. Behaviours considered to be hazing will result in disciplinary sanctions, ranging from probation to termination of your Residence Contract.

*Rationale:* Western’s Student Code of Conduct defines hazing as engaging in conduct that is, or is reasonably seen to be, humiliating or demeaning to another person, or coercing, enticing, or inciting a person to commit an act that is, or is reasonably seen to be, humiliating or demeaning to that person or to others, regardless of consent. These tactics are harmful to an individual’s physical, emotional and psychological health and safety. In Residence and at Western students should feel welcome and part of the Western Community from day one and any attempt to haze individuals is prohibited.

There is a “no guest” policy in effect during Orientation Week (September 2 to 9, 2024 inclusive).

*Rationale:* Guests are not permitted during Orientation Week, (and throughout the month of September) so that you have an opportunity to form bonds and establish relationships. These are the people you will live with for the next eight months and who have the potential to become life-long friends.

### Alcohol

Western promotes responsible and safe consumption of alcohol in Residence and enforces the guidelines under the Ontario Liquor License Act and the Alcohol Gaming Commission of Ontario. Western students and residents are also subject to the conditions of the Campus Alcohol Policy: [mapp133.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/mapp133.pdf). The expectations below are in place to minimize the risks associated with alcohol consumption and promote positive behaviour while consuming alcohol. Violations and/or inappropriate behaviour resulting from alcohol use may lead to Housing notifying your parent/guardian/emergency contact and result in significant disciplinary measures (including termination of your Residence Contract).

- Alcohol in single-serve glass bottles is not allowed in Residence.  
*Rationale:* Glass bottles are a safety hazard. They break easily, potentially causing injury in the moment and/or leaving traces of glass behind in carpets, which can lead to future injury if not cleaned up properly. Almost all products offered in bottles are also offered in cans.

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- Open alcohol or consumption of alcohol in any common space is not permitted in residence. Additionally, unsealed containers must be closed with a proper lid. If you are of legal age, alcohol can be consumed in your residence room after Orientation Week.

*Rationale:* In Residence, alcohol cannot be consumed or stored in public places such as a lounges, bathrooms or hallways. If you need to move open alcohol between rooms it must be in closed container, to prevent spillage. A closed container is defined as a container that can be turned upside down without any spillage. Transporting it this way also reduces the perception that you are consuming alcohol in a public space.
- Large volume containers such as kegs, mini-kegs, and any container that holds more than 500ml of beer, 1L of wine or 40 oz/1183 ml of any type of alcohol, are not permitted in residence. Similarly, funnels, drinking hats and any other high-risk consumption devices are not permitted in residence.

*Rationale:* It can be difficult to track alcohol consumption when using a large volume container. Large volume containers can also lead to alcohol being widely distributed. Limiting the amount of alcohol permitted in residence is intended to help encourage those of age to consume alcohol responsibly and safely.
- Alcohol containers and related alcohol paraphernalia are not to be displayed in windows or on doors.

*Rationale:* Displaying alcohol paraphernalia can create a false narrative about how much alcohol students consume in residence. While the perception, created in society, is that alcohol is commonly consumed by students in residence, the reality is that students drink much less than what the average student commonly believes. This has been demonstrated through student surveys conducted at various institutions, including Western
- Making wine, beer or any other alcoholic beverage is not permitted in residence.

*Rationale:* Making beer and wine requires specialized equipment including heating elements and high-pressure storage tanks that can be safety hazards. Additionally, there can be strong scents associated production of these products that might disrupt the community and those living in it.
- Purchasing alcohol for or supplying alcohol to, a minor is not allowed. The sale of alcohol to others regardless of age is not permitted. Additionally, as per the Ontario Liquor License Act, underage students may not be in possession of open or closed alcohol.

*Rationale:* Western Housing is obligated to enforce the Ontario Liquor Licence Act, and as purchasing alcohol for minors is considered illegal in Ontario it is not permitted in Residence
- Alcohol intoxication, regardless of age, is never an excuse for inappropriate behaviour. It is your responsibility to manage your health and well-being regarding your alcohol intake and act respectfully and appropriately while under the influence. Repeated behaviour or serious incidents involving alcohol may trigger more severe disciplinary sanctions.

*Rationale:* Alcohol can impair a person's judgement, reaction times, motor skills and speech; however, this is not an excuse for behaviour that is disrespectful; or disruptive to your peers, your community, the staff, or the building itself. You are expected to know your limits and stay within them so that you are in control of your behaviour and able to make informed, respectful choices. Residence may provide substance education in incidents of over intoxication.

## Animals

Western Residence is a pet free environment, which ensures a safe space for everyone and protects against the mistreatment of animals in residence.

- Service animals are permitted where a resident has a disability-related need for a service animal (as defined in Western’s MAPP Accessibility policy, section 1.47) verified by Western’s Accessible Education and has entered into an agreement with Western’s Housing and Ancillary Services through a Residence-Accessibility Request.
- If you are found to have an unauthorized animal (including fish) in residence, you will be required to immediately find it a new home.  
*Rationale:* While animals are great as companions, they can have a negative impact in a residence community. These can include causing damage and health and safety related issues. Furthermore, animals often require a lot of responsibility and attention, and Housing staff cannot be expected to provide this should a student be unable to.
- Negligence or misconduct toward any animal(s), may be considered animal cruelty.  
*Rationale:* Animal cruelty is illegal.

