

NMSU Housing and Residential Life
RESIDENT HANDBOOK



NM
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Housing & Residential Life

table of contents



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Letter from the Director

Dear Aggies,

On behalf of all of us at Housing & Residential Life (HRL), welcome to New Mexico State University! I want to thank you for choosing to live on campus in one of our communities. We are committed to helping you settle in to your new home and to providing excellent service and support during the coming year.

Please take time to read and review this Resident Handbook which contains practical information and important guidelines that will help you understand what it means to be a member of your community and what you can expect.

Our highest priority is the health and safety of our students and employees. With that in mind we have used guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, New Mexico Department of Health, and our own NMSU health experts to develop precautionary protocols and a university wide COVID-19 safety commitment that we expect students and employees to adhere to.

Once you arrive on campus you may find the adjustment to living away from family a bit unusual, but after a few short weeks you will have connected with friends and found your groove. We encourage you to stay on campus and not travel away for weekends. Traveling away from campus increases risk to you, other campus community members as well as those you travel to see. These are unusual times.

Living on campus and engaging in your community will provide you with opportunities to broaden your perspective and expand your intellect as part of an inclusive community that practices civility and good will.

We look forward to your arrival! Go Aggies!!

Sincerely,



Ophelia Watkins
Interim Executive Director
NMSU Housing & Residential Life

Important Contact Information

Residence Halls		
Garcia Hall Service Desk*	Garcia Lobby	575-646-1701
Garcia East Resident Director (RD) Office	Garcia East Lobby, Room 108	575-646-4412
Garcia West RD Office	Garcia East Lobby, Room 115	575-646-4466
Piñon Hall RD Office	Piñon B Lobby	575-646-1916
Rhodes Garrett Hamiel RD Office	Garrett Lobby	575-646-1505
Juniper Hall RD Office	Juniper Hall Lobby	575-646-7576

* Telephones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days of the year.

Apartment Complexes		
Chamisa Village Service Desk*	Chamisa Club House	575-646-7109
Chamisa Village RD Office	Chamisa Club House	575-646-7134
South Campus Residential Life Office*	1410 Center Drive	575-646-5393
Cervantes Village RD Office	South Campus Residential Life Office	575-646-2948
Vista Del Monte RD Office	South Campus Residential Life Office	575-646-2948
Student Family Housing RD Office	South Campus Residential Life Office	575-646-5369
Aggie Express Convenience Store	Vista Del Monte	575-646-7788

* Telephones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year

Housing and Residential Life		
Housing and Residential Life Office	Corbett Center (CCSU) Room 230	575-646-3202 (housing@nmsu.edu)

University Police		
Emergency		911
Non-Emergency/Lost & Found		575-646-3311

 housing & residential life

▶▶▶ **contact
information**

Housing and Residential Life – Getting Started

Welcome to New Mexico State University! You are now a member of the Aggie family and NMSU is your home. As an Aggie you are part of a large, diverse and welcoming community at the finest university in the Southwest. This resident guide will serve as a reference and resource for living on campus.

The Housing and Residential Life staff is committed to making your living environment focused on learning, social awareness, and community development. You will find the staff open, welcoming, and professional.

Our Team

Desk Assistant (DA)

Desk Assistants are student staff members who work at the various Service Desks (Chamisa, Garcia, and South Campus). They are responsible for sorting mail and packages, checking out equipment, answering questions, directing residents to resources, and helping to provide a friendly and welcoming environment in our residential areas.

Resident Assistant (RA)

Your Resident Assistant is an upper-division (sophomore or above) student staff member who lives in your community and serves as a resource, support, and community-builder. You can expect your RA to host events to help you get to know other residents, uphold University and Housing and Residential Life policies, ensure the safety and security of our communities through duty rounds, and engage in conversations with you about your student success at New Mexico State University. Your RA will also contact you throughout the year for things like Occupancy Verification and Health and Safety Inspections. Your RA is one of the best people to go to if you need help or have questions. Your RA will have signage on their door to help you identify where they live, and they will be in touch frequently to see how you're doing, tell you about upcoming events, and offer assistance.

Senior Resident Assistant (SRA)

Senior Resident Assistants are student staff members who have served as RAs for a minimum of three semesters and show exceptional leadership abilities. They have additional responsibilities, such as staff development, administrative oversight of a programmatic area, peer-to-peer training, and mentoring. There is one SRA per residential community.

Resident Director (RD)

Each campus community is overseen by a professional staff member who lives on campus in the communities they oversee. The RDs supervise student staff, advise community councils, provide facilities management support, adjudicate student behavior matters, respond to emergencies, and offer support for residents residing in our communities. Many of our RDs hold master's degrees in Higher Education Administration and have chosen Student Affairs as their career.

Faculty Fellows (FF)

Faculty Fellows are dedicated faculty members from all NMSU colleges and Doña Ana Community College (DACC) who create meaningful connections with students outside the classroom. Faculty Fellows help plan activities and spend time getting to know the students who live in the community. Students who make connections with faculty outside the classroom are the most successful in college, so make sure to get to know your Faculty Fellow!

Faculty in Residence (FiR)

Faculty in Residence are faculty members who live in our residential communities to help plan events and activities for

students. They are often found eating meals with students, attending programs, welcoming students at move-in day, and sharing their expertise on academic success.

Residence Hall Association (RHA)

RHA is the governing organization for the on-campus residence halls and apartment communities. This leadership group organizes large-scale events for residents, advocates for student concerns, develops campus leaders, and makes decisions that affect campus residents. RHA general assembly meetings are open to all campus residents. Representatives from each Community Council and NRHH represent their constituents as a voting board. As a sophomore or above living on campus, you may consider running for an executive position in RHA; the best way to learn about the organization and the positions is to attend meetings and events.

Community Council

A group of students who live in your community and are elected to organize events for your area, advocate for student needs, and vote on decisions that affect your campus community. Early in the fall semester, elections for your Community Council will be held, and every resident of your area is welcome to run for a position. If you miss elections or don't want to hold an executive position, and still want to be involved, contact your RD for ways to participate.

National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH)

NRHH is an honorary student organization representing the top 1% of students who live on campus. To be eligible, a student must have a 2.5 or higher cumulative GPA and be involved in leadership within the residential community. Induction is by nomination only, and membership is considered a prestigious honor nationally. Our chapter's name is "Pete's Elite," and its focus is recognition.

