I. INTRODUCTION

A. Residence Halls
This License is binding for the full academic year, which includes both Fall and Spring semesters. For those who choose to live in the Residence Halls, the license consists of Room & Board and is available ONLY on a combined basis with the exception of those who reside in the University Apartments.

The Residence Hall License is extended to individual students for a space in an on-campus room for the period of Saturday August 22, 2015 to Saturday May 14, 2016 at 12:00PM for new freshmen; Sunday August 23, 2015 to Saturday May 14, 2016 at 12:00PM for new transfers; Monday August 24, 2015 to Saturday May 14, 2016 at 12:00PM for continuing students. Students may not occupy rooms during times when the residence halls are closed, except as noted in Section V.

B. University Apartments
The Apartment License is binding for the entire ACADEMIC YEAR (Fall and Spring semesters ONLY). This Apartment License is extended to individual students for a space in University Apartments (Empire Commons, Freedom Apartments or Liberty Terrace) for one of the following periods:

University Apartments ACADEMIC YEAR ** Monday August 24, 2015 at 9:00AM to Sunday May 15, 2016 at 6:00PM.

University Apartment’s Termination of License
PRIOR TO LICENSE START DATE: There is no financial penalty to cancel your license so long as the student requests cancellation, in writing, no later than Friday May 1, 2015 (for continuing students) and Friday July 31, 2015 (for new students).

DURING INTERSESSION (December & January ONLY): If residents wish to terminate their license, they should refer to Section XIV of this license agreement. If your release is approved, there is a $400 license termination fee for release from Empire Commons. This fee is waived if a student is approved by the University for study abroad or a University sponsored internship not in the local area. The Department of Residential Life (DRL) and University Apartments does not guarantee license termination.

C. All Resident Students
The expectation of students living in residence at the University at Albany is that they will conduct themselves in a manner that both respects and contributes to the cultivation of an academic living environment. Students must abide by the policies and regulations set forth in the Terms and Conditions of the University Apartments & Residence Halls License as well as by the University’s Community Rights & Responsibilities. Please see section IX of this license for further details.

The On-Campus Residence Requirement
All students with an admission classification of freshman as recorded on the Integrated Administrative System are required to live in on-campus residence facilities for their first two years at the University. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.

Additional exemptions for the following reasons will be reviewed upon receipt of a formal application requesting a release from housing, available at http://www.albany.edu/housing, accompanied by official, third party documentation. The following reasons will be considered:

1. Student is married
2. Student is 21 years of age or over
3. Student is a veteran  
4. Student/dependent lives with parent/guardian at their permanent address within 50 mile radius of the Albany campus  
5. Medical reason (see section VII B)  
6. Demonstrated financial hardship and resides within 50 miles of the Albany campus

Any Student who is not exempt from the on-campus residency requirement will be billed an additional 8-week housing charge at their current occupancy rate, in addition to the number of weeks residing in the residence halls/apartments, if they choose to leave and walk-out of their contract without the appropriate approval.

Students are advised that their License is binding for the duration stipulated herein. Withdrawals from residence for any reason, resulting in the breach of this license agreement, will result in financial penalties incurred by the student. **Students should familiarize themselves with sections XIII (Payments) & XIV (Refunds and Billing Adjustments) of this License.**

* Section XV of this agreement outlines the appropriate procedures for applying for releases from residence, and the circumstances under which students may be granted such releases. Penalties may still apply for breach of this license in any way.

II. **ELIGIBILITY**

The offer of on-campus housing accommodations is extended to registered, matriculated students. Preference for residence in University housing will be given to full-time degree candidates, however part-time status does not terminate this agreement. Only registered students who have completed a Housing Application, acknowledged receipt of the Terms and Conditions of the Housing License, signed a Room/Apartment Condition Form, and been assigned to a space are permitted to reside in the University at Albany residence halls or apartments. Non-matriculated, continuing studies, and General Studies students will be considered for housing **only if space is available and only after all traditional matriculated University at Albany students have been housed, and with approval from the Director of Residential Life.** Consideration should be requested by emailing Residential Life at reslife@albany.edu. Persons not registered for courses at the University at Albany are not permitted to live on campus. **Students who are under seventeen (17) years of age by the first day of classes in their first semester must have parental authorization indicating understanding of, and agreement with, the terms and conditions of the Residence License.**

III. **ROOM ASSIGNMENTS**

A. **Residence Halls**

All students may apply to reside in University Residence Halls; however the University is not required to house all students. The University reserves the right to increase the occupancy of a room beyond design capacity at a reduced room rate for all students in that room, and to change the occupancy of an increased room to normal at any time. Increased occupancy rooms may include bunk beds. The assigned students select beds, on a first-come first-served basis, during check-in.

**Room & Board Rate Adjustments**

The University reserves the right to adjust room and board rates at any time if warranted by State budget conditions, unforeseen cost increases, or occupancy losses. Room rates are subject to approval by the State University of New York System Administration.

B. **University Apartments**

Only University at Albany students who are juniors, seniors, graduate students, or 21 years of age may apply to reside in University Apartments. Class status is based on the 2014 - 2015 academic year. The DRL may allow students of sophomore status to live on Freedom at its sole discretion.

C. **Gender Inclusive Housing**

Recognizing that single-gender housing may not be appropriate or comfortable for all students, Residential Life offers a limited number of rooms as Gender Inclusive Housing in both the residence halls and apartments on a space available basis. Students signing up for these areas will be permitted to have
roommates and suitemates from across the gender spectrum. Gender Inclusive Housing will allow for an environment where student housing is not restricted by traditional limitations presented by our current system that is based on the gender binary. We believe that it is important that our housing policies evolve to meet the needs of all students and to create an inclusive, welcoming environment. Continuing students may elect Gender Inclusive Housing during their Residence Hall or Apartment sign-up. New students to the University should contact the Department’s LGBTQ liaison, Karla Jaime-Benitez, at 518-442-5875 or kjaime-benitez@albany.edu.

