

Health & Safety Inspections

Office of Residence Life

As stated in the Student Handbook, Health and Safety Inspections are completed two times per semester, by the Resident Advisor and/or the Area Coordinator/Resident Director. The purpose of the health and safety inspections are to ensure that fire safety guidelines are being followed, as well as additional University and Residence Life policies.

All residents of the room are responsible for the cleanliness of their room, hallways, bathrooms, and other common areas. Failure to maintain accommodations properly may result in a residential fine or student conduct hearing. Residents who have concerns or questions about the maintenance of their room, or who would like to report health and safety violations should contact their RA or AC/RD.

When a student's room is unoccupied at the time of inspection, a master key will be used to gain entrance and a copy of a report noting any violations will be left in the room. When a room has violations, the residents of that room will be contacted by the AC/RD and may be subject to disciplinary action through the student code of conduct.

Prohibited items will be confiscated at the time of the inspection and may not be returned until the end of the semester. Items that violate the student code of conduct may be disposed of immediately. The AC/RD will communicate with residents regarding confiscated items and the return policy. All confiscated items that can be returned are required to be picked up by the following University break period. Any items not collected will be disposed of.

All Health and Safety inspections are conducted as plain view searches---meaning Residence Life will not be checking drawers, wardrobes, desks, etc. During health and safety inspections before long break periods, fridges will be expected to be emptied and unplugged—so in this case fridges may be opened by Residence Life staff.

During health and safety inspections, staff are trained to notice specific violations- that fall under the following categories: fire safety, code of conduct violations, health concerns, and maintenance issues.

Fire Safety Violations

Fire safety violations are defined as any violation that could threaten the safety or well-being of students in the event of a fire. Some of the most common violations include, but are not limited to:

- Candles (including decorative)
- Covered smoke detectors
- Smoking paraphernalia (bongs, pipes, etc.)
- Blocked egress (doors, windows, etc.)
- Non-approved lights or extension cords
- Items hanging from the ceiling or sprinkler pipes

Health Concerns

During health and safety inspections, staff members look for rooms that could pose a potential health risk, due to factors such as:

- Failure to remove trash
- Uncovered food

- Failure to maintain a clean living environment, including the bathroom
- Evidence of a pet
- Evidence of a non-resident living in the room

Code of Conduct Violations

Students will not pass their health and safety inspections if there is evidence of a policy violation or violation of the student code of conduct. If an item is found that violates the student code of conduct, normal procedures and policies will be followed.

- Evidence of underage drinking (empty alcohol bottles, funnels, beer pong tables, etc.)
- Evidence of smoking within the room (bongs, pipes, etc.)
- Evidence of a disruptive gathering
- Unauthorized possession of University property

Maintenance Issues

During the inspections, Residence Life staff will be looking for any major maintenance issues that should be corrected immediately. Some common issues are:

- Damaged walls
- Damaged furniture
- Damaged/missing screens
- Broken windows
- Non-approved lofts
- Damaged doors/locks

Residents of the room will be billed accordingly by the Office of Residence Life, and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Residents of rooms that fail health and safety inspections will be notified by a copy of a report left by the RA, as well as notified by their AC/RD. Re-inspections will be conducted following health and safety violations and notifications.

For more detailed information regarding fire safety regulations, Residence Life policies, the Student Code of Conduct, and University policies please reference the Salve Regina Student Handbook, located on the Dean of Student's webpage: <http://salve.edu/dean-of-students>.