Communities

First-Year Residence Halls

There are five residence halls in four residential complexes at NMSU. **Rhodes-Garrett-Hamiel (RGH)**, on the New Mexico historic building registry, is charming and newly renovated. Originally three separate communities, the university connected the buildings many years ago. **Garcia East & Garcia West** are mirror images of one another and feature all suite-style configurations. **Piñon Hall**, opened in 2006, offers suite-style configurations, and features a fitness center. Juniper Hall, our newest residence hall, opened in 2019. **Juniper Hall** was named by the student body as it was under construction. All of the residence halls have onsite laundry facilities.

Apartments

Upper-division students living in apartment villages may choose from single or efficiency apartments, two-bedroom apartments with shared bathroom and four-bedroom, two bath apartments with shared bathroom.

We have three apartment complexes: **Cervantes Village**, **Chamisa Village**, and **Vista Del Monte**. NMSU offers one-bedroom efficiencies (Cervantes), one-bedroom (Chamisa), two-bedroom (Cervantes, Chamisa & Vista Del Monte), and four-bedroom (Cervantes & Chamisa) options. Chamisa Village has refrigerated air conditioning while Cervantes Village and Vista Del Monte have evaporative cooling units. Apartments are furnished.

Student Family Housing (SFH)

Affordable and convenient on-campus housing options are available to students with families. Offering individual houses with yards and apartment style living, these neighborhoods offer great amenities with close proximity to parks and picnic areas.

To qualify for SFH, there must be a registered student in the household as part of a family unit. Family units include married couples, married couples with child(ren), single parents with dependent children, domestic partners, and domestic partner with child(ren). Consideration is also given to non-traditional family units such as adult siblings living together without parents, and/or the presence of extended family members. Please review the NMSU Domestic Partnership guidelines to review qualification information.

Tom Fort and Sutherland Villages offer single-family homes with two bedrooms and one bath. They also have enclosed backyards and driveways for each home, along with washer hookups and an outdoor clothesline. **Cervantes Village** offers apartment-style homes with four bedrooms and two bathrooms. All SFH units are cooled by evaporative cooling.

Living Learning Communities (LLCs)

Living Learning Communities are groups of students who live together and share a common interest or academic major. Our LLCs are partnered with academic colleges and departments that provide a faculty member who is involved with events in the community. Many of our LLC students also take a common academic course their first semester together. For a list of all LLCs including common courses, locations, and past activities, visit housing.nmsu.edu/llc.

Inclusive and Co-Ed Housing

In the first-year residence halls, our Inclusive Housing option allows students to reside in the same room and suite as individuals who may be of another gender or do not identify along the gender binary. Interested students must opt into the Inclusive Housing experience. For more information about this housing option and how Housing and Residential Life supports an inclusive community, visit housing.nmsu.edu/inclusive.

Apartment living at NMSU allows for students to have roommates of any gender. Co-Ed Housing is available in all three apartment complexes. Roommates must mutually choose one another and space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Students choosing this option in order to live with significant other are discouraged from using Co-Ed Housing. Housing and Residential Life will not authorize space changes due to significant others breaking up.

Greek Life Housing

Cervantes Village is home to a Greek Life community where members of chartered NMSU Greek letter organizations live together. For more information about this specialized housing, contact the chapter President of the desired fraternity or the RD for Cervantes Village Apartments.

Military and Veteran Housing

NMSU Housing and Residential Life offers US military or veteran student housing in Tom Fort Village. These small houses are in Student Family Housing and provide greater independence and a sense of community with other military and veteran students. Contact the Housing and Residential Life office for more information.

Amenities and Services

Housing and Residential Life Office

The Housing and Residential Life Office provides applications, contracts, and account billing for all residents. Office staff are responsible for assigning residential spaces. Prior to move-in, the Housing office is the central location for students and families to get information about housing. Once a resident has checked in, questions or concerns can also be directed to either the Service Desk, RA, or RD for the student's residential community.

Services Desks

Each of our communities has a Service Desk that serves its residents with various services and supplies depending on the needs of residents. Hours for each Service Desk can be found at housing.nmsu.edu/contact-us/.

Garcia Service Desk

Located in the Garcia Hall lobby, this is where residents of Garcia East, Garcia West, Piñon, RGH, and Juniper will pick up packages and check out spare room keys if they're locked out. This is also a place you can report a problem, get help submitting a work order, or ask for assistance.

Chamisa Service Desk

Located in the Chamisa Village Clubhouse, this is the main hub for all Chamisa residents. Chamisa residents may pick up packages and check out spare room keys if they're locked out. This is also a place you can report a problem, get help submitting a work order, or ask for assistance.

South Campus Office

Located on 1400 Center Drive in Cervantes Village. Residents of Vista Del Monte, Cervantes, Tom Fort, and Sutherland villages will visit this office to get help with questions, report problems, and check out spare keys if they're locked out.

Events and Activities

Throughout the year, Housing staff hosts events and activities – we call them “programs” – to help you get to know other students and support your success in college. We design programs to deliver five outcomes that we believe every Aggie should gain during their time at NMSU: **Aggie Pride**, **Personal Safety and Wellness**, **World Impact**, **Life Skills**, and **Academic Excellence**. The semester will start with a series of Crimson Kickoff events designed to help you feel at home on campus. Social distancing and other health safety protocols will be in place during programs. Attending programs is one of the best ways to meet people, engage with your community, and have FUN in college!

Keys and Access Cards

Upon check-in, you are issued keys and, in some cases, card-swipe access to your residential community. These are provided solely for your personal use to access your residential area. It is a violation of Housing and Residential Life rules to lend, share, sell, copy, or otherwise misuse keys, access cards, locks, or card readers.

Broken or Lost Keys: If you break a key, bring the pieces to your appropriate Service Desk to report the key broken and request a new key (charges will apply if you do not bring the broken pieces or if the broken key is determined to be the result of misuse). If you lose your keys, you are required to report it immediately to your Service Desk or RA so an emergency lock change can be ordered. While there are charges applied for this service, your safety is the ultimate priority.

Lock-Outs: If you are locked out of your room/unit, a staff person can assist you at the Service Desk (even after hours). An RA will be called to escort you to your room. At your room, you will be asked to show your keys to verify that you have them; if you do not have keys, a lock change will happen and you will be charged for the new lock and keys. Your first lock-out is free (unless your keys are completely missing); after that, you will be charged a fee for each lockout. The charge schedule, based on a one-year contract period, is as follows: the **1st lock-out** is free, **2nd lock-out** is \$20, **3rd lock-out** is \$40, **4th lock-out and all subsequent lock-outs** are \$60. All fees will be billed to the student's NMSU account.