D. New Students
*Freshman, Transfer and Readmitted students will have the opportunity to state preferences on the Housing Application Form. Stated preferences will be honored where possible, but are not guaranteed. New student housing assignments are made based upon the date of receipt of the completed Housing Application Form and Housing Deposit.*

E. Room Changes
Based on availability, requests for room changes may be honored after **Monday September 7, 2015** and ending **Monday November 30, 2015** for the Fall 2015 semester. For Spring 2016, room changes will be accepted after **Monday February 1, 2016**.

**Students may not occupy two spaces concurrently.** Therefore you must check out completely from your old space prior to moving into your newly assigned room. For all room changes at the end of the Fall semester students must check out of their current location prior to departing for intersession. If you are granted a room change and do not check out prior to intersession, you will forfeit your new assignment. If your new assignment is available you may move into the new location before intersession, otherwise you will need to bring all of your belongings home and/or store them during the intersession.

IV. ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

Students may not occupy or deliver items to their rooms or apartments prior to the official opening date of the Residence Halls & Apartments, i.e. **Saturday August 22, 2015** for all new freshmen students, and **Sunday January 17, 2016** for Spring semester. Students whose presence on campus is required by an office, department, or organization to assist with the opening of the University may be granted permission to arrive early. Requests for early arrival of a student who has responsibilities as it relates to the opening of the University must be made in writing to the DRL, by the appropriate office, department or organization. Upon arrival, ALL students must report to their assigned quad and check in at their Quad Information Center or respective University Apartments Office to check in and receive keys.

A. Fall Semester Check-in
Students entering University Residence Halls for the Fall 2015 semester may check in during regular business hours (9:00AM – 5:00PM) on **Saturday August 22, 2015 for all new freshmen and transfer students, and Monday August 24, 2015 for all returning students**. Rooms will be held for assigned students only through **Wednesday August 26, 2015** unless prior arrangements are made with the DRL. Students who have not checked in by that time may have their rooms reassigned to other students.

B. Spring Semester Check-in
Newly admitted students entering residence halls for the Spring 2016 semester may check in between the hours of **12:00PM - 5:00PM on Sunday January 17, 2016**. Rooms will be held for assigned students only through **Friday January 22, 2016** unless prior arrangements are made with the DRL. Students who have not checked in by that time may have their rooms reassigned to other students.

*Please note, "early arrivals" will not be accommodated for the Spring semester.*

C. Summer School Check-in (Empire Commons ONLY)
Students who lived on University Apartments the immediate prior Spring semester or who will live on University Apartments during the upcoming Fall semester, may live on Empire Commons for the duration of the summer school session(s). Students will be required to fill out a summer school application and provide documentation that they are registered for the session(s) for which they are requesting housing. Students who are approved to reside on Empire Commons during a summer session(s) may check –in at the Empire Commons Community Building office one day prior to the start of their registered summer
session. All room fees will be added to the student’s University account. Meal plans are not required for any student residing on Empire Commons during a summer session(s). All others will need to seek Summer School housing on the designated Quad.

V. VACATION PERIODS

A. Residence Halls
Recess periods for the 2015 - 2016 academic year are: Thanksgiving, Winter Intersession, and Spring Recess. For Thanksgiving, the residence halls will close Wednesday November 25, 2015 at 12:00PM, and re-open Sunday November 29, 2015, at 12:00PM. For Winter Intersession, the residence halls close Saturday December 19, 2015 at 12:00PM, and will re-open Sunday January 17, 2016 at 12:00PM. For Spring Recess, residence halls will close Friday March 11, 2016 at 6:00PM, and will re-open Sunday March 20, 2015, at 12:00PM. Any student who has a University class on Saturday March 19 can make special arrangements with Residential Life. Students will not be able to gain access to their rooms during recess periods. Students MUST VACATE, except for students residing in approved Recess Housing areas. When the University begins a recess, all students must vacate their rooms no later than two hours after their last class or examination. Students may leave their personal items in their rooms at their own risk. Students with legitimate reasons may request to stay in the residence hall(s) designated for recess housing use. They may do so through filing a Recess Housing Application, which will be advertised via the DRL’s website at www.albany.edu/housing and available on the quads. Students will be notified of the status of this application and specific procedures for remaining over break. All buildings other than those specifically designated for recess use will be closed. Mail will NOT be forwarded during vacation periods. There is no extra charge for staying in recess housing, except for a refundable key deposit for those students housed in a bunkroom during recess. Please note there will be no meals available during any recess period.

B. University Apartments
Empire Commons, Liberty Terrace, and Freedom Apartments: These areas remain open during semester breaks, as well as during the Winter Intersession. All rules and regulations stated in the Community Rights and Responsibilities and the University Residence Halls & Apartments License will remain in effect. During most breaks all Offices and Community Areas will be closed or have limited hours, however, Residential Life staff will be available in the event of an emergency.

VI. CHECK OUT

A. Residence Halls
Residence Halls close to all students Saturday May 14, 2016 at 12:00PM except for those students approved for participation in Graduation on Sunday May 15, 2016. Graduates must check out on Sunday May 15, 2016 by 6:00PM.

Students approved to release from the Residence Halls must do so by Saturday December 19, 2015. Students who fail to checkout by Saturday December 19, 2015, will incur weekly charges.

B. University Apartments
University Apartments close on Sunday May 15, 2016 at 6:00PM. Empire Summer School residents must check-out within 24-hours of their last summer school final.

C. All Resident Students
When leaving residence permanently, or changing rooms at any time of the year, all students must complete the following procedures in order for their room to be considered vacated:

1. Remove all personal belongings.
2. Remove all trash and unwanted materials and leave the room/suite clean.
3. Return all issued residence and mailbox keys and complete appropriate forms.
4. Complete the Room or Apartment Condition Report.
5. Complete forwarding address information.