## Cannabis

Western promotes responsible and safe consumption of cannabis in Residence and upholds the provincial and federal legislation as defined by Bill C-45, the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, and the Occupational Health & Safety Act.

- Cannabis may not be consumed by any person under 19 years of age. Likewise, those under 19 cannot be in possession of cannabis or any cannabis paraphernalia used for cannabis consumption. Additionally, the distribution of cannabis to underage students, and the sale of cannabis to others regardless of age is not permitted and may be considered trafficking.  
*Rationale:* Western Housing is obligated to address and enforce Canadian and Ontario Cannabis Control and Licensing Acts.
- Possessing in excess of 30 grams of cannabis is not allowed.  
*Rationale:* Western Housing is obligated to address and enforce the Canadian and Ontario Cannabis Control and Licensing Acts. As per the Federal Cannabis Act and the Cannabis Control Act of Ontario, individuals who are 19 years of age or older are permitted to possess up to 30 grams of legal cannabis, dried or equivalent in non-dried form.
- Cannabis must be stored in a sealed airtight container when not in use. Hookahs, bongs, vaporizers, grinders or any other cannabis paraphernalia must be stored in a sealed airtight container. Furthermore, cannabis containers and related cannabis paraphernalia are not to be displayed in windows or on doors.  
*Rationale:* Storing cannabis in an airtight container helps prevent the spread of the scent of cannabis in the community. Strong scents such as the scent given off by cannabis can be impactful to community members and can make individuals uncomfortable. Furthermore, the scent can imply that someone is using cannabis in residence either by smoking it or through other manners of consumption. Scent is often enough to have probable cause to believe that cannabis was being consumed.

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Displaying cannabis paraphernalia on doors and in windows can create a false narrative about how much cannabis is being consumed by students in residence. Research suggests that students consume cannabis much less than what the average student perceives.

- Possession and/or cultivation of cannabis plants or cannabis related products is not allowed in residence.

*Rationale:* Growing and drying cannabis releases scents that may be unpleasant to fellow residents.

- Cooking/baking with cannabis is not permitted in residence due to the potential community impacts. Additionally, in keeping with Smoke-Free Western, smoking and vaping cannabis in any residence and/or on Western property is not permitted.

*Rationale:* Baking with cannabis creates a strong odour that may be unpleasant to fellow residents. In addition to being against the Smoke-Free Western policy, cannabis scent can cause issues for community members, including those with asthma. Smoke from vapes, cigarettes and other tobacco or cannabis related items can activate smoke alarms, putting the residence building into evacuation and causing the fire department to attend. Finally, uncared for cigarette butts or other items that have been lit are a fire hazard. Even when you think they may have been extinguished there is a chance that they can still ignite a fire.

- Sending or receiving cannabis in the mail, except for deliveries to of-age students directly from the Ontario Cannabis Store, is not allowed.

*Rationale:* Of age students are permitted to receive deliveries from the Ontario Cannabis Store. Cannabis sent in the mail from any other retailer will not be accepted, as we cannot guarantee it is from legal sources.

- Cannabis intoxication, regardless of age, is never an excuse for inappropriate behaviour. It is your responsibility to manage your health and well-being regarding your alcohol intake and act respectfully and appropriately while under the influence. Repeated behaviour or serious incidents involving cannabis may trigger more severe disciplinary sanctions.

*Rationale:* Cannabis can impair a person's alertness, alter depth perception, impair concentration, reaction times, and motor skills. This is never an excuse for behaviour that is disrespectful, impactful or disruptive to your peers, staff or building or your community. You are expected to know and consume within your limits so that you are in control of your behaviour and able to make informed, respectful choices.

## Community Issues

As a member of the Residence community there are certain expectations, outlined below, that ensure everyone can have a safe and positive residence experience. You are expected to familiarize yourself with these expectations to ensure you understand how to be a positive member of your community.

- Misrepresenting oneself is not allowed and will result in sanctions under the Contract.

*Rationale:* When interacting with peers, staff and Western Special Constables it is important to identify yourself. Misrepresenting yourself for the purpose of sneaking into residence buildings, or to avoid staff identifying you is not acceptable. It is important that we know who is in our buildings and who staff are interacting with. You are expected to identify yourself to all staff in residence when asked.

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- Dishonesty, collusion or deliberate attempts to cover up the facts are considered violations of the Residence Contract. You are expected to cooperate with Residence Staff during fact finding and not work with others to deliberately cover up facts and evidence.

*Rationale:* When an incident requires follow-up under the Residence Contract students are expected to be honest and cooperate with the conduct process. Our goal is to help students learn and grow from mistakes. However, if a student chooses not to cooperate in the process, the behaviour will raise the question as to whether residence is the best place for the student to live.
- Participating in sport or sport related activities in residence is not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, throwing a ball or Frisbee, rollerblading, using a slip and slide, bicycling, wrestling, rough and boisterous play and chasing people. Some buildings have designated recreation areas where games and sports may be played.

