

The Housing Headline

NMSU HOUSING NEWSLETTER

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Dear Aggie Family,

Stay up to date on activities and events by signing in at [Crimson Connection](#) where you'll find information on Crimson Kickoff events, like the Welcome Back BBQ, Class Photo, First Year Walk, Traditions Scavenger Hunt, Comedy Hypnotist and more. Check out the Housing and Residential Life branch under organizations where you can join the Community Council for the area of campus you'll be living in. Participating in campus events and organizations is an important avenue for getting involved, meeting people and having fun.

NMSU is requiring students to provide a copy of their Immunization Record. Records can be emailed to campus_health@nmsu.edu, faxed to 575-646-6428 or dropped off at the Aggie Health & Wellness Center or the scheduled COVID vaccination event on August 17-19 (COVID Vaccines section for more details).

This week you will receive a text message with instructions on how to schedule your move-in date and time. *First year students* will choose a time slot on either *Friday, August 13 or Saturday, August 14*. *Upper division students* will choose a time slot on either *Sunday, August 15 or Monday, August 16*. Please call 575-646-3202 or email housing@nmsu.edu if you don't receive a text message for scheduling a move-in appointment.

We're looking forward to your arrival and the beginning of your experience as an Aggie. Look for [The Housing Headline](#) newsletter in your NMSU inbox and send any questions to housing@nmsu.edu! GO AGGIES!!

Best regards,



Ophelia Watkins
Interim Executive Director | NMSU Housing and Residential Life



**HOUSING
QUESTIONS?**

If you have questions about campus housing, send those to housing@nmsu.edu from your NMSU email.



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Housing & Residential Life

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MEET THE TEAM - RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION

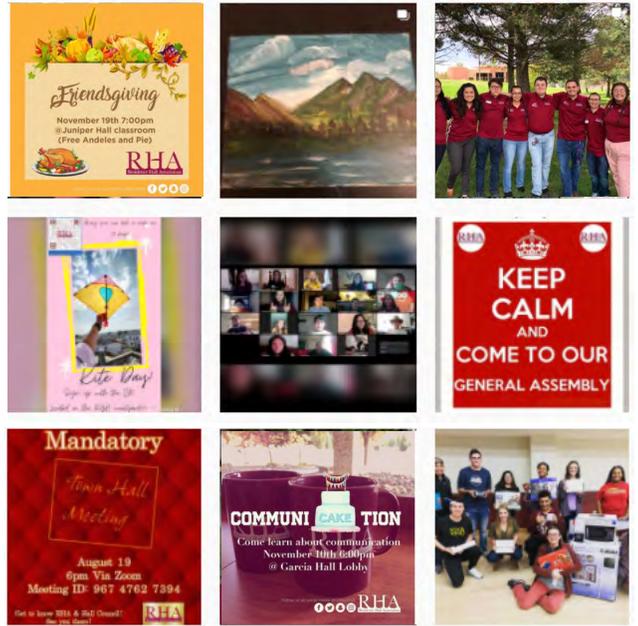
RHA is the resident-elected governing body for all of our housing communities. Every residence hall and apartment community has a council that hosts programs, advocates for residents, and represents their respective communities at RHA's weekly General Assembly meetings.

Joining one of our Hall/Community Councils is a great opportunity to gain leadership experience, meet new friends, and engage in your community! We look forward to seeing you in the fall semester and if you would like more information on how to get involved, you can connect with us on any of these platforms:"

[follow RHA on](#)

[email RHA at rha@nmsu.edu](mailto:rha@nmsu.edu)

[visit RHA's website rha.nmsu.edu](http://rha.nmsu.edu)



COVID VACCINES

The Aggie Health & Wellness Center (AHWC) will be collaborating with FEMA on August 17-19, 2021 to provide FREE COVID vaccinations from 10:00 am-3:00 pm at the Corbett Center Student Union-Aggie Lounge. The event will feature prizes, giveaways, and information on Healthy Aggie activities on campus! Please register for the vaccination by going to vaccinenm.org and completing the registration process.

When registering for the appointment use event codes (JIHBLNH, QULKLFE, or EQHILAQ). If you are having problems registering call the AHWC Pharmacy at 575-646-8302 for assistance.

\$100 VACCINE INCENTIVE!

Attention students, you can get \$100 for getting your COVID shot during the month of August! Any dose at any location counts. Sign up today at www.vaccinenm.org.



TIPS FOR BEING A GOOD ROOMMATE/SUITEMATE

For many people, college is the first time to have a roommate. Sharing space with another person might make you nervous, especially if that roommate is someone you don't already know. Whether you are sharing a room or suite with your life-long best friend or a total stranger, the roommate and suitemate relationship takes effort from everyone involved. Learning to set clear expectations, manage conflict, and adjust to living together will make your year more enjoyable and prepare you for the personal and professional relationships you'll navigate in the future.

Your Residential Life team has helped many roommate and suitemate relationships flourish over the years, and we've learned some helpful tips along the way:

- **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.
- **Be responsible for your guests.** You may enjoy having lots of guests visiting, but your roommate may value privacy. Pay attention to how often you invite friends and classmates over. If you and your roommate have different preferences, try alternating which days or times that friends are welcome in the room and when it's time for quiet.
- **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 AGREEMENT

Living with a new person can be exciting, and it's normal to also feel a little nervous about this new adventure. Proactive conversations at the start of the year can help you avoid conflict later.