Dining Services

NMSU Dining Services provides meal service in Taos Restaurant. A number of additional dining locations are available on campus including Subway, Aggies Grill, Corbett Center Food Court, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Campus Canteen, Panda Express, Zuhl Fuel, Frenger Food Court, and Pete's Patio. View hours, menus, and more at dining.nmsu.edu/. Meal plan options can be purchased through the ID Card Services Office. For more information on meal plans, visit idcard.nmsu.edu/.

Utilities: Water, Air Conditioning/Heating, Trash Removal, and Electricity

All Utilities are included in the housing rates. To help keep costs low and promote sustainability, please conserve energy when possible. You may not be paying your utilities bill directly, but yearly increases are possible if residents participate in excessive usage.

Internet Connectivity

Your computer will need to be registered for the NMSU Residential Network and the NMSU Campus Network (AggieAir). Detailed information is available at help.nmsu.edu/resident-internet-connection and netreg.nmsu.edu. If you need assistance or more information, contact ICT at 575-646-1840 or help@nmsu.edu.

Xfinity on Campus

You have access to Xfinity on Campus programming as a campus resident, even if you're away from campus. Stream live TV, watch thousands of shows and movies, and enjoy up to 20 hours of DVR storage. Plus, you can take it on the go with the Xfinity Stream app. To get started, visit xfinityoncampus.com, enter New Mexico State in the search field, log in using your NMSU credentials, authenticate, and start watching on your compatible device. You may not independently contract with other cable providers or install any other cable equipment in your unit, but you are welcome to upgrade your Xfinity programming package at your own expense.

Compatible devices include: Roku streaming devices and Roku TVs, Samsung Smart TVs, LG and Sony Smart TVs, any Apple TV compatible TVs, laptops and Chromebooks.

Laundry

Laundry facilities are located throughout our residential areas. Machines take coins or Aggie Cash. Machines charge \$1.25 per load to wash and \$1.25 per load to dry. For our laundry rooms in Aggie Express and our residence halls, we offer a service called LaundryView, which allows you to see what washers and dryers are available, and how much time is left on the machines from your phone or computer. You can learn more at laundryview.com/lvs.php?s=7859.

Mail and Packages

At the Garcia Hall and Chamisa Village Service Desks, we use a system called EZTrackIt for mail and package tracking and delivery notification. Mail and packages are delivered to Service Desks of each area and you will receive a text or email when a package has arrived if you have opted in to receive notifications.

In Cervantes Village, Vista Del Monte, Tom Fort Village, and Sutherland Village, your mailbox will be in US Postal Service mailbox clusters located throughout your community. Packages are mailed directly to your unit.

Please remember to provide the Post Office and any important contacts with appropriate change of address information when you check out.

If you live in Garcia, Juniper, RGH, or Piñon Hall* your mailing address is:

Your Name
Box # North Campus Housing (*remove the word "box" when submitting mail digitally through [USPS.com](https://usps.com)*)
Las Cruces, NM 88003
**All mail will be retrieved at the Garcia Hall Service Desk*

If you live in Chamisa Village your mailing address is:

Your Name
300 Chamisa Village, Box #
Las Cruces, NM 88001

If you live in Vista Del Monte your mailing address is:

Your Name
100 Vista Del Monte Apt # Bed Letter
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Example
Pistol Pete
100 Vista Del Monte K3A
Las Cruces, NM 88001

If you live in Cervantes Village A, B, C, D, or E, your mailing address is:

Your Name
200 Cervantes Village, Apt #
Las Cruces, NM 88001

If you live in Cervantes Village F, G, H or J, your mailing address is:

Your Name
200 Cervantes Village, Apt # Bed Letter
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Example
Pistol Pete
200 Cervantes Village, G3A
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Service Desk personnel make every effort to get special delivery items to the student the same day they are received at the desk. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please do not send cash through the mail. Checks for large amounts and important papers should be sent "Return Receipt Requested" just to be on the safe side. Package insurance is recommended.

Maintenance & Custodial Services

Housing and Residential Life is committed to providing a living environment that is safe, comfortable, and clean. The Maintenance and Custodial Services staff primarily work 7:00 am - 4:00 pm with limited coverage on weekends. Our

Residential Life staff provide on-call coverage to address after hours emergencies. If you experience a facilities issue in your room or apartment, contact your area's Service Desk or an RA.

Submitting a Work Order/Work Request

If you are experiencing a problem with your room or apartment, you may submit an online work request at the Housing website or you can visit housingonlineforms.nmsu.edu/WorkRequest.aspx.

Submitting an online work request gives NMSU maintenance and custodial staff permission to enter your unit to remedy the problem. You will receive an email confirmation and should expect to have someone visit your unit within three business days. If someone has not arrived in that time, please refer to the instructions in your email confirmation.

Maintenance and custodial staff typically respond to work orders within three business days of the request being received. In many cases, the issue will be corrected then. There are occasions when the complexity of work, availability of repair parts, availability of staff, and time of year affects the ability to complete the work in the desired time frame. Contact your RD if you need further updates on the progress of your work order after the three-day period.

You may not be home when a maintenance technician or custodian arrives. As part of the Housing and Residential Life Agreement, staff may enter your room or living unit under these conditions:

- To complete a work order that you have requested.
- When staff identify a safety concern (such as water or smoke coming from a residential area).
- When a larger facilities problem may require entrance to rooms adjacent to the area where the problem was first reported (such as a leaking pipe in the wall between rooms).
- Scheduled Health & Safety Inspections.
- When a larger project requires entrance into multiple rooms or units. Housing and Residential Life staff will send a notice via email to the affected residents. We try to schedule these projects to be done as much as possible during semester breaks, but occasionally they happen during the academic year.

For emergencies, please call the 24-hour emergency number in your area. If an emergency is suspected and you are not present, we reserve the right to enter your space to address it, even if a work request was not submitted, including facility problems that are affecting another space (major leak, etc.).

If you notice a problem in a common area (lobby, community center, parking lot, etc.), please notify your area's Service Desk, RA, or RD right away.

If it is determined that damages are related to vandalism, improper use, negligence, or reckless behavior on your part, you may be charged for associated repairs and replacements.

If you have an approved animal in your unit, please ensure that your animal is secured and cannot escape, otherwise maintenance and custodial staff may not enter your unit to complete your work order.

Pest Control

Housing and Residential Life contracts with a local pest control company to treat residential areas. If you are having a pest problem in your unit, submit a work request. Pest control services visit campus on Tuesdays and also do regular treatment of common spaces and building exteriors throughout the year. If it is determined that the condition of your unit is contributing to a pest problem, you may be charged for treatment services. The chemicals used by our service provider are safe and effective, though due to laws regulating use of chemicals, we are careful not to over-treat any interior or exterior residential areas, which means we will not repeatedly spray the same area multiple times. Keep in

mind that NMSU is located in the desert southwest where some pests are common and may be seen from time to time even in the cleanest households.