*Rationale:* Sports are fun and a great way to connect with others and let off steam on a busy study night. However, the halls of residence buildings are not the best space for a game of catch or soccer. Activity like this has often resulted in damage to the building, accidentally engaging or damaging fire equipment, and in injuries to those involved. Furthermore, the activity can be disruptive to those in the community who are trying to sleep or study.
- Pranks and other disrespectful behaviour are unacceptable in residence. Pranking staff or other residents or participating in other disruptive activities intended to fool, scare or intentionally/unintentionally negatively impact others is not permitted.

*Rationale:* Pranks are often initially well intended. However, they can escalate quickly, leading to damage, injury or undo disruption to peers and staff. Furthermore, pranks have a tendency to escalate to a response and can turn into a “prank war”.
- Hosting or promoting parties in residence is not permitted. This includes advertising parties, whether through posters or on social media as well as promotion of, or participating in, events that promote excessive consumption of cannabis. It also includes the promotion of, or participating in, mass alcohol consumption events such as drinking games and floor/building crawls.

*Rationale:* Mass consumption events such as drinking games and floor crawls encourage the quick consumption of alcohol. Quick consumption of alcohol is a safety concern because people can easily become intoxicated before realizing how much they have consumed. Mass consumption of cannabis can lead to you to become sick, paranoid or pass out – in some cases requiring emergency personnel to respond.
- Gambling, defined as playing games of chance for money, in any form is prohibited in Residence.

*Rationale:* A game of poker or betting on a competitive game can be fun and a great way to socialize. However, gambling can lead to financial issues and misunderstandings, which can be disruptive to the individual and the community.
- You (or any guest) should never throw or allow any object(s) to drop from a window, balcony, rooftop or stairwell. Do not throw anything at a residence building.

*Rationale:* Throwing items from a window, balcony or in a stairwell is a safety issue and can cause serious injury or damage.

### Damages & Decorating

If you see damage occurring or are aware of information regarding damage that has occurred, you are strongly encouraged to share that information with your Don or other Housing staff. Students are also responsible for Damages or Vandalism that is discovered during room inspections, general cleaning and maintenance or is discovered after move-out. Labour and supplies can be costly so it is best to notify Housing Staff when damage occurs.

- Causing Damage to Residence or Residence Grounds is not allowed. If you cause damage to residence property in conjunction with others, and Housing is unable to determine who is specifically responsible for each damage, all individuals will be held responsible for the total cost of the damage. This includes any damage caused by or incurred from negligence, misadventure or carelessness (or that of guests) regardless of intent. Examples of these behaviours include but are not limited to; engaging in water fights/slip and slides, playing sports in residence, pranks, play fighting.

*Rationale:* Residence is a home and a workplace. Intentionally causing damage in Residence affects those who live in the space as well as those who have to change their schedule in order to repair and clean up the damage. Students are asked to treat the space like their own home and hold one another accountable.
- Painting your room, placing stickers (including LED stick on Lights), or using nails, screws or brackets on the walls, furniture or fixtures are not allowed. Decorations cannot obstruct or be hung from fire safety equipment.

*Rationale:* The types of decorations mentioned above are permanent and require repairs to replace the space to its original state. If damage is identified from decorations upon move out students will be charged for the repairs.
- Residents are responsible for the behaviour of their guests and will be held responsible for any damage guests cause to Residence or its surrounding grounds.

*Rationale:* You are expected to be with your guests and ensure they are clear on the expectations outlined in the Residence Contract. By inviting others into a communal space, you are taking on the responsibility of their actions.

### Fire Safety and Fire Equipment

Western's Fire Safety department enforces the laws and regulations of the province in Western's residences. Any behaviour that violates these laws may result in criminal and/or provincial charges and fines. Housing may also issue sanctions with regard to this type of behaviour.

- Open flame in residence is not allowed. This includes the act of lighting a candle, incense, cigarettes and any flammable object (paper, furniture, ceiling tiles etc.). Evidence of burning such as ashes, smell of smoke, smell or sight of burnt candles are examples of having had an open flame and can be considered a violation. Please consult with your Residence Life Coordinator if you wish to use candles, an open flame or smoke for religious, ceremonial or cultural purposes.

*Rationale:* Fire of any kind poses a significant safety issue in densely populated buildings like residences where a small accident can quickly lead to a large fire that impacts the entire building and causes serious harm to individuals. Furthermore, when a residence building alarm is activated, London Fire makes the Western Residence buildings a top priority, sending roughly

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1/3 of the London Fire department to respond. This typically includes up to six vehicles and 21 firefighters, leaving the 300,000+ people in the London community vulnerable.

