

Dear Student,

The Guide To Residence Hall Living is to provide you with answers to some of the questions you may have about on-campus living for the Fall/Spring semester. For example, information about your new living/learning environment, what kind of things to bring, what you can expect during your stay and what kind of support is available to you.

This addresses many of the questions normally asked of us by new students, so refer to it if you need information. If you have a question that is not addressed here, you may call us at 1-800-287-7543.

Refer to the Residence Life website (<http://reslife.bloomu.edu/>) for a list of suggested items you may want to bring, residence hall carpet sizes and other important residence hall living information.

We are happy that you will be joining us in Residence Life. We hope that your stay at Bloomsburg will be happy and productive.

Sincerely,

Linda Sowash  
Director of Residence Life

### **How we make room assignments:**

#### **Room Requests:**

You may request HOW you want to live, but we assign the buildings and rooms. Housing requests for special interest floors, living learning floors and the various coed options are filled on a space available basis. We make every attempt to honor your request, however, because of limited space, it is not always possible.

#### **Housing Types Available**

Residence Life's housing initiatives are a response to the needs and changing profile of our students reflected by surveys, pilot studies and continuing consultation with the Residence Hall Advisory Board.

- **Single Gender** - All-female or all-male floors are available on a limited basis.
- **Coed Side by Side** means that two females students may be assigned a room next door to a room housing two male students.
- **Coed by Wing** means that students on a particular wing are all female, but the opposite wing on the same floor is all male.

## IN YOUR ROOM

### DVD players, TVs, Refrigerators

Use of electrical devices such as stereos, DVD/CD players, hair dryers, and personal computers are permitted providing such devices are plugged within the room and do not exceed the amperage limits of the circuits within the room. Only one freestanding TV and refrigerator are allowed per room. Each room has a cable TV hook-up, so a cable-ready TV is best for viewing.

**Televisions** must meet the following specifications:

Power input - 120 volts.

**Refrigerators**- If you choose to bring a personal refrigerator it must meet these specifications: Capacity - three (3) cubic feet, Power input - 120 volts; 60 cycle; 50 watts.

**Microwaves**: see Unauthorized Appliances.

**MicroFridges** (a university-approved combination refrigerator/microwave unit) are available for rental from a private vendor. They will send you info.

### Linen and Pillows

The University does not provide you with bed linen (sheets and pillow cases). BEDS USE STANDARD TWIN SIZE SHEETS. (North, MPA and MOA all have 80" mattresses).

### Computers:

All residence halls and upper campus apartments have direct network access. An Ethernet network cable (available at University Bookstore) is needed for connectivity. Upon connecting your computer you will encounter a registration process. All students are required to register their computers before connectivity is established. Do not

subscribe to or purchase antivirus software as Bloomsburg University will provide you with McAfee Enterprise Antivirus software during registration. All other Antivirus Software is not accepted and will NOT pass registration. To expedite the registration process, have any and all internet security and antivirus software uninstalled before arriving at Bloomsburg University. Students who are tripled will be provided a “mini switch” from Residence Life during move in. This will accommodate multiple network connections via a single network port. For more information visit <http://rescomp.bloomu.edu>

### Personal Property

The University assumes NO LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY for the loss of, or damage to, personal property due to insufficient or excessive heat, fire, smoke, water, the elements or action of third persons. Many times parents’ homeowners’ insurance covers such circumstances. If not, you, or your parents, are encouraged to arrange additional INSURANCE COVERAGE to protect your personal property ([www.nssinc.com](http://www.nssinc.com)). We recommend that you take all expensive items home over winter break (TV, computers, etc.) We recommend that you record serial numbers on Property Identification Inventories available through University Police. Engravers are also available at BUPD to mark expensive items with your personal ID.

### Telephones

The University assumes the cost for the initial installation and the monthly local service charges. **You are responsible for providing the telephone.** A touch-tone telephone is required since it will allow you to utilize the features of the system. PLEASE bring a land line telephone because each room is assigned a phone number which is published in all university directories and most campus offices will use to reach you.

### Tripling

In the Welcome to Residence Life portion of MyHousing, we explained how 60% of new students are tripled (sharing a double room with two other people). If you are one of them you should know:

- **Most students who have been tripled agree that** the anticipation of living with two people is worse than the reality. **Space limitations can be overcome by the integrity of the roommates’ relationship and the creative use of space. We have no fewer roommate problems in double rooms than in triple rooms. It is primarily a matter of mutual respect.**

- Each person has a loft system or bed, a desk and a chest of drawers; closet space usually needs to be shared.
- Staff is readily available to facilitate roommate interaction
- You will be offered the chance to detriple as space becomes available, based on the date we receive your housing agreement. You will be billed at the double room rate and will be credited for the amount of time you are tripled. Once a student moves out of the room, or you choose to decline the offer to detriple, the triple credit ends. The credit will be applied toward outstanding bills or the next semester's fees.

### **You and Your Roommate(s)**

Living with a roommate is often a new experience for many new students. Some of the challenges to sharing a room entail when and how to study, sleep, and how often you may have guests. The quality of the relationship you develop with your roommate(s) is a major factor in determining how satisfied you are with college, and it can be an important influence on your academic achievement. The key to establishing a healthy relationship with your roommate(s) is sharing the responsibility and open communication to respect the rights of each other.

## **AROUND CAMPUS**

### **ID/Meal Card**

Your ID card is also your meal ticket, FLEX dollar ticket, and Husky Gold, so it is important to carry it with you at all times.

