

## **McMahon Hall Cluster Community Agreement**

### **Part 1— RESIDENCE HALL POLICIES**

The purpose of the policies outlined in Appendix A of your 9-Month Housing Agreement (Agreement) is to maintain a healthy community where shared values, expectations and behavioral standards set by the residence hall and apartment communities are embraced. Residents are expected to know and observe the rules and regulations covered in the Agreement, other Housing & Food Services publications, and the University of Washington Student Conduct Code. Furthermore, residents are expected to participate in shaping and supporting community values, norms and expectations. To these ends, below are two sets of expectations unique to McMahon Cluster Communities – the Balcony Agreement and the Cluster Community Agreement.

### **Part 2—BALCONY AGREEMENT**

The privilege of having access to your cluster balcony is based on you and your guests' strict adherence with Housing & Food Services' regulations, policies, and standards as stated in this Balcony Agreement.

**The following activities/behaviors are prohibited on the balconies:**

- **Sitting or standing on the balcony railings**
- **Climbing over or under the balcony railings**
- **Hanging items off of or attaching items to the balcony railings (including hanging hammock from railing or draping laundry on railings)**
- **Throwing, dropping, pouring, or propelling items off the balcony**
- **Extending any object beyond the boundary of the balcony railings**
- **Making excessive noise**
- **Smoking, cooking or sleeping**
- **Consuming alcohol (regardless of age)**

***The balcony railings are not intended for sitting or standing.  
Such use creates a substantial risk of serious injury or death, and is strictly prohibited.***

**Cluster furniture is not considered outdoor furniture and these items (sofas, chairs, tables, beds, etc.) are not permitted on the balconies. Residential Life staff reserve the right to request that any item be removed from the balconies. Only the following items are allowed on the inside perimeter and below the railings of the balconies:**

- **Bicycles**
- **Outdoor furniture (lawn chairs, outdoor table, hammock with its own stand)**
- **Potted plants (plants must be under 3 feet in height and 2 feet in width)**
- **Athletic equipment (shoes, padding, etc.)**

Balconies are closed during 24 Hour Quiet Hour periods or at any time during the quarter as deemed appropriate by the staff for the safety and/or welfare of the community, including but not limited to, alcohol or drug policy violations, snow, etc. If a locked balcony door is broken or tampered with, all members of the cluster may be held responsible. In the event of alleged balcony violation(s) or other student conduct related violation(s), residents can expect the following University actions:

1. The balcony for the cluster area may be immediately locked.
2. The resident(s) involved in the alleged violation(s) will be referred for a conduct meeting.
3. Any resident(s) found responsible for violation(s) may be relocated to another residence hall.
4. Depending on the severity of the violation(s), additional sanctions may be imposed, including a recommendation for termination of the Agreement and a recommendation for an informal hearing with the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct.

### Part 3—CLUSTER COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

The balcony, lounge and bathroom within each McMahon cluster are considered common areas for those who live in the cluster. The safety and physical condition of these areas are the shared responsibilities of each clustermate. Clustermates are also responsible for all activities and guests within the common areas. The custodial staff will sanitize common areas; however, it is the responsibility of the clustermates to keep these areas clean.

Residential Life staff and/or other properly identified University Officials may enter common areas within the clusters, unannounced, to conduct official business (including but not limited to: facilities walk-throughs, RA community building efforts, etc.) or upon suspicion of violations to community standards.

#### A. Additional Cluster-Specific Policies

*We understand that:*

- Each member of the cluster has a responsibility to ensure that Agreement policies are being observed in the common areas of the cluster at all times by all individuals present.
- It is illegal for persons under the age of 21 to use, possess, or provide beverages containing alcohol in the residence halls.
- **Alcohol may not be possessed or consumed in the cluster lounge regardless of age.**
- All members of the cluster may be held responsible if policy violations (including but not limited to alcohol/alcohol containers, drugs, candles, vandalism, hanging items on sprinkler pipes, etc.) are documented in the common areas of the cluster and no individual clustermate takes responsibility for the violations.
- The safety of your cluster must not be compromised by tampering with door locks, propping doors open, or otherwise disabling security systems.