- Fire equipment is only to be used in an emergency. Tampering with or obstructing fire equipment is a violation of this Contract. This includes behaviour that is perceived to be malicious or accidental. Fire equipment includes pull stations, pull station covers, smoke and heat detectors, sprinklers, fire hoses and extinguishers, exit signs, and emergency exits.  
*Rationale:* Any sort of tampering can result in intentional or unintentional fire alarms. When a residence building alarm is activated, London Fire makes the Western Residence buildings a top priority, sending roughly 1/3 of the London Fire department to respond. This includes up to six vehicles and 21 firefighters, leaving approximately 300,000 people in the London community vulnerable.
- In the event of a building wide fire alarm all students are expected to evacuate the building in a reasonable time frame to ensure their own safety and the safety of emergency personnel.  
*Rationale:* Fire can spread quickly in a residence building, and smoke spreads even quicker. Smoke can be disorienting and just as hazardous to your health as fire. You are expected to exit for your own safety and to ensure emergency personnel can do their jobs without any disruption. In cases where there is an injury or disability that would prohibit you from exiting in a timely manner, please ensure Housing is aware so a safety plan can be developed.
- Emergency exits are in place to provide a safe exit during an emergency and are not to be used otherwise. Doing so reduces security as we are unable to monitor who is coming in and out of the buildings.  
*Rationale:* Fire doors are equipped with alarms that sound when they are opened. This is because those doors are for emergency use and are not intended for regular entry.
- Accidentally setting off a fire alarm is a very serious offense and can result in significant impacts to the Residence and broader London Community. This includes situations where it seems more than likely that the fire alarm was engaged accidentally, not maliciously. The London Fire Department may issue a fine for the misuse of their services. This fine may be passed on to the student(s) found responsible.  
*Rationale:* When a residence building alarm is activated, London Fire makes the Western Residence buildings a top priority, sending roughly 1/3 of the London Fire department to respond.
- Maliciously setting off a fire alarm is a serious and potentially criminal act, when not for emergency purposes. This includes but is not limited to pulling an alarm when there is no emergency, and/ or other acts that appear to have been more than likely intentional. The London Fire Department to issue a fine for the misuse of their services which may be passed on to the student(s) found responsible. This is behaviour that can be considered mischief under the criminal code and may be referred to Western Special Constables for review.  
*Rationale:* When residence-building alarms go off London Fire makes the Western Residence buildings a top priority sending roughly one-third of the London Fire Department to respond. This includes up to six vehicles and 21 firefighters, leaving approximately 300,000 people in the London community vulnerable.  
Malicious fire alarms can lead to mischief charges under the criminal code and therefore is illegal behaviour. These cases may be referred to Western Special Constables or London Police for review.
- Power outlets and appliances are expected to be used safely. You are responsible for your actions when cooking or using other devices such as microwaves, dryers, hair dryers, etc. This

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includes not overloading electrical outlets or leaving appliances operating unattended. (e.g. microwaves and stoves).

*Rationale:* It is not uncommon for an unwatched pot on the stove or an unattended item in the microwave to quickly become a fire hazard. It is important to be present when cooking anything in residence as a fire alarm impact your peers and the broader London community.

For suite-style buildings, it is important not to open your door if there is smoke in your kitchen unless it is an emergency. Doing so will set the building into alarm.

### Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

You must comply with the Policy on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence found at [uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies\\_procedures/section1/mapp152.pdf](http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp152.pdf)

The policy defines Gender-based and Sexual Violence as any sexual act or act targeting a person's sexuality, gender identity and gender expression, whether the act is physical or psychological in nature, that is committed, threatened or attempted against a person without the person's Consent, and includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, indecent exposure, voyeurism, cyber harassment and sexual exploitation.

Consent is direct, active, voluntary and a conscious choice. Consent cannot be assumed and must be given freely. Asking for consent and respecting the response you receive ensures everyone involved feels safe and wants to proceed. You must obtain consent before initiating and continuing with intimate and/or sexual activity.

Consent is not:

- Given by a third party
- Obtained through pressure, abuse of power, abuse of trust, or abuse of authority
- Obtained through coercion, force, or threat of force
- Obtained if the person is unconscious, sleeping or significantly impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Obtained if the person does not say yes, says no or through words or behaviour that indicate no
- Obtained when the person changes their mind and chooses to no longer engage in sexual activity; consent can be revoked at any time. Consenting to one kind of sexual activity does not mean that consent is given for another sexual activity.

Read more about Consent here: [uwo.ca/health/gbsv](http://uwo.ca/health/gbsv)

In cases where allegations of Gender-based and Sexual violence are made, the Office of Student Support and Case Management will lead the investigation. Potential sanctions include, but are not limited to, termination of the residence contract, suspension and/or expulsion from Western. A student who is alleged to have committed gender-based and sexual violence may be removed from residence or relocated to another residence pending completion of an investigation.

*Be an Upstander*

Upstander behaviour means taking action when you see another person in harm’s way. If you witness harassment, sexual harassment or assault (or the potential for), intervene indirectly by calling the Human Rights Office, Western Special Constable Service or a residence front desk staff member. If it is safe to do so, intervene directly by warning or removing the victim from the situation, or say something to the perpetrator. We take care of each other at Western and in residence. If you or someone you know has experienced any of the behaviour listed above, please inform Residence Staff.

*Rationale:* Western Housing has a responsibility to uphold the laws of Canada and Ontario as well as the policies of the University. Additionally, it is important all students feel safe and welcome in residence.

**Gender Based and Sexual Violence Education**

All students living in residence must complete mandatory Gender-Based and Sexual Violence education (as determined by Western) as a condition of living in residence. This education consists of an elementary learning workshop, as well as a secondary synchronous virtual workshop. Students who refuse or fail to complete such training may have their residence contract terminated.