Early in the semester, each roommate pair will complete a Roommate Agreement. Your RA will meet with you in the first few weeks of school to talk through the Roommate Agreement. This covers a variety of topics including cleanliness, study habits, sleep, sharing belongings, and more.

You may also request to complete an agreement for your entire suite. Watch for more information about Roommate Agreements from your RA after arriving to campus.

NMSU
RESIDENCE HALL

ROOMMATE AGREEMENT

BUILDING _____ ROOM # _____ STAFF NAME _____

INSTRUCTIONS
Complete the "roommates only" portion of this agreement exclusively with your roommates or subtenants. Your RA will then coordinate a meeting with your suite to discuss verified rules and methods of holding each other accountable in the case that roommates are not upholding the roommate agreement. Any expectations written below will be upheld by all roommates for the entire time of residency.

ROOMMATES ONLY
Please answer the following questions in the space below with your roommates or subtenants. All residents of the space must agree on guidelines before they are written into the roommate agreement.

Study Times
Study times in the common room are: _____
During time for study, the television is: on off
During time for study, the music is: on off
During times of study, video games are: on off
Phone use during study times is: ok not ok
Are guests allowed during study times? yes no

Room Temperature
The room temperature will (check all that apply)
_____ Bead to the temperature outside (as well as on a setting)
_____ Stay close to the temperature outside: open windows
_____ Be adjusted at night for comfortable sleep
_____ Be discussed before adjusting by all roommates

Cleanliness
The common room should be:
Clean always Clean weekly Doesn't matter
The bathroom/shower should be:
Clean always Clean weekly Doesn't matter
Trash will be removed by:
Daily Weekly When it gets excessive
_____ One roommate weekly
_____ All roommates at random times during the week
Recycling items will be removed by:
_____ One roommate weekly
_____ All roommates at random times during the week
Should a cleaning schedule be created? yes no
If a cleaning schedule is made, where will it be posted?

Personal Property
These are the conditions for roommates to use the following items found in common areas:
Video Games always ask first never
Television/Screen always ask first never
Labeled food always ask first never
Microwave always ask first never
Computer/Portio always ask first never
Books/Notes always ask first never
Toiletries always ask first never
Do all of the above conditions apply to guests, provided that these items are present?
Please list and comment on the use of any additional items here:

Guests
(Please refer to Residence Guide for complete guest policy)
Are guests allowed during dressing/locking times? _____
Are guests allowed overnight? _____
What is the total number of guests allowed at one time? _____
Are guests allowed while others are sleeping? _____
Are family members allowed overnight? _____
Can guests/family member use the bathroom? _____
Can guests/family members use the shower? _____
Are there specific times when guests/family members are not allowed? _____
If we want guests to leave, how will we notify each other? _____

Quiet Hours and Sleep
(Please refer to Residence Guide for complete policy)
Will we set aside times for sleeping in our room? _____
Times set aside for sleeping are: _____
Which of these conditions are allowed during sleep times?
Guests visiting _____ lights on in common areas
Phone conversations _____ Computer usage
Music/Video Games _____

SUPPORTING YOUR SUCCESS

Here at NMSU, we take student feedback seriously. Each year, we participate in a national student satisfaction and learning survey. Over the years, we have found that students who interact with their Resident Assistant (RA) at least twice a week consistently report the highest levels of overall satisfaction with their experience. Based on that information, we have redesigned the way RAs interact with residents to help you get the most out of your time living on campus.

You can expect to see your RA regularly for informal chats throughout the year. Your RA will check in with you about classes, your involvement on campus, and life in general. They will celebrate your successes, talk through concerns, and share helpful information. We believe so strongly in the importance of these interactions that we ask our RAs to keep track of common themes that come up in their community. Your RA's main purpose is to get to know you and the other people in your community, and help you get to know each other. While your RA will not have the answer to every question or the solution to every problem, they can help connect you with the information and support that will fuel your academic and personal success at NMSU.

FACULTY FELLOWS

In [Issue 5 of the Housing Headline](#), we introduced our Faculty Fellows mentorship program that pairs a professor with a small group of students to get to know each other through one-on-one mentorship and small group activities. If you haven't already applied for a Faculty Fellows mentor, click [here](#) to learn more.

AGGIE PRIDE AND TRADITIONS

Since 2012, Striking the Wonder Dog has been a beloved tradition here at NMSU. Striking amazes fans at home football games and special events when he retrieves the kickoff tee and leads the Pride of New Mexico Marching Band onto the field of Aggie Memorial Stadium.

When he's not performing for a cheering crowd of Aggie fans, Striking participates in agility competitions, dock diving, and search and rescue efforts.



NMSU TRIVIA

(Sponsored by [Xfinity on Campus](#))

Love animals? Did you know campus is home to cattle, horses, sheep, goat, and pigs? The Animal Care Facility near the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES) provides hands-on instruction to students in a variety of ACES majors. If you time your visit just right, you might even get a peek at one of the famous cows with a "window" in its side that allows students to learn about how cows digest.

Striking is not the only famous animal involved in campus traditions. Tell us [HERE](#) the name of the majestic horse mascot of NMSU football and be entered to win a pair of NMSU branded Wrapsody wireless headphones (\$100 value) when you move in. Look for NMSU Trivia in future newsletters for more chances to enter!