Reserving Common Spaces, Classrooms, Community Centers, and Outdoor Venues (Volleyball Courts or Grills)

During the COVID-19 health emergency, facilities may not be available or use may be limited in order to comply with ongoing changes in health and safety guidelines.

Safety & Security

New Mexico State University COVID-19 Safety Commitment

To minimize the risk to public health presented by the spread of COVID-19 while working and learning at NMSU, students, staff, and faculty are expected to adhere to the following:

- I will limit my exposure to COVID-19 by maintaining social distancing guidelines professionally and personally.
- I will wear the appropriate cloth face covering or personal protective equipment and practice proper hand-washing techniques frequently.
- I agree to closely monitor my health and will not enter an NMSU building or participate in face-to-face activities if I feel sick or if I develop or display symptoms of COVID-19, even if I've previously tested negative.
- I agree to decontaminate work surfaces at the beginning and end of my work.
- If I have a positive test for COVID-19 and I have been on campus in the 48 hours before I was tested or I developed symptoms, I agree to immediately notify my RD and Aggie Health and Wellness (call 575-646-1512)
- I agree to follow all NMSU guidelines to protect the public health.
- I understand that failure to follow these expected behaviors would be detrimental to public health efforts and could impact my ability to study at NMSU.

Anyone failing to meet any of these expectations may be subject to corrective action under university policies.

Recommendations relating to face coverings, monitoring, self-quarantine, and isolation will be updated in alignment with guidance from the New Mexico Department of Health. Changes will be communicated to the university community and will be available at nmsu.edu/coronavirus/.

Student Safety Responsibilities

Your safety is our number one priority. While we have several safety and security measures in place in our residential facilities it is expected that you will share in the responsibility of keeping the community safe and secure. Being aware of your environment, always closing and locking your door when you are not in your room, reporting suspicious behavior or persons to Residential Life staff, and not propping exterior doors are some common sense ways you can improve your own safety and the safety of your community.

Personal Security Tips

You may have valuable possessions in your apartment or residence hall room. You must ensure that your belongings are not vulnerable to theft or damage. These crime prevention tips may help prevent theft:

- Several campus housing units have cabinets or desk spaces that you can secure with a padlock you bring from home. We recommend you place valuables in these lockable spaces.
- Immediately report lost keys to staff members, preferably a Service Desk.
- Always leave your doors closed and locked.
- Close and lock your windows when you are not in the unit.
- Store valuables out of sight.
- Be aware of strangers in your residential area, and notify UPD of any suspicious activity. Do not allow strangers to access any facility, including holding doors to secure areas.
- Never prop exterior or interior doors.
- Keep an inventory of your belongings. Purchase renter's insurance or verify you are covered under your parent/legal guardian's homeowner's insurance policy. Do not assume you are covered by someone else or by university insurance.

Health and Safety Inspections

A few times each year, a representative of Housing and Residential Life will conduct a Health and Safety Inspection of your unit. The purpose of these inspections is to ensure that rules and regulations related to safety, security, and health are being followed. A few examples of inspection check points are: properly functioning smoke detectors, window and door locks, reasonable cleanliness of space, and any major facility-related problems or damages like leaks. Your RA will schedule the inspection with you and you may be present at the time they conduct the check (the only exception is during winter break for all areas except Student Family Housing). Any policy violations that are in plain sight or become visible during the course of relevant activities of the inspection will be documented and referred to the student conduct process.

After-Hours Residential Life Staff On Call

Each evening, student and professional staff members are on call through the campus housing system. During the academic year, there are always multiple student staff members, one full-time live-in professional, and one leadership team member serving in the crisis response system for Housing and Residential Life. This highly trained team responds to after-hours needs and emergencies. If you need after-hours assistance, contact your area's Service Desk to be connected to an after-hours staff person.

Public Safety Aide (PSA)

Housing and Residential Life employs Public Safety Aides (PSAs) to patrol residential areas and provide an additional safety measure late in the evening. PSAs are employees of the NMSU Police Department, and are tasked with ensuring public safety on the NMSU campus. PSAs patrol various areas of campus, including residential areas and the libraries, looking for any suspicious activity or opportunity to assist the public. PSAs are highly trained individuals who can assist in a wide variety of areas including: reporting suspicious activity to police officers, being a highly visible deterrent for criminal activity, responding to fire alarms, responding to medical or injured person calls, providing traffic control at the scene of a motor vehicle crash, taking theft reports, providing perimeter security at a crime scene, assisting a person who is having vehicle trouble, giving directions to students or visitors, etc.

University Police Department (UPD)

New Mexico State University employs fully certified police officers responsible for the protection of life and property in our campus community. Some of the services provided by UPD include law enforcement, crime prevention events and trainings, motorist assistance, bicycle registration, and victim assistance and/or advocacy. In an emergency, the police department can be reached by dialing 911 from any campus phone. Cellular phone users and those not using an NMSU landline should contact (575) 646-3311. Those reaching the Las Cruces Regional dispatcher from Las Cruces Police Department when calling 911 will be forwarded back to NMSU when dealing with situations on campus. Additionally, NMSU Police and the Las Cruces Police Department have an incredibly strong working relationship, and regularly provide back-up support related to crime or event-related issues in Las Cruces. For more information on how UPD holds its officers to the highest standard, read this recent [statement](#) to the NMSU community.

Emergency Notification System

All NMSU students are encouraged to sign up for the campus' emergency alert system. This system will contact you in the event of an emergency taking place on campus. You may sign up for emergency text, email, and/or phone call notifications at etm.nmsu.edu.

Fire Alarms

When an alarm sounds, evacuate the building. Move calmly and quickly. Do not attempt to re-enter the building until emergency officials or staff indicate it is safe. Failure to evacuate a building during an alarm will result in disciplinary action and possible criminal charges.

Appropriate social distancing measures must be adhered to and masks must be worn at time of evacuation.

Remember:

1. Feel the door for heat using the back of your hand. Do not open the door if it is hot
2. Close all windows in your room, apartment or house
3. If you cannot exit the room, stay calm
 - a. Call 911 and give them your location
 - b. Stuff wet sheets or clothing under the doors
 - c. Hang a sheet out the window or shout to attract attention
4. If you leave the room, close the door behind you.
 - a. Stay low to the ground if smoke is present
 - b. Move calmly and quickly, but do not run
5. Do not re-enter the building until permitted to do so by emergency personnel or university staff

Fire Safety

In the state of New Mexico, it is a criminal offense to set off a fire alarm without cause (reasonable evidence of smoke or fire). NMSU takes false fire alarm pulls very seriously and will hold students judicially responsible for violation of the NMSU Student Handbook and will press charges for criminal prosecution if the perpetrator is identified.