- Only you are permitted to use it. Without it, you pay casual meal rate.
- Use of the card by another person will result in a \$10 fine and/or disciplinary action.
- You must pay \$20 for replacement of the card. New ID cards can be obtained in the BU Card Center on the ground floor of Elwell Hall.
- Your ID card also is your upper campus apartment or residence hall access card, rec center, library card, laundry card, Pepsi vending and Bookstore purchase card, and access to certain events on campus.

For information about using Husky Gold, please visit <http://bucardcenter.blackboard.com> for the full program details.

### **Food Services**

You are required to purchase a meal plan which includes FLEX dollars. Meal plan options are 19, 14 or 10 per week, or 175 per semester with \$150 or \$200 FLEX. Your

plan provides for one meal during a designated meal period up to your maximum number of meals. **You may only change the meal plan selection during the first week of the semester, by making a written request to the Business Office.**

### **Storage**

There is no storage in the residence halls for items like trunks and boxes, so plan on sending most large items home after unpacking.

### **Banking**

For your convenience, the University has an agreement with PSECU (Pennsylvania State Employees Credit Union) to provide full banking services which can be activated through your ID.

There is a full service outlet in the Student Services Center (Warren Building). For banking when the SSC is closed, there is an ATM in Monty's and outside the main entrance of the University Store.

## **THE STAFF**

### **Graduate Hall Directors:**

- are full time, live-in pre-professional staff members
- serve as main contact in residence halls and apartments for students and hall staff
- make referrals to community resources when needed
- establish a community living environment conducive to academic enhancement, cultural appreciation and continuous social development
- available to help or advise you
- to see that the hall functions smoothly, and that you derive the greatest benefit from your residential experience.

### **Community Assistants are:**

- carefully selected and trained upper class students
- assigned to live among the students on their floors
- prepared to offer you assistance, no matter what form that assistance may take.

The Community Assistant strives to:

- build community on your wing/floor
- maintain harmony on your floor
- promote personal growth for each of you
- create an atmosphere conducive to your academic endeavors.

Your Community Assistant will play a significant role in your life as a resident student.

## **Programming**

Residence Life is committed to the philosophy of contributing to your total educational experience through the group living situation, and looks to the wellness model to format and plan hall activities.

Professional and student staff members of the Office of Residence Life are responsible for providing programming to help you develop in the eight wellness areas: spiritual, social, physical, emotional, sexual, life planning, human awareness and intellectual. Your participation opens new avenues of communication and offers mechanisms for discovery, creativity and self-exploration.

Four basic goals of programming are:

- To develop a community
- To provide an emotional outlet.
- To involve students in their own learning
- To educate

## **Leadership**

It is not too early to think about getting involved in LEADERSHIP opportunities. You can meet new people, learn a lot and have fun doing it, by getting involved in leadership activities without even leaving the building. Studies show that students do better academically and are more satisfied with their total college experience if they get involved.

Each Residence Hall has elected positions, volunteer positions and paid positions which involve leadership.

Some of the choices are:

- Student Government
- Food Service Committee
- Fire Marshals
- Community Assistants
- DASL

## **WHAT NOT TO BRING**

### **Unauthorized Appliances:**

Air conditioners\* (including floor models)  
Cooking and heating coils                      Electric blankets  
Kerosene or electric heaters                  Microwave Ovens\*\*  
Octopus-type electric plugs                    Toaster Ovens  
Sun lamps and Halogen Lamps

\*If you need air conditioning for medical reasons, you must request and receive permission for that type of housing through the Student Health Center via Dr's letter.

\*\* The only microwaves allowed are the MicroFridge rental combinations which are specially wired for limited power consumption.

### **Alcohol, Drugs and Illegal Substances**

Possession or use of these items will be dealt with by the university disciplinary system and/or criminal justice system. All alcohol/drug violations which occur on or off campus may be subject to university discipline. Alcohol bottles and cans for decoration are also banned.

### **Amplified Instruments/Drum Sets**

Unless you have an off-campus need for these instruments, leave them at home. Their use is prohibited in residence halls by the noise policy.

### **Animals/Pets:**

With the exception of tropical fish, animals of all kinds, including laboratory specimens, are PROHIBITED in the residence halls.

### **Fire Hazards:**

Prohibited items: Candles, curtains, incense, potpourri pots and coffee pots.

### **Weapons**

The storage, possession, or use of any firearm or weapon on university property is PROHIBITED; including but not limited to: Knives and guns ~ Bows ~ Nunchuks ~ Air guns ~ Stun guns ~ Throwing stars ~ Billy clubs ~ Firecrackers ~ Explosives or flammable substances. Hunting equipment must be registered and stored in the University Police Office.

### **Vehicles**

Students residing in residence halls can register a vehicle and park on campus. Resident Students with 60 or more credit hours park in the First Street (Green) Lot and Resident Students with fewer than 60 credits hours park in the Blue Lot. These lots require a parking fee of \$75.00 per semester.

### **Arrival Information**

Summer housing assignments will be available on your Overview page of MyHousing during the second week of June. Fall assignments will be available on STINF and your Overview page of MyHousing beginning August 4, 2008.

### **Questions**

If you have questions that are not answered here, you may reach us at:

Residence Life Office  
400 East Second St.  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815-1301  
(570)389-4089 OR 1-800-287-7543

or look for us on the Web at: <http://www.bloomu.edu>