Once a student officially checks out of their room (i.e.: returns issued keys and completes all necessary paperwork), they confirm that all personal items of worth have been removed thereby releasing the University from all liability for damage or loss of any personal items left behind.
**Failure to comply with the above procedures may result in a student being charged a room damage/cleaning fee.**

VII. **MEDICAL ACCESSIBLE HOUSING NEEDS**

A. **Policy Regarding Special Housing Requests**

Special housing requests include:

1. Exemption from the requirement of on campus residency for the freshman year of undergraduate study.
2. Special housing on campus.

In the event a student feels they have a medical condition which warrants a change in their housing situation, the request is forwarded to the UAlbany Medical Director.

The decision to grant such a request is based on the medical necessity of the student’s diagnosed condition.

In order for a fair decision to be reached, based on true medical need, the student will need to do the following:

1. Make the request to the Residential Life Department.
2. Provide the Medical Director with a typed letter from the student’s treating physician, which includes:
   a. The diagnosis.
   c. Length of treatment of condition by the physician providing the letter.
   d. Anticipated benefit of housing change, with reference to particular aspects of the current housing which prevents these benefits.
   e. Specific aspects of the requested housing which are deemed necessary in order to avoid medical complications related to the diagnosed condition.

**Policy Requirements for Official Medical Release From Housing**

**Medical Single**

A student recommended for a Medical Single by the University Medical Director will be placed in a designated occupancy single room based upon available space. If a student desires a double room as a single based on a documented medical condition, superior occupancy charges will apply.

**Accessible Condition**

A student with a disability recommended for Accessible Housing will be assigned to a designed accessible room/suite on State or Indian Quadrangle or to a designed accessible apartment on University Apartments, if qualified (see section XVIII).

B. **Endangerment or Disruptive Conduct**

Acting to create or contribute to dangerous or unsafe environments anywhere on or off-campus. Reckless or intentional acts which endanger, or put at risk, the welfare of oneself or others. Threatening conduct which is unreasonable in the area, time or manner in which it occurs. This behavior includes, but is not limited to, a suicide threat (verbally and/or in writing, including social media), plans or preparation for suicide, or deliberately causing serious injury to self. Students residing in the residence halls/ university apartments, who display suicidal behavior will be required to participate in CARE Net (Consultation and Resource Evaluation), a joint program of the University Counseling Center and the Department of Residential Life. Refusal to participate or work towards the successful completion of CARE Net may result in a conduct referral.

VIII. **BOARD (MEAL PLAN) REQUIREMENTS**
A. Traditional Residence Hall

Students living in traditional residence halls (i.e., Alumni, Colonial, Dutch, Indian and State Quads) are required to have a meal plan. A designated meal plan is automatically assigned to students based on class year. Meal plan requirements and options can be viewed online at https://ualbanydining.com/dining-plans/index.html.

A traditional residence hall student may change his/her automatically assigned meal plan (as allowed per class year) through the tenth business day of the semester via his/her MyUAlbany account.

B. University Apartments

Students residing in the University Apartments are not required to purchase a meal plan, but can add a meal plan at any time during the academic year. Meal plan options and details are available online at https://ualbanydining.com/dining-plans/index.html.

C. Meal Plan Activation

Meal plans are activated when residence halls open for occupancy and end when halls close. However, during times when the all-you-care-to-eat quad dining rooms are closed but the residence halls are open, Munch Money can be used in retail locations, as available.

The all-you-care-to-eat dining rooms are not open when the University is not in session, which includes Thanksgiving, intersession, winter and spring breaks. However, Munch Money may be used at campus retail locations, as available. Quad and retail dining hours of operation may change during University vacations, holidays, or in emergency situations. Please check the University Auxiliary Services at Albany (UAS) website for the most up-to-date information (www.albany.edu/uas).

D. Food Allergy and Special Diet Accommodations

Nutrition resources and accommodations are available for students with food allergies, medical/psychological conditions or special dietary preferences. More information can be found at the UAlbany Dining website (https://ualbanydining.com/health/index.html).

IX. RULES & REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations are applicable to all residence halls. In addition, University rules and expectations included in Community Rights & Responsibilities, not reproduced here, also apply. Failure to act in accordance with these rules, regulations and expectations may result in University disciplinary action and/or in civil criminal action and/or financial liability. Possession or use of prohibited items may result in their removal by University officials. Residents of suites/rooms where a health/safety hazard exists shall be required by staff to remove the hazard immediately.

A. Residence Halls & University Apartments Regulations

1. Respect for individuals and groups. Individuals are expected to maintain respect for individual and group rights and responsibilities as stated in this License and in the University Community Rights & Responsibilities.

2. Host Responsibility. Student hosts assume responsibility for the behavior and activities of their guest(s). Guests are subject to the same rules, regulations and expectations as their host, and the host has responsibility for informing the guest of the rules, regulations and expectations in advance. In addition to any disciplinary action taken against the host, the University reserves the right to require the immediate departure of any guest where violations of University regulations or individual or group rights have occurred.

University Apartments
In addition to the statement above, residents are not allowed to host parties or large gatherings in their apartment at any time. Gatherings of any size seen as disruptive to the community or as a health hazard will be dispersed; regardless of gathering size.

3. **Alcohol.** All bulk containers are strictly prohibited. Individuals are expected to abide by all state laws and University policies governing the use of alcohol. Please refer to the University Community Rights & Responsibilities for detailed policy. Alcohol is strictly prohibited on Indian and State Quads.

In addition to the above statement, residents found with items used for binge drinking (i.e. beer pong tables, funnels, kegs, etc.) will be required to carry said item(s) to the University Apartments Office located on complex where the item(s) was found. The item(s) will remain in the property of the University Apartments staff until the end of the academic year or until a time when the owner can permanently remove the item(s) from campus. At the end of each academic year (24 hours after closing), all such items will be disposed of if the owner does not collect them.

4. **Overnight guests.** Overnight guests may be housed, provided the guest is housed in a suite/bedroom and that the student host has complied with the guest registration policy/application, which is available in the Quad Information Center and is required of all guests. All guests must be registered with the Information Center before 11:00 PM the night of their stay.

