



## Residential Learning Tips

### Frequently Asked Questions About Housing and Dorms

#### ***When will I receive my building and room assignment?***

You will receive your assignment in early August. This information will include your Occupancy Agreement, along with other important documents that must be signed and returned.

We will send you the exact move-in date and time, room assignment, and the name(s) of your roommate(s) and their email address(es) and phone number(s). We encourage you to get in touch with your roommate(s) before arriving on campus. The majority of the rooms are double occupancy. There are a limited number of quads (with bunk beds), triples (with bunk beds), and singles.

#### ***What furnishings will I have in my room?***

Each student is given a bed (single or bunked), a brand new memory foam mattress pad, desk and chair, lamp, trash can, and dresser or armoire. All rooms have an overhead light, window blinds, and a shared TV with cable service. Please note that all furnishings provided by the College must remain in the room and may not be moved or exchanged.

***Can I bring a microwave or cooking equipment?***

No. All of our freshman dorms are already equipped with microwaves. In addition, hot plates, items to heat coffee/tea, and “George Forman” grills or any type of cooking equipment are not permitted.

***Are there laundry machines in the residence halls?***

Yes. Each dorm has its own washer and dryer. In addition, there is a laundry center and lounge on the lower level of McManus Hall. It features four washers, four dryers, a pool table, a foosball table, televisions, and two student lounges. The best part – all washers and dryers are FREE to use!

***Is there a fitness center?***

Yes. The fitness center is on the lower level of Bachler Hall and features 12 machines, including treadmills, elliptical machines, rowers, and a Bowflex.

***What happens if a resident doesn't get along with his/her roommate?***

The quality of the relationship between roommates is a major factor in one's experience with college life. Some of the primary components of a positive roommate relationship are the assertive expression of one's needs, the recognition and respect for the unique needs and lifestyles of others, and the positive management of conflict.

Students are expected to take primary responsibility for insuring the development and maintenance of positive roommate relationships. Students are strongly encouraged to invest themselves fully in working together with roommates to resolve any differences by speaking directly to roommates in sharing concerns, expressing feelings in an honest manner, and jointly negotiating a resolution to conflict.

On occasion, a student will attempt to resolve problems by talking to a roommate who is unresponsive. In other cases, a student may have a difficult time approaching the roommate. In either of these situations, students should seek the help of their *Residential Learning Coordinator*. If there is no resolution to the conflict, students are able to submit a room change request form but will not be able to move until after the 1<sup>st</sup> term is over. All room changes are based on space availability.

***What types of safety and security measures are provided for residents on campus?***

Our staff members are trained to deal effectively with emergency situations. We have security 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. You will see security officers walking the campus and entering the common areas of all of the residence halls. Our Residential Learning Coordinators are also here 7 days per week from 5:00 pm to 3:00 am, with an additional morning shift on Sundays from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Residential Learning Coordinators also tour the campus, both outside of each building and inside the common areas.

All buildings are locked 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, except for Hunter Hall when the Office of Admissions is open and fully staffed.

Your ID card will also work as a “prox card,” which means that it will electronically open the door of YOUR building and the classroom buildings during their normal operating hours. Simply wave your ID card in front of the “prox card” sensor and the door will open. This computerized system keeps track of who enters the buildings, at what time, etc.

Your ID card will also open the gate and door to the McManus Hall laundry center and lounge and the fitness center on the lower level of Bachler Hall. Your ID card will not open the front doors of other residence halls or classroom and college buildings after their normal operating hours. If you want to visit a classmate who lives in another residence hall, simply call them.

You will also receive a code to open the door to your room.

Walnut Hill College works closely with the University of Pennsylvania Police. We have an arrangement that allows our students to call *Penn Escorts* if they are walking in the University City area and would like a security guard to escort them. Guards will escort students from 30<sup>th</sup> to 43<sup>rd</sup> Streets between Market Street and Baltimore Avenue. Simply call (215) 898-WALK (9255) and explain that you are a student from Walnut Hill College and would like a walking escort.

Walnut Hill College is an active and financial supporter of the University City District, which is a non-profit organization that provides extra street cleaning, security guards, and community services.

You will see many Penn police officers (Yes, they are real police officers!), Penn Security, and University City District Security, in addition to our own team. Throughout University City, there are emergency telephones with blue lights. If you have a security question, please call the Walnut Hill College Residential Learning team at (215) 783-0709. However, if there is a true emergency, always call 911 first.

***Can residents have a vehicle on campus?***

It is not a good idea to bring a car, since there is no overnight parking for resident students. Parking in the city is very limited. There are private parking areas that will charge a fee; however, many of them are not close to the College. The College urges resident students not to bring a car.

There is a small lot designated for student parking but only from 6:00 am until 11:00 pm. Parking in this lot is very limited and on a first come, first served basis. It is generally full by 7:00 am. After 11:00 pm, students must find parking on their own. Students are required to register their vehicles with the College in order to park on campus. A sticker will be issued that must be displayed on your vehicle any time it is parked in the student lot.