Tampering with or disabling any part of the fire alarm system, discharging an extinguisher, registering a false alarm or setting a fire can endanger life and property. Such behavior will be grounds for termination of your housing contract (you move out, but you continue to pay the bill) and possibly criminal charges. All residents are expected to evacuate if the fire alarm sounds. Smoke and heat detectors are installed in student rooms and common areas. These must be kept in working order and may not be tampered with in any way. Please report any malfunctions to the Service Desk associated with your community.

Missing Student Notification Protocols

NMSU has specific protocols related to students who are reported missing. It is the policy of the university to coordinate the resources available from various campus offices in order to expedite the location of any resident student suspected or reported to be missing, consistent with the notification and reporting requirements of the federal Clery Act and corresponding regulations. You have the option to designate one or more “missing person contact” person(s) who is different from the emergency contact you provide at check-in. If you would like to update this contact, please contact your RD.

Active Shooter

While this is an unlikely scenario, the NMSU Police Department has provided some helpful tips should you ever find yourself in a situation with an active shooter or other violent threat. A helpful way to remember these tips is with the phrase, **“Run, Hide, Fight.”** If possible, escape from the area immediately and notify others you encounter of the danger. Call 911 – if you are able to find a safe area, stay on the line and continue to provide the emergency dispatcher with updated information. If unable to escape immediately, get to a room or office as far away as possible from the shooting. Lock the door and cover any windows facing hallways or patios. Keep quiet and do not answer the door; it may take a while for officers to get to you, as they will first focus on stopping the shooter(s). Call 911 and tell the dispatcher where you are located and what is happening. Look for means of escape or possible self-defense.

Roommate Relations: Tips for Being a Good Roommate

- **Set clear expectations from the start.** You know your own preferences and idiosyncrasies, but your roommate is just getting to know what it's like living with you. Don't expect them to be a mind reader. If you can't fall asleep with lights on, hate scary movies, have a particular snack you're not willing to share, or get grossed out by toothpaste in the sink, let them know from the beginning so you can work together on what it means to be roomies and avoid a blow-up over unmet expectations that were never stated.
- **Respect your roommate's space and belongings.** This is a major cause of roommate conflicts each year that could be easily avoided with a quick discussion early in the year. People have different ideas about what's ok to borrow, share, or use, and how frequently. For example, borrowing your roommate's bike once because you're late to class may be different than asking to use it four days a week, or worse, taking it without asking. Each person varies in how comfortable they are with others sitting on their bed, using their items, or sharing household goods. Don't be afraid to be honest about what you prefer not to share; it will save a lot of heartache and conflict down the road. Discuss these things openly and honestly early in the year to establish what's ok and when.
- **Keep guests out of your space.** Guests are not allowed in first year residence halls and single-student apartments during the COVID-19 health emergency. Guests and visitors are defined as parents, family, friends and fellow students. Please understand this is a safety measure for your health and the health of your community. You will be notified via email if this guest restriction is lifted. This restriction does not apply to Student Family Housing.
- **Lock your doors and windows.** Imagine how terrible you'd feel if one of your roommate's prized possessions got stolen when you were down the hall and left the door unlocked. How would you feel if the valuable item stolen was yours, and your roommate was the one who stepped out? Locking your doors and windows is one of the best ways to stay safe on campus and be a great roommate.
- **It's OK not to be best friends.** Having a great roommate relationship does not depend on being friends. You may end up close friends with your roommate, but having your own social circles can strengthen the relationship you have with your roommate and prevent you from spending every hour of the day together.
- **Keep an open mind.** Your roommate may have different customs, beliefs, or ideas from you. Be open to new experiences: learn about where they come from, what they believe, and what's important to them, and share these things about yourself. Learning about yourself and others is a big part of the college experience.
- **Shift your perspective.** Before you make assumptions about your roommate's thoughts or intentions, take a step back and try to imagine their point of view. Talk to your roommate and listen to what they have to say about where they're coming from. You may not always agree, but this will help you better understand each other and open your mind to different opinions and experiences.
- **Share responsibility for cleaning.** People have different comfort levels with clutter, and the tidier you keep your space, the more comfortable everyone will be. Especially during the COVID-19 health emergency, frequent and thorough cleaning and disinfecting of your room and shared spaces will help keep everyone in your suite, apartment, or home safe. Keeping the space clean is everyone's responsibility, and keeping each other healthy is one of the best ways to be a good roommate.

Roommate/Suitemate Agreements & Space Changes

In the event of an interpersonal conflict, we expect that all students will complete a roommate/suitemate agreement, including having an adult conversation with their fellow residents, before discussing the possibility of switching residential spaces. Room change options will be very limited during the COVID-19 health crisis.

Resident Responsibilities (alphabetical)

Introduction/Overview

Residents of NMSU campus housing are subject to all state and local laws, the NMSU Student Handbook, Housing and Residential Life Resident Handbook (this document), the Housing Agreement (refer to your MyHousing portal to review your Housing Agreement), and any other applicable NMSU policies and rules (parking, etc.). Housing rules are enforced through the Housing and Residential Life staff as well as through the Dean of Students' Office via the Student Handbook.

Part of college is learning to use good judgment and critical thinking, though sometimes students make mistakes or poor decisions. If you are alleged to have violated any portion of the Housing and Residential Life Resident Handbook or NMSU Student Handbook, your behavior will be referred to the conduct process, which could result in disciplinary action up to removal from housing or suspension.

There are additional behavior expectations associated with residing in a communal living environment which is also state-owned property. Housing and Residential Life expects the residents of campus housing to act responsibly and be conscious of the effects or impact of their behavior on the greater community in which they live.

As a federally-funded entity, NMSU participates in Clery Act and Title IX reporting to the US Department of Education. All Housing and Residential Life staff are considered campus security authorities (CSAs), mandatory reporters, and must say something when confronted with inappropriate or illegal behavior. Consistent with this charge, and to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, Housing and Residential Life partners with the NMSU Police Department to address all levels of illegal behavior. As a result, NMSU residence halls and campus apartments remain some of the safest in the country with minimal critical incidents compared with other universities of our size.

Below are some of the more common rules and regulations associated with living on campus. Every student is expected to be familiar with and uphold the standards and procedures outlined in the Student Handbook, which includes the Student Social Code of Conduct, Academic Code of Conduct, Grievance Process, and additional policies and procedures. You can review the Student Handbook at studenthandbook.nmsu.edu. Failure to comply with these rules may result in referral to the student conduct process.