In addition to the statement above, residents found in violation of the overnight guest policy above will be given 24-hours to remove their guest(s), however guests found in violation of the rules, regulations or policies of the University, will be required to leave immediately. Further violations of the guest policy may result in the revocation of the host’s residence license.

5. **Quiet Hours and Courtesy Hours.**
   **Residence Halls**
   Formal Quiet hours are 9:00PM - 7:00AM on weekdays and 2:00AM - 7:00AM on weekends. During the final examination period, beginning the night of reading day and extending daily through the last examination, formal quiet hours are in effect 24 hours a day. Formal Quiet Hours are defined as a time during which all sound must be contained within a room/suite. Courtesy Hours exist 24 hours every day, therefore are always in effect, and are defined as a time in which general consideration for others is maintained.

   **University Apartments**
   Residents of University Apartments (Empire Commons, Freedom Apartments and Liberty Terrace) and their guests are required to be respectful of their neighbors and keep noise at a minimum. Noise must be confined within the parameters of their apartment. Residents and guests must also keep all noise to a minimum in building hallways and outside on the grounds. Neither residents nor their guests may play loud music or have loud gatherings in any apartment or on the grounds of University Apartments. Residents and their guests must abide by this policy at all times.

6. **Fire Safety.** All residents must evacuate the building when a fire alarm sounds. Failure to cooperate or to evacuate during a fire alarm; causing of a false fire alarm; inappropriate behavior which results in the activation of a fire alarm; interfering with the proper functioning of a fire alarm system; tampering with, damaging or removing fire hoses, extinguishers, exit lights, heat/smoke sensors, extinguisher boxes or alarm covers, or any other fire safety apparatus is strictly prohibited. The use of any open-flamed devices such as candles, sterno; incense and kerosene lamps is prohibited. The following are also prohibited: natural trees, wreaths, paneling, wallpaper or similar coverings, open-element or liquid-fueled (kerosene, propane, gas) space heaters, and hazardous trash accumulation. Please see Environmental Health and Safety's fire safety information.

7. **Dangerous Objects.** The possession or use of firecrackers, explosives, dangerous chemicals, flammable liquids, charcoal lighter fluid, items which constitute a fire hazard, firearms or other weapons, ammunition, knives, chukka sticks and other dangerous objects or chemicals is prohibited. Use and storage of helium and propane tanks in rooms, suites and lounges is prohibited.

*University Residence Halls & Apartments License, 2015 – 2016*
8. **Kitchen Use/Cooking.**

    **Residence Halls**
    Cooking is permitted only in residence hall kitchenette areas. Minimal snack preparation is permitted in student rooms (see number 9 below). Any open flame cooking equipment, including charcoal barbecue grills, and hibachis are prohibited from the quadrangle grounds.

    **University Apartments**
    Cooking is permitted in University Apartments. If you choose to cook outside within the common areas on the grounds of University Apartments, the use of charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated within 30 feet of the buildings. Residents are responsible for themselves and their guests in ensuring any outside gathering results in an expeditious and complete clean-up of the area. It is imperative that individuals take every safety precaution when disposing of used charcoal. Once the charcoal is finished being used, allow it to sit in the grill for at least 24-hours before placing it in the dumpster. Individuals using outdoor space must refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages outdoors, regardless of age. All cooking in kitchen facilities must be attended to at all times. Any student who causes a fire or triggers a fire alarm through negligent use of kitchen facilities will be referred to for disciplinary action. They will also be held financially responsible for any related damages resulting from negligence while cooking.

9. **Appliances.**

    **Residence Halls**
    Air conditioners, ceiling fans, microwave ovens (with the exception of micro-fridge) and all other cooking appliances that have and open element or flame are prohibited. For snack preparation, the following appliances, UL Approved ONLY, are permitted: pop-up toaster, closed element popcorn popper, thermostatically controlled hot pots and rice cookers, and percolator/coffeemaker.

    **University Apartments**
    Students are expected to use appliances furnished in their apartment in the appropriate manner. The student takes full responsibility for the appliances’ use and functioning during the course of their stay. Misuse, damage, and/or injury incurred by or caused by the student are the sole responsibility of the student. The student will incur appropriate charges for maintenance and upkeep as a result of damage caused by misuse or negligence.

    Empire Commons and Liberty Terrace apartments are equipped with microwaves. Freedom Apartments residents may possess a microwave oven; however, Freedom Apartments are not equipped with one.

10. **Refrigerators.**

    **Residence Halls**
    Mini Refrigerators:
    Students are permitted to have a refrigerator in their room/suite. The refrigerator may be student-provided, in which case it must be in good working condition, capacity of 6 cubic feet or less, electrical requirements and use rated at 110 volts, 1.75 amperes or below, and UL approved; or, it may be a leased unit meeting the same requirements.

    Microwave:
    The only microwave allowed in the residence hall rooms is via the current approved vendor for a refrigerator/microwave/freezer combo. For more information, go online to [http://www.albany.edu/uas/other-services.php](http://www.albany.edu/uas/other-services.php).

    **University Apartments**
    All apartments come equipped with a full size refrigerator.

11. **Electronic Equipment.** Television aerials/antennas, masts and other radio-transmitting/receiving equipment are prohibited. Student-provided wireless access points and networking routers are strictly prohibited in all University residence. Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by all University Information Technology policies including, but not limited to, Responsible Use of Information Technology and Connecting Devices to the University Network. For all applicable University IT policies, visit [http://www.albany.edu/its/](http://www.albany.edu/its/)
12. *Pets.* Pets, other than tropical fish in a 5 gallon or less tank, are prohibited.

13. *Waterbeds and lofts.* Only University supplied loft configurations are acceptable. Waterbeds are prohibited.