*Rationale:* Western Housing wants to ensure all students gain the knowledge and understanding necessary to address and prevent gender based and sexual violence. Failure to complete the training may demonstrate that a student does not subscribe to Housing’s values and thus it may not be the right place for them to live.

**Guest Policy**

Having a guest in Residence is a privilege, and it is your responsibility to ensure they are a positive member of the community while they are in Western Residences. Anyone visiting you (whether signed in under your name or not) is considered to be your guest even if they live in a different Western residence. There is a no-guest policy in effect for the month of September (including Orientation Week and Homecoming weekends). During Hallowe’en, Frost Week and St Patrick’s Day, and the weekends surrounding these dates, one guest from a residence in your neighbourhood (North, South and East) will be permitted. Housing reserves the right to restrict guest privileges at other periods of the academic year such as during exams, and amend guest policies as required.

- All guests must be signed in either online or through guest registration. When guest registration is active, guests are expected to wear the assigned wristband issued to them for the duration of their stay.  
*Rationale:* External guests (non-Western students) often do not know the expectations of a residence student, so it is your responsibility to educate them and ensure that they are aware of what is acceptable behaviour. This includes what they can bring into residence and how they are expected to treat members of the community and Western property.
- Only one guest per resident is allowed at a time.  
*Rationale:* Residence is a community of many individuals who have different needs and lifestyles. Permitting students to have one guest helps to uphold community standards and supports the health & safety of the community by ensuring capacity limits are not exceeded. Overnight guests can also be impactful on your roommate and their lifestyle. Therefore, you require a roommate/suitemate's consent prior to inviting anyone to stay overnight. The guest must be registered at Guest Registration or online at [guestreg.uwo.ca](http://guestreg.uwo.ca)

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- You are responsible for your guest and their actions. Should your guest's behaviour be considered inappropriate, you may be held accountable for the behaviour. Housing staff have the right to revoke guest privileges if a guest or host's behaviour is inappropriate and/or negatively impacts the Residence Community while the guest is signed in.  
*Rationale:* We cannot hold non-Western guests accountable under the Residence Contract; therefore, the host of the individual is held accountable for bringing them into the community. Serious issues, including those that are illegal and/or harmful, may be referred to Western Special Constables. As a host to any guest, you are expected to ensure your guests are positive members of the community.  
*Further Rationale:* Guests are not permitted during the month of September so that students have an opportunity to form bonds and establish relationships. These are the people you will live with for the next eight months and who have the potential to be life-long friends.

### Harassment and Discrimination

All students and members of the University community are required to abide by Western's policies on harassment: [uwo.ca/equity/discrimination/harassment.html](http://uwo.ca/equity/discrimination/harassment.html). Western Housing reserves the right to share information pertaining to issues with harassment and discrimination with Western's Code of Student Conduct, Western Special Constables and/or London Police Services.

- We will not tolerate verbal, written or online abuse, threats, intimidation, violence or other forms of harassment against any member of our community for any reason including, but not limited to, culture, race, religion, gender identity or sexual orientation.
- We will not tolerate discrimination in any of its forms under the Ontario Human Rights Code, including any comments or jokes. Housing will not accept ignorance, anger, alcohol or substance abuse as an excuse, reason or rationale for such behaviour.
- You are expected to refrain from any form of hazing, which includes, but is not limited to: any action or activity which does not contribute to the positive development of a person; which inflicts or intends to cause physical or mental harms; and which may demean, degrade or disgrace any person, regardless of location, intent or consent of participants.
- Displaying or communicating objectionable and obscene material is not permitted in residence. This includes racist, homophobic or sexist jokes, hate literature, pornographic materials and any other materials that may be offensive to others or negatively reflect upon the reputation of Western, its employees or residences. This includes verbal communication and posting or publishing of material, whether in writing or electronically, within residence, including in your room. No objectionable or obscene material may be in view of others.  
*Rationale:* Western Housing is responsible for upholding the laws of Canada and Ontario, and upholding the policies of the University. Our communities are designed to foster the growth of individuals and their relationships and therefore we do not welcome or condone harassment and/or discrimination in Residence.

### Illegal Substances

In keeping with provincial and federal laws, the use of illegal drugs, controlled substances and prescription medication that is not prescribed to you is prohibited in residence. A resident who violates this section of the contract may be referred to the Code of Student Conduct and/or Western Special

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Constables which could lead to prosecution under the Criminal Code. You are strongly encouraged to keep prescription medication in a locked container.

- Any suspected use, possession or supplying of such substances will be referred to Western Special Constables and Western's Code of Student Conduct.
- We may investigate if you are found to be under the influence of illegal drugs (or drugs taken without a prescription or abused for recreation) while in residence, regardless of where you originally consumed those drugs.

We reserve the right to notify your parent/guardian/emergency contact about unlawful activity or any behaviour that threatens the safety or wellbeing of yourself or others.

*Rationale:* Western Housing has a responsibility to uphold the laws of Canada and Ontario. Any suspected use, possession, and/or supplying of such substances will be referred to Western Special Constables.