Abandoned Property

After you've checked out of your space, your contract has ended, or if you vacate your space without authorization from Housing and Residential Life, any items remaining in your unit will be considered abandoned and NMSU will donate or dispose of abandoned items. Removal of abandoned items and any associated cleaning costs will be at the expense of the resident who abandoned the unit/property.

Alcohol

NMSU recognizes that the illegal use of alcohol interferes with the academic environment of this institution and the personal growth of its students. Any use, possession, misuse, or distribution of alcoholic beverages except as expressly permitted by law and university policy is prohibited.

- **First Year Residence Halls (Piñon, Juniper, Garcia East, Garcia West, and RGH) are designated as alcohol-free regardless of resident age.** It is a violation of Housing and Residential Life rules and regulations to possess, consume, or be in the presence of alcohol on these premises, including the surrounding parking lots and outdoor areas.
- **Apartments:** Students who are 21 years of age or older may possess and consume alcohol as permitted by law in apartment communities and Student Family Housing. No underage individual(s) may be present while alcohol is

being consumed in apartment communities. If a resident who is 21 or older has a roommate who is under 21, all alcohol must be stored in a separate area that can be clearly distinguished as the property of the of resident who is over the age of 21, and is not readily accessible to the underage resident.

Rapid Consumption Devices: Kegs, drinking games, party balls, or common containers are not permitted.

Animals

Animals, with the exception of service animals, are not allowed on campus except as may be permitted by university policy. Emotional support animals (ESAs) must have prior written approval from the Student Accessibility Services office and Housing and Residential Life before being allowed into a Housing and Residential Life dwelling.

- Animal owners and handlers will abide by applicable local laws relating to the care and control of animals.
- Students with approved assistance animals will complete a Housing and Residential Life Animal Owner Expectations Acknowledgement Form and receive written approval before being allowed to house an animal in university-owned housing.
- If you require an ESA, you will need to contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) to submit appropriate documentation. ESAs will not be allowed in your housing unit without an approved accommodation from Student Accessibility Services, and approval from Housing and Residential Life. Specific regulations regarding ESAs will be explained to you upon approval.

Campus residents living in single student housing facilities (residence halls and apartments) may keep fish in bowls or aquariums no larger than 10 gallons. The only pet permitted in residence halls and single student apartment communities is fish – no other pets are allowed in these areas, regardless of size or type (please note that other aquarium-dwelling animals like reptiles and rodents are prohibited). No special approval is required for fish.

Campus residents living in student family housing may have a cat or dog as a pet, and must follow a pre-approval process prior to bringing an animal to campus housing. These residents should contact the Housing & Residential Life office for guidance.

Students who are found with unapproved animals will be documented for a conduct code violation and will be responsible to the fees associated with removal of the animal and/or rehabilitation of the residential space. Charges may include fumigation and complete replacement of soft surfaces, upholstery, and/or flooring, especially carpeting.

Campus Breaks

All residential areas remain open during Thanksgiving break and spring break, as well as long weekends throughout the academic year such as Labor Day and Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Campus residents are strongly discouraged from leaving the university area for the duration of the fall 2020 semester, including Thanksgiving, to limit exposure to COVID-19. If students choose to travel for the holiday, they should be prepared to follow established guidelines for quarantine upon return. Campus residents who suspect they have been exposed to COVID-19 or who have tested positive for COVID-19 should contact their primary medical provider or the Aggie Health & Wellness Center at 575-646-1512 for guidance.

All first-year residence halls will close during winter break and over the summer. Students may request to remain in their residence hall over winter break if circumstances do not allow them to leave campus. Cervantes Village, Chamisa Village, Vista Del Monte, and Student Family Housing remain open during all campus breaks.

Students who are approved to stay over winter break and who continue from fall to spring semester are not assessed additional charges for staying over winter break unless they terminate their contract between semesters and are thus billed at a daily rate. If you need accommodations for part or all of break, please follow the instructions you receive via email.

During winter break, students do not need to check out of their rooms. You will return to the same space for the spring semester and may leave your possessions in your room or apartment. You are reminded to bring all necessary items with you when you leave for any break. During winter break, access will be restricted in closed facilities, and you will not be able to enter the building. It is always recommended to take valuables, medications, important documents, and other necessities when you leave for any extended time away. You should also unplug appliances, empty your trash, turn off lights and heaters, and lock your windows and doors.

During winter break, Housing and Residential Life staff will enter campus spaces to conduct health and safety inspections to ensure that the building is safe and secure as we close for the winter holiday. Any damages or policy violations that are found during these inspections will be noted and you may be held judicially and/or financially responsible. We may also enter your space if a safety concern or major facility issue (leak, etc.) is suspected, or if an alarm is going off while you are away.

Check-In Procedures

You will sign up for a check-in appointment and check in with a student staff member. Arriving for check-in at your appointment time is a precautionary measure intended to manage the number of people in a housing facility at any time. You and anyone assisting you must wear face coverings. The student staff member will check you in electronically and issue you keys to your room/apartment and mailbox (if applicable). You will be required to complete a Room Condition Report immediately.

Check-Out Procedures

All of our residence halls and single student apartment housing agreements are for an academic year (nine months). At the end of the spring academic term, residents who do not complete a summer housing agreement will follow the Express Check-Out procedure that will be detailed by email and informational signage after students return from spring break. Check-out should occur within 24 hours after a student's last final exam of the spring semester. Anyone who has not properly checked out by that time may be assessed an improper checkout fee.

If a student is not fulfilling the complete term of the housing agreement, the student is required to submit a request for termination which must be approved by Housing & Residential Life before completing any checkouts or they may be assessed an improper checkout fee. Housing agreement termination is allowed under specific circumstances; moving out of a space without approval does not constitute termination, and the student may be responsible for the cost of the room for the remainder of the semester.

A resident may request a late stay at <http://housingonlineforms.nmsu.edu/LateStayRequest.aspx>; these requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approval is not guaranteed.

For Student Family Housing residents, refer to your Housing Agreement for details on the check-out process.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Responsibilities

Residents are responsible for keeping their living spaces (rooms, bathrooms, and common areas) clean. It is recommended that shared surfaces be cleaned at least once a day, preferably before and after use by each individual.

Residents are responsible for removing trash and placing it in parking lot dumpsters. Residents are required to supply their own cleaning supplies and materials. Community spaces, including lobbies, community bathrooms, patios, etc. will be cleaned by NMSU staff. Residents and communities that fail to keep community spaces reasonably clean and free of trash may face sanctions and bills for the costs associated with cleaning those spaces.