14. *Room decorations.* Combustible materials such as posters, pictures, etc., shall be limited to 20% of available wall space in each room. No combustible material shall be allowed on ceilings or on the inside of any door. Fabrics, including sheets, fishnet, tapestry, etc., used as decorations are prohibited. Ceiling decorations of all types are prohibited. Curtains must be flame resistant (per NFPA 701) as should any upholstered furniture (labeled CAL 133).

15. *Upholstered Furniture.* New York State Fire regulations specifically prohibit furniture that does not meet the flammability requirements of California Technical Bulletin 133 (CAL 133). This is a very high standard to meet to ensure fire safety in large, institutional environments; cushioned or upholstered furniture available at most retail stores will not meet the standard. Any cushioned or upholstered furniture that is not labeled CAL 133 is prohibited.

16. *Windows.* Throwing or hanging anything out windows is prohibited.

17. *Ceilings.* Ceilings may not be disturbed in anyway. This means you may not attach any items to the ceiling (such as stickers, nails, hooks, bottle caps, etc.), or bounce balls off them. The ceilings in some Residence Hall rooms contain a low percentage of chrysotile asbestos.

18. *Screens.* Removal of existing window screens is prohibited.


   **Residence Halls**

   Recreational activity within the courtyard of the Quadrangles is governed by the Department of Residential Life. Activities potentially injurious to individuals, facilities or grounds are prohibited in common areas, including lounges and hallways.

   Special Function Forms are required for all use of space for formal and informal activities, as well as for approved solicitations. These forms must be completed in the Quad Information Center and approved by the Quad Coordinator for that facility.

   **University Apartments**

   Recreational activity within and around Empire Commons, Freedom Apartments and Liberty Terrace are governed by the Department of Residential Life, University Apartments, and the prescribed guidelines regarding use of the Empire Commons Community Building or Liberty Terrace Community Area. Activities that could be injurious to individuals, facilities or grounds are prohibited in common areas, including hallways, stairwells, and grounds.

   Reservation Requests are required for all use of common space for formal and informal activities within and around Empire Commons, Liberty Terrace, and Freedom Apartments. Requests must be submitted to the University Apartments Office for approval ten days prior to the date of the proposed event and/or activity. Charges may apply. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in judicial sanctions.

   Additionally, failure to follow the posted rules and regulations or verbal directives of Residential Life staff or staff hired to work in the Empire Commons or Liberty Terrace gym, may result in judicial sanctions and/or revocation of one’s gym privileges.

20. *Solicitations.*

   **Residence Halls**

   Solicitations and sales by residents and others are limited to those activities authorized by the designated campus authority and are limited to those approved by the DRL. Use of a mail services mailbox is strictly for personal use only, not for business purposes. Door to door sales or “dorm storming” are strictly prohibited with the exception of those activities approved by the DRL.
University Apartments
Solicitations and sales by residents and others are prohibited within apartment buildings. Solicitations within the Empire Commons Community Building are limited to those approved by the Department of Residential Life, University Apartments. Use of a mail services mailbox is strictly for personal use only, not for business purposes.

21. *Tunnel Area.* Entering quad tunnel areas is prohibited unless specific permission is granted by the Department of Residential Life.

22. *Vehicles.* Storage of motorcycles or mopeds in buildings is prohibited.

23. *Smoking.* State law prohibits smoking in all public areas including lobbies, hallways and lounges.

**SMOKE FREE RESIDENCE HALLS & APARTMENTS**

In recognition that the exposure to second hand smoke is a significant health concern, the University at Albany Residence Halls and University Apartments are entirely smoke free. This means that you may not smoke inside any residential structure including your bedroom and/or suite area. This includes smoking of any kind including tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vaporizers, drugs, etc. In addition, you may not smoke within 30 feet of any residence or office building on campus.

24. *Building Entrances.* Propping of any building access/entrance door is strictly prohibited.

25. *Recycling.* Students are required to utilize suite/room issued recycling bins for recyclable materials. Students will be billed for lost, stolen, or damaged bins.

26. *Cinder Blocks/Bricks.* Cinder blocks or bricks of any composition are prohibited in all University Residence Halls & Apartments.

27. *Halogen Lamps.* Halogen lamps/bulbs are prohibited in all University Residence Halls & Apartments for health and safety reasons.

28. *Lofting/Bunking of Beds:* Lofting or bunking of beds must be completed by submitting a repair request to the Quad Information Center. Any bed with the above configuration must be done by Facilities staff and are required to have a safety rail installed. Not all University beds will be able to be lofted or bunked.

**B. Excerpts From Community Rights & Responsibilities Governing The Use Of Alcohol**

1. The University at Albany adheres to and enforces all federal, state and local legislation concerning alcohol. Violations of the Alcohol Policy will be addressed as prescribed by federal, state and local laws, by University policies, and by regulations described in Community Rights & Responsibilities.

2. Under New York law, only persons twenty-one (21) years of age or older are legally entitled to purchase, be sold, given, or served alcohol. A person under 21 years of age may not possess or consume alcoholic beverages at any time on the University campus.

3. Under New York law, persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from possessing any alcoholic beverages with intent to consume the beverage. Violators are subject to a fine up to $50.00 per offense. Authorized law enforcement personnel may seize alcoholic beverages involved in alleged violations of this law.

4. New York law further provides that any person, other than a parent or guardian, who purchases alcohol for, procures for, or gives alcohol to anyone under 21 years of age is guilty of a misdemeanor.
5. Under New York law, anyone under 21 years of age who uses fraudulent proof of age to obtain alcohol is guilty of a misdemeanor. This violation is punishable by a fine of up to $100.00 and a community service requirement of up to thirty (30) hours.

6. A substantial part of the University at Albany is in the City of Albany and is subject to its open container law. Thus no open container of an alcoholic beverage is permitted in the residence halls or the surrounding University grounds.

7. Under New York law, a person under the age of 21 who presents an altered New York State driver's license for the purpose of illegally purchasing an alcoholic beverage may be subject to a suspension of that driver's license for up to ninety (90) days and may also be required to apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles for a restricted use driver's license following the suspension. Driving under the influence of alcohol on University property is prohibited and violators will be subject to arrest.