### Noise

Excessive and repetitive noise can be especially impactful in a residence community. No Residence student has the same schedule and lifestyle and thus noise can impact someone at any time of day. If you hear excessive noise you are encouraged to try to address it with your peer directly. You can call the front desk if someone is ignoring your requests to reduce or stop the noise.

- You are encouraged to use headphones to avoid disturbing others.
- Every building has quiet hours Sunday through Thursday from 11:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Quiet hours begin at 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights and continue until 11:00 a.m. the following morning. 24-hour quiet times are in effect throughout examination periods in December and April. You may be required to leave residence early during exam periods if you create unreasonable noise or disruption.

*Rationale:* Excessive noise can disrupt floormates that are trying to study, sleep or just relax. All students should be able expect a respectful and respectful space to sleep and study while in residence.

### Physical Assault

Physical Assault of any kind is not tolerated in Residence. This includes engaging in physical actions which are threatening, physically abusive and/or compromise the safety and security of any individual and/or group. Western Housing reserves the right to share information pertaining to physical assault with Western's Code of Student Conduct, Western Special Constables and/or London Police Services for further follow-up.

*Rationale:* Western Housing is responsible for upholding the laws of Canada and Ontario and making students feel safe in their home. Our communities are designed to foster the growth of individuals and their relationships; therefore, we do not condone any form of physical violence in Residence.

### Privacy

You must show respect for the privacy, property and wellbeing of fellow residents and their right to quiet enjoyment of private and public spaces. Housing has installed or may install video cameras

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throughout a residence's common areas to promote safety. They are used in accordance with Western's video monitoring policy.

- Entering another student's room or suite and/or disturbing another resident's property may only be done with permission. Students must have written permission to enter another's room when that resident is not present and may do so only with authorized use of the prescribed key from Housing Staff.  
*Rationale:* Students are expected to treat every room like an individual house. The space is for the occupants of the room only and must be respected.
- Recording individuals in any format without their knowledge, even within your private personal space, is unacceptable behaviour and you may be sanctioned.  
*Rationale:* Living in close quarters can lead to situations where someone may decide to record another person in the space; however, it is important to remember that residence is everyone's home and everyone should be able to have their privacy.
- Public display of private or confidential information, whether it be yours or belong to others, is not allowed. This includes the public display of conduct outcome letters.  
*Rationale:* Confidential information is private. Outcome letters may contain information that pertains to those other than yourself. It is important to respect everyone's privacy and refrain from posting private or confidential information in public spaces.
- Failure to knock and wait for an invitation to enter, electronic eavesdropping or surveillance or uncomfortable encroachment on personal space can have a troubling impact on an individual's sense of security.  
*Rationale:* It is important to remember that residence is everyone's home and everyone should expect privacy in their home. Be sure to lock your doors and respect one another's privacy.
- Ask permission before using your roommate's belongings.  
*Rationale:* It can be tempting to borrow your roommate's food or clothes as you often have direct access to these items. However, even if it is well intentioned, it can be considered theft.

### Prohibited Items in Residence

The following is a list of items prohibited in Residence. Should any of these items be discovered by Residence Life Staff, they may be disposed of at your expense in addition to additional sanctions imposed upon you for violating this provision. If you require accommodations for items, please submit a Residence Accessibility Request that can be found on the myHousing Portal at [myhousing.uwo.ca](http://myhousing.uwo.ca).

- Alcohol paraphernalia and large-volume alcohol containers and single serve glass containers
- Cannabis plants
- Candles, diffusers and incense. If you require to burn any substance for religious purposes, please contact your Residence Life Coordinator.
- Heaters and heat lamps
- Appliances (microwaves, freezers, washers, dryers, rice cookers, hot plates, sandwich makers, grills, coffee makers, etc.). Students living in suite-style residences can bring kettles, coffee makers, toaster ovens, rice cookers and cooking grills provided they comply with Canadian

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Electrical Standards and have an automatic shutoff. Students living in hybrid-style residences can bring kettles or coffee makers, provided they comply with Canadian electrical standards and have an automatic shutoff.

- Personal Furniture (including but not limited to desks, chairs, mattresses, beds, headboards, waterbeds, tables and office chairs, etc.)
- Water coolers
- Halogen lamps, LED strip lighting
- Exercise machines (treadmills, stationary bikes, etc.)
- Drum sets and pianos
- Speaker systems
- Draperies
- Flammable liquids and gases
- Gas-powered equipment
- Barbeques
- Hover boards and other self-balancing scooters
- E-bikes
- Weapons and imitation weapons (firearms, knives, Swiss Army knives, pellet guns, paintball guns, firecrackers, cap guns, etc.)

*Rationale:* The items listed above are likely to cause disruption to the community in one way or another and therefore they are not permitted in Residence. Some examples include:

- Appliances, personal furniture, heaters and lamps, candles, bbqs and hoverboards to name a few can be considered fire hazards as they are often not made from fire retardant materials or have the ability to start a fire. They can also take up additional space in your room, which may be disruptive to your roommate(s).
- Imitation weapons and knives can be misleading and misinterpreted as real weapons making fellow students feel unsafe and uncomfortable.
- Drums and pianos are loud and can be disruptive to the community. There are music rooms in residences that provide pianos and space to practice musical instruments.