In addition to regular cleaning of room, bathroom, and common areas (where applicable), you should wipe down or spray shower surfaces with cleaner on a regular basis and leave bathroom door(s) open for ventilation to dry the bathroom. Steam from showers can cause mildew to form over time if the bathroom is not cleaned and left properly ventilated to dry. If you notice mildew starting to form, a bleach-based cleaner will help take care of the problem. Of course, use all proper precautions and follow manufacturer instructions for any cleaning supplies.

COVID-19 Health and Safety Regulations

Campus residents are expected to adhere to public health recommendations that are put in place by the Governor of New Mexico, the New Mexico Department of Health, and/or the Administration of New Mexico State University. As guidance is updated from these entities, Housing and Residential Life will notify residents of changes via NMSU email.

Disruptive Behavior

Any activity, individually or in concert with others, which causes or constitutes a disturbance, noise, riot or obstruction which substantially interferes with the free movement of persons about the campus or which interferes with the free, normal, and uninterrupted use of the campus for educational programs, business activities and related residential, food service and recreational activities.

Drugs and Paraphernalia

Violations of local, state or federal laws or campus policies, rules or procedures pertaining to drugs including but not limited to:

- the use of substances defined by state or federal law as illegal drugs;
- selling or distributing illegal drugs regardless of age;
- hosting a party or event where illegal drugs are used; or
- abuse, misuse, sale, or distribution of prescription or over-the counter medication.

It is important to understand that there is no legal way to possess or use marijuana at NMSU. While possession of marijuana has been decriminalized in some states, possession and use of nonmedical marijuana remains illegal in New Mexico, as well as under federal law. In addition, the medical marijuana laws of New Mexico prohibit possession or consumption on school grounds, including colleges and universities.

Encroachment

If you are not assigned a roommate or lose your roommate and elect not to pay the single room/apartment rate (only available in some areas, and varies based on availability of space), you must keep all items in your designated area of the room or apartment and leave the other portion clean and ready for someone to move in. Housing and Residential Life may assign a new roommate at any point. If the new roommate is unable to move in due to space being used or dirty, you may be subject to the student conduct process and may be charged a single room fee effective to the date your room first became a single. During the COVID-19 health crisis, certain rooms will be designated for single occupancy. If you are assigned to one of these spaces, you are free to utilize the whole room and will not be assigned a roommate during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Facility and Property Use

You are given access to common spaces and your assigned residential space as part of your License Agreement with

Housing and Residential Life. You may not allow access to unauthorized parties or misuse access privileges to university premises, cause or allow unauthorized entry to or use of buildings, including trespassing, propping or unauthorized use of doors for entry into or exit from university buildings. The furniture, fixtures, or appliances provided in all common areas are designed for communal use; it is a violation to move, vandalize or misuse University owned property. During the COVID-19 health emergency, common areas will have reduced maximum occupancy. Exceeding the maximum occupancy designated for a common area is a violation of this rule.

Failure to Comply

It is a violation of the Student Handbook to fail to comply with the reasonable directives of university officials or law enforcement officers during the performance of their duties or failure to properly identify oneself to those persons when requested to do so.

Lawn Maintenance

Student Family Housing residents in Tom Fort Village and Sutherland Village are responsible for the regular maintenance of the back yard and side yard, which may be enclosed by a fence. NMSU staff will mow and weed eat the FRONT yards only of units in these areas. Yards are expected to be kept tidy and regularly maintained, as overgrown yards can invite pests and provide an unwelcoming appearance to your neighborhood. Residents whose yards become unsightly may be subject to financial penalties and referral to the student conduct process. Residents must supply their own lawn equipment for yard maintenance. Student Family Housing residents living in Cervantes Village are not responsible for lawn maintenance.

Parking Permits

A parking permit is required for all vehicles parked in any campus parking lot or parked curbside on campus streets, unless you are parked at a meter or in a designated “free” parking lot. Parking regulations are enforced Monday – Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Please visit park.nmsu.edu/ for all parking related questions.

Student Family Housing residents residing in Tom Fort or Sutherland Village may park one vehicle on the driveway without a parking permit. All other vehicles must be parked on the street with the appropriate parking permit or in a designated free lot.

Physical Abuse/Threats

Threats (Written or verbal conduct that causes a reasonable fear of imminent harm or injury to the health or safety of any person or of damage to any property.) and abuse of any type will not be tolerated. Engaging in abuse or threats may be grounds for immediate eviction from campus housing in addition other charges and sanctions.

Prohibited Items

The following items are not allowed in any NMSU housing facilities:

- Alcohol (except where designated)
- Appliances or electronics that are not UL-listed
- Burners or Hot Plates
- Candles and incense
- Ceiling Fans
- Drugs and paraphernalia
- Electric Heaters
- Extension Cords
- Fireworks, Explosives, unsafe chemicals, flammable fluids

- Grills
 - Apartments and Student Family Housing may have George Foreman type only in kitchen
 - Student Family Housing residents may have outdoor grills and are required to follow all safety precautions
 - All grills, including George Foreman type, are prohibited in the first-year residence halls
- Halogen Lamps (any model or style)
- Pets (other than fish—10 gallon tank limit)
 - Pets are permitted in Student Family Housing with prior approval
- Refrigerators over 6 cubic feet in size
- Toasters, toaster ovens and other open heating elements
- Television mounting equipment
- Waterbeds
- Weapons (including ammunition), guns (including air, BB, paintball, facsimile weapons, and pellet guns), or other weapons or dangerous objects such as arrows, axes, machetes, nun chucks, throwing stars, or knives with a blade longer than three (3) inches. Any object intended to be used as a weapon.
- Window air conditioners

Property Insurance

All campus residents are encouraged to hold a renter's insurance policy. Renter's insurance is typically an affordable way to help protect you in the unlikely event of loss or damage through water, smoke/fire, or theft. NMSU is not liable for damage or loss in these instances, and renter's insurance is an inexpensive way to safeguard the investment you've made in your possessions.

Quiet Hours & Noise

Quiet hours are from 10:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. during the week (Sunday night through Friday morning) and midnight until 10:00 a.m. on weekends (Friday and Saturday night). Residential community councils may vote to establish longer quiet hours for specific facilities. During quiet hours, noise from your room or apartment should not be audible from farther than three doors down in either direction. The right of residents to study, sleep or otherwise enjoy a peaceful environment will always supersede the privilege to create noise or disturb others. Residents will be required to comply with all requests to lower or cease making noise regardless of time of day. We refer to this as 24-Hour Courtesy Hours. During finals week, quiet hours extend to 24 hours to make it easier for residents to sleep or study at any time of day.