8. The Vice President for Student Success is responsible for implementing and interpreting the alcohol use policy.

Further information about the campus policy governing the use of alcohol and the complete Community Rights & Responsibilities document is available at http://www.albany.edu/studentconduct/introduction.shtml.

C. Campus Policy Governing Use of Alcohol in Residence Halls
All University at Albany students who live in residence and their visitors/guests are subject to New York State Law and the University at Albany's policy regarding possession and consumption of alcohol, as well as specific policies governing the Residence Halls. Please note that individuals disciplinarily suspended or dismissed from the University forfeit tuition and fees as well as the semester room and board charges in which the disciplinary action occurred, and shall not receive academic credit for the semester in which the suspension or dismissal occurred.

1. Definition of Residence Hall/University Apartment Areas. Residence Halls are defined as the quadrangles and the University Apartment complexes, including outdoor areas. The boundaries of Indian, State, Colonial and Dutch Quadrangles are defined by the first paved roadway or sidewalk adjacent to the quadrangle. Indian and Dutch Quadrangles include the playing fields adjacent to the west and east respectively with regard to the application of this policy. The boundaries of Alumni Quadrangle are defined by the exterior city sidewalks surrounding the quad. The boundaries of Freedom Apartments are defined by the entrance road to the complex from Tricentennial Drive. The boundaries of Empire Commons are defined by the University roadways surrounding the complex.

2. Alcohol Policy in Freshmen Designated Residence Halls. Alcoholic beverages are never permitted in freshman residence halls. This includes all residential buildings on Indian Quad and State Quad, or any other Quad with designated first year student populations. Visitors or guests of students residing in these areas are not permitted to possess or consume alcohol in these areas regardless of whether they are of legal drinking age. These areas are designated as alcohol free.

3. Alcohol Policy for Students Under 21 Years of Age Living in Non-Freshmen Areas. A person under 21 years of age may not possess or consume alcoholic beverages at any time on the University at Albany campus. No possession or consumption of alcohol is permitted by any student or guest in private residence rooms where all the assigned residents are under 21 years of age. Visitors or guests of students under 21 years of age are not permitted to possess or consume alcohol in the suite or bedroom of an underage student regardless of whether they are of legal drinking age. Alcohol containers, including empty liquor bottles, wine bottles and/or beer cans are prohibited.

4. Alcohol Policy for Students Over 21 Years of Age Living in Non-Freshmen Areas. The following regulations regarding alcohol use apply to students and visitors/guests in the non-freshmen areas who are 21 years of age or older: No individual student may possess more than 12, 12 oz. bottles/cans of beer (or the equivalent), or one liter of hard liquor or wine at one time in their
assigned residence room/apartment. Guests or visitors are prohibited from bringing alcohol for consumption or distribution into any residence hall room/apartment. Binge drinking is strictly prohibited. Individuals of legal drinking age may not provide alcohol to underage roommates, suitemates, visitors or guests. Drinking games (e.g. beer pong) and other activities that promote the irresponsible use of alcohol are prohibited. This includes the use of alcohol paraphernalia such as funnels and ice luges. Kegs and beer balls, whether empty or full, tapped or untapped, are prohibited. Spiked punch and Jell-O shots containing alcohol, regardless of alcohol content, are also prohibited. Behavior that encourages or contributes to excessive alcohol consumption by another student is prohibited. Carrying open containers of alcoholic beverages or consuming them in any public area of the campus is prohibited. This includes movement between residence hall rooms or apartments with an alcoholic beverage.

5. **Compliance with all requests by University officials, including Residential Life staff or University Police, for proof of 21-year-old status is required.** If there is reasonable suspicion to believe that alcohol might be in squeeze bottles, cups or other such containers, University staff reserve the right to approach students and hold individuals accountable under the provisions of this policy. Possession, consumption, and storage of alcohol are prohibited in all public areas, e.g. lounges, hallways, stairwells, common bathrooms, or outdoor areas. Driving on University property while under the influence of alcohol is strictly prohibited and will result in arrest, loss of driving privileges on campus, and possible suspension or expulsion from the University.

6. **The Incident-Sanction Protocol for Alcohol & Other Drug Violations.** The sanctions specified in the University’s **Community Rights & Responsibilities** are the minimal expectations applied by staff in most student conduct cases involving alcohol and other drugs. The University’s response is not restricted to those sanctions listed in the protocol. Students are advised that illegal possession and/or use of alcohol and other drugs are strictly prohibited at the University.

**X. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ROOM USE**

Each resident must complete and sign a Room or Apartment Condition Report provided by the residence hall staff within 24 hours of occupying any room, including room changes. This form, when signed by a Residential Life staff representative, is the basis for assessment of any damage and/or loss attributable to the resident at the termination of occupancy. Failure to complete, sign and return the form results in the student’s assumption of responsibility for any damage evident in the room.

Where two or more students occupy the same room or suite and where determination of specific responsibility for the damages or losses has not occurred, an assessment will be made against both or all equally. Charges will reflect actual cost as determined by Physical Plant for any billing. A list of items most commonly billed and the cost is available upon request. If payment is not made, a hold will be placed on the student’s University records.

A. **Assessment of Room Damage Charges**
   Students responsible for damage or losses will be billed by the DRL for cost of repair and/or replacement of University property.

B. **Common Area Damage Assessment**
   An attempt will be made to identify students responsible for loss or damages. Failure to identify responsible individuals will result in an equal assessment to all students associated with the common area.

C. **Furniture Removal**
   Furniture must be left in the rooms or lounges to which it has been assigned. Students who move furniture from assigned areas will be billed for the return of the furniture to its assigned area. Where furniture has been moved into a room or suite, all residents of the area will be equally billed for its removal.