### Respect of Staff and Cooperation

All Housing staff are vital members of your Residence community without whom Residence would not provide the same experience for students.

- Members of the residence, hospitality, caretaking, maintenance and front desk staff are to be treated with respect and courtesy at all times. Behaviour that creates a hostile work environment or that is disrespectful to Housing and Residence Life Staff, including intimidation, threats, directed expletives, bullying, electronic surveillance or other forms of harassment will not be tolerated.
- Students are expected to comply with requests and directions from Housing Staff and Western University officials, including those pertaining to established regulations, policies and guidelines.

*Rationale:* Housing staff members have a right to feel safe while at work.

### Smoking/Vaping and Tobacco Use

Western University is a smoke free campus as per Western's Policy on Smoking, Vaping and Tobacco Use (Policy 1.16). This means that smoking is prohibited anywhere on campus including in Residence as it is a fire hazard and can be negatively impactful on your Residence community. The term Smoking applies to vaping, loose tobacco, Dokha, shisha, cigars, clove cigarettes, cannabis, and any other form of smoking and/or tobacco use in Residence.

- Signs of smoking or vaping in Residence, including ashes, scent, sight of smoke or cigarette butts, will be considered evidence of smoking/vaping in residence and a violation of the Residence Contract.  
*Rationale:* Signs of smoking such as ashes and scent, indicate that smoking has more than likely occurred in residence and is considered enough evidence to be found in violation of the Residence Contract using the balance of probabilities.
- The distribution of tobacco products to underage students, and the sale of tobacco products to others regardless of age, is not permitted. Students are not permitted to send or receive tobacco in the mail except for deliveries to of-age students.  
*Rationale:* Western Housing is responsible for upholding the laws of Canada and Ontario.

### Technology and Internet Use

The use of Western's computing resources is a privilege, available if you honour the requirements and obligations set out in the University's Code of Behaviour for Use of Computing Resources and Corporate Data. If you are found to have breached any of these policies, you are subject to the full range of University disciplinary procedures. Sanctions include the temporary or permanent loss of access privileges, financial restitution, termination of your Residence Contract, expulsion from the University and/ or legal sanctions. Commercial or criminal use is strictly prohibited, as is any use that may seriously impact the performance of the network. Use of software that is not legally licensed is an infringement of copyright. You are advised to carefully read the University's policies and interpret documents.

- The file-sharing functions of your computer are considered to be in the public domain and therefore you must not use your network connection in residence for file sharing of objectionable materials. The possession, creation, distribution and publication of objectionable or obscene material and/or child pornography is a criminal offence in accordance with those sections of the Criminal Code of Canada (e.g., section 163).
- Recording individuals in any format without their knowledge, even within your private personal space, is unacceptable behaviour and you may be sanctioned. You may not make recordings of or conduct surveillance on Housing employees without their permission.
- Unpiloted aerial vehicles or drones on or near residence property are not permitted, as their video and photography features may intrude on the privacy of others.

### Conditions of Use

As a condition of the activation of the Connect-IT internet service, users are required to agree to the following:

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- All network traffic originating from your port and/or devices is your responsibility. This includes user activity, regardless of: (i) whether or not you generate it, (ii) whether or not you know what you are doing, (iii) whether or not you realized that you have violated any specific policies.
- Computing resources, particularly email, web servers and/or bulletin boards may not be used to send harassing, obscene or fraudulent messages.
- No action may be performed that would impair the functions of the campus and/or residence network.
- Providing access to University computing resources to those who are not entitled to such access is not permitted.
- Scanning or packet analyzer programs are prohibited.
- Using your internet connection to run a commercial enterprise or to support other activities designed to provide income or other considerations is not permitted.
- Reproducing, sharing or distributing copyrighted materials without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder is not allowed.
- Any action that denies another network user access to network resources, including actions such as mass mailing or denial-of-service attacks are prohibited.
- Due to the limited network capacity, you may not operate servers or other services that make high demands on network resources.
- Connect-IT bandwidth limits, as specified on the Connect-IT website [connect-it.uwo.ca](http://connect-it.uwo.ca), may not be exceeded.

It is important to observe all University regulations regarding computing resources, including policies established by the Division of Housing and Ancillary Services. The Connect-IT Conditions of Use above highlight some of the more important conditions contained in the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). The complete AUP is located at: [Acceptable Use Policy \(AUP\) - Cybersmart - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca/acceptable-use-policy)

The AUP must be reviewed and signed prior to obtaining access to University computing resources, including Connect-IT.

### Theft

Theft of Residence property or that of other residents will not be tolerated and may result in the issue being referred to appropriate legal authorities such as, Western Special Constables, London Police and/or the Code of Student Conduct depending on the situation. While Housing will investigate theft, we are not responsible for the replacement or return of stolen belongings.

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- The theft of items belonging to others is considered a violation of the Residence Contract. Students who believe they have items that have been stolen should contact their Residence Life Staff and/or Western Special Constables.
- Theft of Western property is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to dishes, cutlery and trays from the dining hall, wet floor signs, Residence signage, and door numbers.

