

# ROOMMATE AGREEMENT

This document is intended to serve as a format for an agreement between roommates. Your enjoyment of residential life on-campus will depend to a large extent on the thoughtful consideration you demonstrate for each other. Roommates should work together in deciding the stipulations of this agreement to ensure that everyone's rights are respected.

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR ROOMMATES

- Deal with issues as they come up instead of letting things build up.
- Communicate with each other and establish a comfortable form of communication.
- Be an active listener.
- Be willing to compromise.
- Think things over before jumping into an agreement.
- Adopt a positive attitude – expect the best!
- Fill out your Roommate Agreement and be willing to readjust things as you go through the year.
- Make sure to communicate about what you need and be sure to listen when your roommate does the same.

## STUDY TIME

**Each student has the right to study free from undue interference, such as noise, guests, etc., in one's space.**

- When do we like to study?
- The following time range will be reserved for designated quiet study:
- When someone is studying, what type of activity is allowed in the room?

## SLEEPING HABITS

**Each student has the right to sleep in a safe, quiet environment from undue inference, such as guests, noise, etc., in one's space**

- What time do we like to go to bed during the weekdays?
- What time do we like to go to bed during the weekends?
- What time do we like to get up during the weekdays?
- What time do we like to get up during the weekends?
- How quiet do we want it to be when we are sleeping?
- Are we comfortable sleeping with the windows open?
- How much light in the room do we want when we are sleeping?
- If one of us returns to the room while one of us is sleeping, what should they do?
- If one person is sleeping, what activities are acceptable in the room?
- How many times can we snooze the alarm?
- How will we be working things out if we have different sleeping patterns?

## PHONE USAGE

**Each student has the right to converse with their family and friends. Students must be mindful of their conversations and make sure they are not interrupting the study/sleep schedule of their roommates.**

- What times work best for us to be on the phone?
- Where can we talk on the phone?
- Alerts on or off?
- What is an appropriate ringer volume/tone?
- Can we talk on speaker mode?
- Can we talk using FaceTime?
- Do we use headphones when talking via FaceTime/phone audio?

## VISITATION AND GUESTS

**Each student has the right to have guests visit their space. Each student also has the right to ask guests to leave. Students are to feel safe and comfortable in their space, and anyone that interferes with that safety will be asked to leave.**

**A resident may only have a guest in the room, overnight or otherwise, if the roommate(s) are in a complete voluntary agreement. Under no circumstances should a resident ever feel pressured into leaving their room because of a roommate(s) having a guest. Due to the possibility of visitation conflicts, overnight guests may not be registered for more than 72 consecutive hours in the same hall, nor may they stay for 72 consecutive hours more than once a month in the same hall or building.**

- Are we okay with guests visiting?
- What will we do if a guest wants to visit when one of us is studying?
- How many guests will we allow in the room at a time?
- What are the specific hours for when guests can come visit during the weekday?
- What are the specific hours for when guests can come visit during the weekend?
- If one of us is away from campus can ISU student guests visit the room?
- How much notice do we want to give to each other if we want someone to visit during the day?

## CLEANLINESS

**Each student has the right to reside in a clean, comfortable space that is free from unwanted odor and waste.**

- What does a clean room look like to us?
- Who will take out the trash? How often?
- Who will clean the mini fridge? How often?
- Will household chores be split among us?
- If household chores will be split among us, how will they be divided up?

## BORROWING (PROPERTY, FOOD, ETC.)

**Each student has the right to keep personal property protected and respected.**

- Permission to borrow personal belongings?
- What can be shared?
- How do we feel about sharing food?
- How do we feel about sharing clothing and shoes?
- How do we feel about sharing electronics (i.e., printers, computers, TV, gaming system, movies, and games)?
- Do we allow guests to borrow our things?
- What shared items do we have in the room? List all items:
- How will we share these items?

## SPACE (PERSONAL AND COMMON) & ROOM ARRANGEMENT

**Each student has the right to make their space their own and feel comfortable and safe in that space.**

- Do we like to have our own section of the room?
- Do we want to have a shared communal space?
- Do we want to decorate?
- What decorations do we like?
- What temperature do we like in our shared space?

## ROOM SECURITY

**Each student is responsible for having their Redbird ID and keys on their person. Students are not allowed to share keys and give keys to guests. Students have the right to a safe and secure room.**

- When do we lock the door?
- What other safety precautions will we take to stay safe in our space?

## COMMUNICATION & BEHAVIORS

**Each student has the right to effective, efficient, and respectful communication with their roommates/suitemates and behave in a way that is respectful of the university's mission statement**

- If one of us has a problem with the other (for example, if we change our minds about something in this agreement), specifically, how should we deal with that?
- What is the best way to approach each other with a problem/concern?
- How would we like to be approached if the other has a question about cultural differences, religious differences, lifestyle differences, etc.?
- If policies are violated in our space, how should we handle the conversation?

*\*Be mindful that Housing Policies are enforced to keep students safe and foster a safe and inclusive community. If you or your roommate violates policy, everyone in the space of the violation is subject to the conduct process. You are responsible for what happens in your space. For a full list of policies, please visit: <https://housing.illinoisstate.edu/about/policies/>*

## OTHER

- Was there anything that was not covered?
- Are there any allergies / medical conditions that we should know about and feel comfortable sharing?
- Are there things that are not listed on the agreement that we would like to add?

## SIGNATURES

**Signatures will be completed through an online system called Roomcompact upon moving in. Each student has the right to effective, efficient, and respectful communication with their roommates/suitemates and behave in a way that is respectful of the university's mission statement**

- We agree to abide by the guidelines we have set for our living space(s).
- We agree to address things that bother us with issues that may arise.
- We agree to be considerate of each other.
- We understand that this contract may be renegotiated at any time during the year.
- We also understand that our Resident Assistant (RA) / Community Assistant (CA) is willing to help if we have conflicts or would like to modify the roommate agreement.