Room Amenities/Damage Charges

Your room/apartment includes university-owned furniture and common spaces that you and your roommate(s)/suitemates will need to share and maintain. It is our expectation that you will establish cleanliness standards (within reason), cleaning schedules, and other rules for use of these shared spaces. When you check out of your space, any charges for extra cleaning and broken or missing items are split equally between all roommates. We expect that residents will respect each other and keep the facilities in good shape for everyone to enjoy. It is important that you leave your space as you found it to avoid damage and cleaning fees. Upon check-out, in addition to removing all belongings and trash from your unit, please arrange the furniture in your room to match the furniture map associated with the community you live in. These maps are available at housing.nmsu.edu/move-out. **Appeals for damage charges must be submitted in writing within 30 days of billing to your student account.**

Room Condition Report (RCR)

This is the description of the condition of your room and its contents upon move-in. It is important that you read it thoroughly and report any discrepancies to your RA within 24 hours of checking in to your room. This report will be used when you check out of your room to note any damages that have occurred while you were living there. Charges may be

incurred for items that are broken, damaged, or missing upon check-out, which is why a thorough and accurate RCR at the time you move in is very important.

How to fill out your RCR within 24 hours of check-in:

1. Log into your MyNMSU account
2. Select the MyHousing option under the student tab
3. Select the More Tasks option from the tool bar at the top of the screen
4. Select the Room Condition Report (RCR) from the drop down menu
5. Review your RCR while carefully looking around your space
6. Select whether you agree or disagree with each item being in good condition
 - a. If you do not agree that an item is in good condition, list the items you wish to have re-evaluated and a staff member will review the items in question with you
7. Be sure to Submit when you are finished

If you do not complete your RCR within 24 hours of receiving keys to your space, the form will default to your agreement that all items are in good condition and you may be responsible for any damage that was not reported on the RCR.

Room Renewal

Early in the spring semester, current residents will see advertising and receive an email regarding dates and options for renewing your housing contract for next year. Students renewing into housing for the following year will not need to complete a new housing application and may be eligible to roll over the housing deposit fee. In your second year or above, you will be eligible to apply for apartment communities.

Room Transfers

Room transfer are not allowed between move-in day and the campus census date. The census date can be found at uar.nmsu.edu. Following the census date, Housing and Residential Life will offer an open transfer period if space is available. You will be notified by email if you are eligible for open transfer. Please also be sure to follow instructions thoroughly for your request to be considered. In a true emergency, room transfer requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis outside of the open transfer period. Room transfers are a last resort and are only granted in rare, specific circumstances. Only one room transfer is permitted for the academic year.

Sales & Solicitation

In accordance with University policy, no door to door solicitation will be allowed in campus residential facilities and neighborhoods, including leafleting or verbal proselytizing, voter registration, selling, recruiting, or similar activities. Occasionally, printed advertisements and notices may be hung on building bulletin boards designated for this purpose and only with the written consent of the Director of Housing and Residential Life.

Space Optimization Process

Based on space and departmental needs, Housing and Residential Life may facilitate a room optimization process. This means that you may be required to move at any time. Reasons for a possible required transfer could include change in room designation, safety and security, consolidation, staffing needs, major repairs or facility failures, temporary closures of facilities during breaks, in the interest of the community, or other reasons that NMSU deems necessary. If this happens, you'll be given notice and instructions for how to proceed.

Sports & Recreational Activity

The use of bikes, skates, skateboards, hover boards, etc. is prohibited in residential facilities. Climbing or rappelling on a residential facility (including entering a building or room through a window) is also prohibited. Sports may not be played

in patios unless designated equipment is provided by Housing and Residential Life (for example, a volleyball net). Athletic activities like tossing a football, golfing, or hitting a baseball – even when you’re being careful – can be dangerous to resident safety and have the potential to cause accidents that may harm individuals or damage property. Residents must comply with all requests to cease engagement in any other activities that become disruptive to the community and fellow residents.

Storage

Storage facilities are not provided by Housing and Residential Life. There are many self-storage businesses in the Las Cruces community if you have items that need to be stored.

Sustainability

Housing and Residential Life is committed to sustainable living and endorses the **triple bottom line of sustainability**. We have placed single stream (no sorting required) recycling dumpsters at all communities and recycling totes in nearly all residential areas to allow students to separate their recycling from their trash. We have placed bottle refilling stations in residence halls in conjunction with drinking fountains to reduce the number of plastic water bottles being used. We have changed many lightbulbs on campus to CFL bulbs and are moving toward LED lights to reduce energy consumption. Finally, we partner with Aggie Recycling to provide can and bottle recycling bins in residential lobbies and common areas. It our goal to make sure it as easy as possible for you participate in sustainable living while living in NMSU Housing.

Tobacco and Smoking

Smoking of any kind (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookahs, electronic cigarettes, etc.) is not permitted inside campus housing facilities, including outdoor patios, or within 25 feet of building entrances or exits. Please dispose of used smoking materials responsibly.

Trash and Recycling

Residents are required to remove their own trash on a regular basis. Trash is to be thrown away in the outdoor dumpsters. You may not leave bags or bins of trash outside of your unit; doing so may result in financial and judicial charges. You may not dispose of your room/unit trash in public area trash cans in lobbies, kitchens, lounges, etc.

The blue bin in your unit is to be used for recyclable items and dumped in the appropriate recycling dumpsters. Items included in local single stream (no sorting required) recycling include: newspapers, magazines, office paper, junk mail, milk and juice cartons/juice boxes, cardboard (please break down boxes), paperboard like cereal boxes, etc., paper bags, water and soda bottles, milk jugs, detergent bottles, rigid hampers and baskets, plastic tubs and jars, pots and pans, small electronics, aluminum cans, tin and steel cans.

The following items are NOT recyclable: garbage, yard waste/leaves, garden hoses, clothing or textiles, Styrofoam, pizza boxes, glass, light bulbs, batteries, sharp metal, or motor oil bottles.

Visitors & Guests

During the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency guests and visitors are not allowed in residence halls or apartments. This measure will remain in place until further notice. Violation of this policy puts your health and the health of other residents at risk and may result in a referral through the student conduct process.

Welfare Checks

Sometimes University staff are contacted by a family member or friend who is concerned for the safety and wellbeing of a resident. In those instances, we may opt to conduct a welfare check. A welfare/wellness check means that an NMSU Police Officer will come to your room and try to contact you. This can include keying into your room to determine if you

are present or not. We may also attempt to contact you via phone, email, or social media. We will encourage you to contact the person who requested the welfare check. Due to federal privacy regulations (FERPA), we are not allowed to share details of the welfare check with the person who made the request; there is an exception for students who have filed a privacy waiver.