D. **Alterations**
   The student shall make no alterations to their bedroom, shared living space or building in which they reside. This includes but is not limited to: altering living space for recreational purposes, painting, and removal/disconnection/installation of fixtures, furniture, equipment, or appliances (where applicable) situated therein without the express written consent of the University.
University Apartments
On Empire Commons and Liberty Terrace, it is imperative that students not disconnect and/or rearrange the furniture in their bedroom. Students who violate this policy will be billed accordingly.

E. Lost Keys
If a student loses a key issued by the DRL, it may only be replaced by reporting the loss to the DRL. In such cases, the student will be billed for the cost of re-keying the door. Keys returned by students at check out which are not the same keys issued by the DRL will also necessitate the re-keying of the door with assessment of charges to the student responsible. All keys remain the property of the University. Duplication is strictly prohibited.

*Students found with duplicated keys will incur the cost of a lock change and may be judicially referred.

XI. MAINTENANCE & CONDITION OF FACILITY

All residents have a responsibility to help in maintaining the cleanliness of their living environment and will be expected to clean up after themselves in suites and rooms as well as in lounges and other public areas. Regular maintenance and/or painting by University personnel and/or contractors may be scheduled in rooms, suites, and common areas while facilities are occupied. When possible, advance notice will be given.

A. Inspections
The University reserves the right to inspect rooms for health, safety, security, and maintenance purposes. In all cases where the health, safety, or welfare of a person may be in danger or in cases where University property or services are jeopardized, the Department of Residential Life staff may enter a suite or room immediately and without notice. Announced safety inspections will occur once each semester, procedures for which will be communicated in advance. In addition, the University reserves the right to search with consent; search incidental to arrest; and to search by warrant.

The Office of Fire Prevention and Control will be conducting fire safety inspections throughout the academic year. Any violations cited must be remedied immediately. Residential Life Staff will ensure compliance. Failure to comply will result in judicial action and/or restitution.

B. Repair work
Repair work in student rooms/suites may be scheduled to occur during recesses. Advance notice will be given to residents, except in the case of emergency repairs.

C. Room & Suite Painting
Rooms and suites are painted on a regularly scheduled basis. Where room conditions warrant, students may request a work order for painting through the DRL. Students are prohibited from painting rooms and/or suites.

XII. PERSONAL PROPERTY LOSSES & CLAIMS

The University is not responsible for loss of or damage to personal property of residents. Personal property insurance may be available through your family’s homeowners insurance, or through the individual purchase of renter’s insurance through the personal property protection program. Information is available at the DRL. Student occupants are urged to provide for the security of their belongings by locking their rooms and by carrying personal property insurance. Mail Services is not responsible for any unclaimed property or packages.

XIII. PAYMENTS

A. Fall Semester Room Deposits
In order for continuing students to be eligible for a refund of the Housing Deposit, cancellation of the room request must be made in writing and received in the Department of Residential Life by Friday May 1, 2015. In order for new students to be eligible for a refund of the Housing Deposit, cancellation of the room request must be made in writing and received by the DRL within 30 days of the receipt of payment of the
Deposit but not later than **Friday July 31, 2015**. If the cancellation of the room request is received after **Friday May 1, 2015** (for continuing students) or after **Friday July 31, 2015** (for new students), but before **Friday August 21, 2015**, students will not be charged per week for the room, but the $125 housing deposit will be forfeited.

**B. Spring Semester Room Deposits**
To secure a room assignment for Spring 2016 semester, new students as well as off-campus students requesting to move on campus, must pay the Housing Deposit fee of $125.00. In order to be eligible for a refund of the Housing Deposit, cancellation of the room request must be made in writing and received in the DRL within 30 days of the receipt of the payment of the Deposit but not later than **Sunday January 17, 2016**.

**C. Room & Board Billing**
Charges are billed by the Office of Student Accounts and are due and payable prior to occupancy. Students are expected to pay in full or provide evidence of financial assistance to Student Accounts by the payment deadline. Students who do not satisfy their financial obligations for room and board charges are subject to removal from residence halls, apartment complexes, and/or revocation of their meal card privileges.

**XIV. REFUNDS & BILLING ADJUSTMENTS**
Occupy of University Residence Halls & Apartments is defined as acceptance of keys and/or moving into the room. For residents continuing from fall to spring semesters, occupy is defined as failure to obtain approval for release via the License Release Request and/or failure to remove all possessions from the room and return all keys prior to Spring semester opening day, **Sunday January 17, 2016**. Adjustments for room and board charges are based on the date personal effects are removed from the hall and keys have been returned to The Department of Residential Life. Please note releases from Empire Commons are subject to a $400 license termination fee. Adjustments of room and board charges are granted in accordance with the following:

**A. Room**
After a student has occupied a room, no adjustment is available for the balance of that semester, unless the student officially withdraws from the University due to CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THEIR CONTROL or unless a written request for release from the Residence License due to CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THEIR CONTROL is approved by the DRL. Written third party documentation must be submitted to substantiate reasons beyond a student’s control. In approved cases, room charge adjustments are prorated on a weekly basis. If a student withdraws from housing after week 8, charges for housing for the remainder of the term will not be refunded.

**B. Meal Plan**
Under certain circumstances a student may receive a full or partial (pro-rated) refund for meal plan costs. All refunds require a written release from the Residence License signed by the Director or the Associate Director of Residential Life.

A meal plan refund will not be granted if a student is released from the University due to disciplinary action or suspension regardless of the number of weeks into the semester.

Meal plans are subject to New York State tax laws, and therefore refunds may only be granted per the criteria detailed herein, and only through the first eight (8) weeks of the semester in which the plan was purchased.

The meal plan refund calculation is based on a weekly proration, regardless of the number of meals eaten, effective the first day meal plans officially begin for the semester, plus the total amount of Munch Money spent. Meal plan refunds are processed automatically by the Office of Student Accounts and are posted to the students’ MyUAlbany financial account.

1. **Full Refund**
You may receive a full refund of your meal plan cost only if you fail to occupy your room at the beginning of the semester as defined by the Residence License.