#### B. Cluster Lounge Usage:

(Choose One) Yes/No

- We agree that personal belongings may be put in the cluster lounge. Choose one

These items include:

- We agree that items in the cluster lounge may be used by all cluster mates. Choose one

Exceptions:

- We agree that personal food items may be placed in the cluster refrigerator. Choose one

- We agree that unless labeled “Do Not Eat” food items in the cluster Lounge/refrigerator may be eaten by anyone. Choose one

- We agree that clustermates may have a guest sleep overnight in the cluster lounge. No

Specific guidelines:

*(i.e. How much notice is needed before a guest stays overnight? What is everyone’s comfort with guests of different genders staying overnight?)*

*(Note: The Agreement limits overnight guests to a maximum of a 3-night stay at any one time, and no more than a total of seven overnight stays per academic year, and only with the prior agreement of the other roommates or cluster mates.)*

**B. Cluster Lounge Usage:****(Choose One) Yes/No**

- We agree that the cluster lounge should remain clean. In order to allow the custodial staff to vacuum the lounge carpet, we will keep the floor clear of our personal belongings. Choose one  
*(Note: Residents are expected to keep their rooms and cluster lounges clean, orderly, and in good repair at all times. If the room is determined to fall below acceptable health and safety standards, the residents(s) will be required to take prescribed corrective action within twenty-four (24) hours from the time of notice.)*
- We agree that personal belongings not intended to be left in the cluster lounge for the entire quarter should be removed within  days. Choose one

**C. Cluster Bathroom Usage:****(Choose One) Yes/No**

- We agree that personal belonging may be put in the cluster bathroom. Choose one
  - These items include:
- *(Note: All items must be removed from shower prior to custodial cleaning. If items are not removed, custodial staff will not clean and it is the responsibility of residents to clean the bathroom.)*
- We agree that personal belongings in the bathroom must be kept in their designated spaces. Choose one
- We agree that clustermates may not use the belongings of others that are in the bathroom. Choose one.
  - Exceptions:
- We agree that dishes may be cleaned in the cluster bathroom. Choose one
  - Dishes must be removed from the cluster bathroom within  days.
- We agree that guests of any clustermate may use the restroom of the cluster. Choose one
  - If it is deemed okay by the group, what guidelines should be set:
- We agree that when someone else is waiting, we will limit our shower to  minutes. Choose one

**D. Academics/Noise/Being Respectful of One Another:****(Choose One) Yes/No**

- We agree that during the following times we will maintain reasonable noise level in the cluster that is conducive to study and sleep.
  - Weekdays:
  - Weekends:

**Note:**

1. Quiet Hours begin at 10:00 p.m. on nights before days the University is in session and at midnight on all other nights
2. Agreed study/sleep hours for your cluster may begin earlier than the above stated Quiet Hours times, but cannot extend past the stated times.
3. During Quiet Hours, noise that can be heard beyond the boundaries of your room is prohibited. Noise in the cluster common areas that can be heard in a room within the cluster or beyond the boundaries of the cluster doors is prohibited.

- A reasonable noise level is: (e.g., TV below setting 10)

- We agree that the cluster lounge is a good place to study:

Choose an item.

**We understand that it is our individual responsibility to monitor our own noise and when another member of our cluster requests quiet we will respectfully comply.**

**E. Communication:**

**(Choose One) Yes/No**

- We agree that if there is a disagreement between clustermates we will “go to the source.”  
*(The clustermates involved with the disagreement will talk directly with each other about the problem, not with others.)*
- We agree to contact our RA or Resident Director when:
  - University property in the common areas of the cluster is damaged
  - Items have been dropped from another balcony on to our balcony
  - Our balcony door is not secured when we know it should be locked

Choose one

Choose one

We, the members of cluster Enter - Cluster # understand that a violation of the policies outlined in the “Balcony Agreement” will result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, we agree to follow the above “Cluster Agreement” to the best of our abilities. We understand that we each have a responsibility toward upholding the rights of the others in our cluster and have the right to expect the same from each of them in return. Our signatures (Full Name) indicate that we are prepared to hold each other, ourselves, and our guests accountable to this principle and the above guidelines and policies.

1. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

2. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

3. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

4. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

5. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

6. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

7. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

8. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

9. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

10. Enter full name

Click here to enter date.

**Notes**

Click here to enter text.

