

Fire Safety Questions for EVERYONE to Ask

Before you move in to on- or off-campus housing, ask these potentially life-saving questions.

How many fires have occurred campus in the past year?

How about fires in off-campus student housing?

Are residence halls, Greek housing, or off-campus housing equipped with automatic fire sprinkler systems?

If not, why not? Sprinklers provide that vital first line of defense when it comes to controlling a fire. Ask for sprinklered housing.

Does every student's room have a smoke alarm?

If so, does it send a signal to campus security or the fire department? Fire alarm systems give everyone warning that there is a fire and it is time to get out.

How many false alarms have occurred in the residence halls?

False alarms cause students to stop paying attention to the alarms, which can be a fatal decision.

False alarms ARE avoidable.

Is the fire department IMMEDIATELY notified whenever ANY fire alarm system is activated?

Some schools investigate the alarm first and then notify the fire department. This delay can put more people at risk. The fire department should automatically be notified of ALL alarms.

Are smoking, candles, and Halogen lamps prohibited in the residence halls?

If not, they should be.

Does the school have policies that electrical appliances and power strips be certified as safe and reliable?

How much fire prevention training does the residence hall staff receive?

How often do the students themselves receive fire prevention education?

This should continue throughout their academic career, not just while they are living in the residence halls.

How often are evacuation drills conducted?

There should be at least one per semester.

What is the school's disciplinary policy towards students that cause false alarms or fail to evacuate during an alarm?

Does the school provide fire extinguisher training for all students?

***No question is silly or unimportant. This is your life we are talking about!
Make an informed, fire-safe decision!***