2. Partial (Pro-Rated) Refund

A. Regular Meal Plan Refund

a. Traditional Residence Hall Students

Students residing in a traditional residence hall will receive a meal plan refund when they are officially released from their Residence Hall License AND officially checked out of their room, through the eighth week of the semester. The meal plan refund calculation is based on the week in which the Department of Residential Life approves a student’s housing release application AND the student is officially checked out of his/her room, or the last week a student used his/her meal plan; whichever week is later. Please note that if a student is officially leaving the University, he/she must first completed a withdrawal form from the Office of Withdrawal and Readmission before he/she fills out the housing release application.

When a student officially withdraws from the University, his/her meal plan (and associated Munch Money) will be removed from his/her SUNYCard automatically and any Munch Money remaining on his/her meal plan is fortified.

A student released from a traditional residence hall after the eighth week of the semester does not qualify for a meal plan refund unless the student is officially released.

If the student is officially released from the resident license, but has not officially withdrawn from the University and wishes to retain his/her meal plan, the student must visit the SUNYCard Office located in Campus Center B52 to reestablish his/her meal plan.

If during the first eight weeks of the semester, the Department of Residential Life reassigns a student from a residence hall to a University Apartment, the student will receive a meal plan refund based on the week in which the Department of Residential Life officially terminates the students’ access into his/her original residence hall AND the student officially checks out of his/her original room, or the last week the student used his/her meal plan; whichever week is later. In such circumstances, if the student wishes to maintain his/her meal plan, the student must visit the SUNYCard Office located in Campus Center B52 to reestablish his/her meal plan. A student reassigned from a residence hall to a University apartment after the eighth week of the semester does not qualify for a meal plan refund.

b. University Apartment Students

Students residing in a University Apartment will receive a meal plan refund when they are officially released from their residence license AND officially checked out of their apartment, through the eighth week of the semester. The meal plan refund is based on the week in which the Department of Residential Life approves a student’s housing release application AND he/she is officially checked out of his/her apartment or the last week a student used his/her meal plan; whichever week is later. Please note that if a student is officially leaving the University, he/she must first completed a withdrawal form from the Office of Withdrawal and Readmission before he/she fills out the housing release application.

When a student officially withdraws from the University, his/her meal plan (and associated Munch Money) will be removed from his/her SUNYCard automatically and any Munch Money remaining in his/her meal plan is fortified.
A student released from a University Apartment after the eighth week of the semester does not qualify for a meal plan refund unless the student is officially released.

B. Officially Released from Housing

A student that is officially released from housing under special circumstances could receive a meal plan refund after 8 weeks. For more information, see section XV below and go online to https://ualbanydining.com/dining-plans/refund-policy.html.

C. Change In Occupancy

In the Residence Halls, students assigned to increased occupancy (one person more than design capacity for a room) are initially billed at the standard double rate. Adjustments to bills for increased occupancy will occur mid semester. If there is a change in occupancy which affects the room rate, i.e., increased occupancy rate to normal occupancy rate or normal occupancy rate to increased occupancy rate, changes in room rates become effective the following week. When campus-wide occupancy permits all students to be placed in normal occupancy (i.e., below 100% campus-wide), all students will be charged at the normal occupancy rate, even if students have elected to remain in increased occupancy.

D. Academic Dismissals

Students that have been academically dismissed must follow these procedures:

1. Fall Dismissal
   A student dismissed following the Fall semester must notify the DRL immediately following receipt of the official letter of academic dismissal. The student must make arrangements with the DRL to formally check out of their Fall room assignment PRIOR to Spring semester opening day Sunday, January 17, 2016. Checking out on or after this date will result in room charges. Students appealing the academic dismissal must notify the DRL or will lose their Spring housing assignment.

2. Spring Dismissal
   A student dismissed following the spring semester must notify the DRL in writing within 30 days of receipt of the official letter of academic dismissal, in order to qualify for a refund of deposit for the Fall semester. Students appealing the academic dismissal must notify the DRL of their intent or they will lose their fall assignment.

E. Judicial Referrals/Actions

A student, either dismissed or suspended from the University, or administratively removed for disciplinary reasons by the Vice President for Student Success, Office of Community Standards, or Department of Residential Life are subject to financial penalties for prematurely breaking this License, and will be required to pay such penalties at the time of their removal from University Residence Halls and Apartments.

XV. RELEASE FROM RESIDENCE LICENSE FOR ROOM & BOARD

License Release Requests submitted on or after the first day that University Residence Halls and Apartments open for the semester will be considered by the DRL. Specific guidelines for securing approval of a License Release Request are applied. These guidelines include documented withdrawal from the University, changes in financial situation, marital status and medical conditions, all of which must be BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE STUDENT with proper documentation. When a student is officially released from the Residence Hall License, s/he must vacate the room within 24 hours and complete checkout procedures outlined in Section VI of this license. A student will be charged for room until check out is completed. If s/he has an active meal plan, the refund for the meal plan will be pro-rated as indicated in Section XIV.

Failure to check into University Residence Halls and Apartments, reside in the assigned room, accept a meal card, eat meals, or pay room and board charges does not release a student from the obligations of this License. Except for those students released from the License or officially withdrawn from the University, students who fail to move into their assigned room will be billed one-semester room charge, and for their meal plan where applicable in relation to their housing assignment.
Students who have occupied a room and then move out without being officially released from this License will be billed an (8-week) room charge, effective the date of the unauthorized release. This charge will be in addition to time spent in residence, determined by the date that keys are returned and the room vacated.

A. Renewal
This agreement does not automatically renew upon expiration on the term designated. The University may accept or deny any such renewal request at its sole discretion.

THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE A BINDING AGREEMENT

Department of Residential Life
State Quadrangle U-Lounge
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222-0001
PHONE: (518) 442-5875 FAX (518) 442-5835

University Apartments
Empire Commons Community Building
Albany, NY 12222-0001
PHONE: (518) 956-6250 FAX (518) 956-6251

www.albany.edu/housing