*Rationale:* Western Housing is responsible for upholding the laws of Canada and Ontario. Theft is a crime and thus this type of behaviour can be referred to Western Special Constables and/or the London Police.

### Use of Facilities and Keys

As a member of a residence community, you are responsible for contributing to the safety and security of the community and its facilities. This includes permitting access to your community, not sharing your access cards and using public spaces and furniture in a respectful manner.

- Do not lend your keys or ONECard to others: disciplinary sanctions may be applied if you do. Housing Staff will confiscate keys (and Western ONECard or other identification) held by individuals to whom they do not belong. Anyone found in possession of unauthorized key(s) will be subject to a minimum fine of \$75 and a letter of warning for the first offense and further disciplinary action for subsequent offenses.

*Rationale:* Keys and Keycards provide access to your building, community and room. It is a security risk to you and your peers when you lend these items, regardless if you know them or not. Lending ONECards pose a similar risk in that the individual has access to your meal plan. ONECards also identify someone as a resident in buildings.

- Operating a commercial business and/or solicitation is not permitted in residence. Residence front desks will not accept mail or deliveries on behalf of businesses, clubs, organizations or corporate entities (Residents' Council excepted.)

*Rationale:* You are not permitted to have more than one guest in the building and individuals are not permitted to come and go without you. Furthermore, residence space is shared with others whom a business would likely impact. Additionally, there is liability associated with operating a business that Western is unaware of.

- All posters in Residence must be approved by the Residence Life Office before they are posted. Email posters to [residencelife@uwo.ca](mailto:residencelife@uwo.ca) for approval. University Students' Council Poster Patrol does not regulate residence postings.

*Rationale:* This process ensures information on posters is appropriate and in keeping with the Residence Contract. Additionally, poster space is limited and there are important Housing messages that need to be communicated.

- Every residence has areas where access is restricted for your safety. Accessing restricted areas in Residence is not permitted. This includes but is not limited to, accessing another student's room and spaces without expressed permission or accessing spaces that could have hazards such as the roof of a building, spaces that have mechanical infrastructure and any space labeled as having restricted access.

*Rationale:* Accessing these spaces can pose a safety risk for you and others. Accessing these spaces often require special training and equipment.

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- Subletting and Renting Residence Rooms is not permitted. This includes subletting your residence room or residence spaces on services such as (but not limited to) Airbnb.
- *Rationale:* There is a security risk associated with this as Housing needs to know who is in the building.
- You are expected to keep the unoccupied portion of your room in a condition that would allow a new roommate to move into a room on short notice.
- *Rationale:* Students sometimes move rooms throughout the year. If you have a double room but do not have a roommate there is a chance that someone could be assigned that space. You will be given ample notice of this, but the space needs to be kept clean and ready for a student to move in at all times.
- You are expected to treat all Western Property with respect and refrain from tampering with safety mechanisms and items in place to ensure a safe and secure environment for all students. This includes, but is not limited to, window screens, window bars, window mechanisms, window and door locks and all other infrastructure and safety features in Residence.  
*Rationale:* Western property is for all residence students. By tampering with any property you are likely to impact the experience of others in your community and/or future students. For example, removing window screens can create wear and tear that eventually leads to the screen needing to be replaced. Moving furniture can leave lounge spaces or study spaces improperly resourced and effect the experience of your peers.
- Common spaces are for the use of all students and should be used with that understanding. You are not permitted to sleep in lounges or otherwise claim common spaces as your own or as a group. You are expected to have concern for the protection and preservation of the residence space.
- *Rationale:* Common spaces are public space that need to be available for all types of use. You are not permitted to sleep in the space or use it exclusively for your own purposes.
- Western reserves the right for authorized representatives of housing to enter and inspect an accommodation at any time to plan or preform maintenance, where there is probable cause to believe a violation of this contract is taking place or when there is clear and present danger.
- Furniture in lounges and other common spaces in Residence is not to be moved from its assigned space. Any common furniture found in your room will be removed and you will be responsible for any costs associated with damage to the furniture.
- *Rationale:* Moving furniture can leave lounge spaces or study spaces improperly resourced thereby effecting the experience of your peers.
- Hanging or displaying items in your window or hanging items outside of your windows is not allowed.  
*Rationale:* It is important to keep the appearance of Residence buildings “neutral”. Additionally, it is important windows aren’t blocked should emergency services need to access a room through a window.

### Weapons and Explosives

Any Item that is perceived to be intimidating and/or intended to cause harm will be considered a weapon. Examples of prohibited items are firearms, knives, Swiss army knives, pellet guns, cap guns, bb

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guns, paintball guns, firecrackers, fireworks, and explosives. Also included are items that are replicas and may not be functional but could be perceived to be real and functional.

- Weapons will be confiscated by the appropriate authority depending on the severity, or the student will be asked to take it out of the building as soon as possible.

*Rationale:* Western Housing is responsible for ensuring all students feel safe in residence. Imitation weapons and knives can be misleading and misinterpreted as real weapons, leading students to feel unsafe and uncomfortable.

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lünaapéewak and Chonnonton Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g. First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

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Published April 2024

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