



Residential Life and Housing

First-Year Orientation
2026



VCU Division of
Student Affairs

WE ARE THE UNCOMMON.

Scan me!



Here at VCU we have
Residence Halls
not “dorms.”

Today's Topics:



- Residence Hall Staff
- Safety in the Residence Halls
- Residence Hall Policies

- Renter's Insurance
- Amenities
- Residence Hall Mail & Packages
- Roommates

- Residence Hall Schedules
- Leadership Opportunities
- Our Website
- Contact & Follow

Staffing

Resident Assistant (RA)

Hall Director (HD)

Hall Staff



Safety in the Residence Halls

- Information Desks are staffed 24 hours/day
- Single entrance to all residence halls
- Card Access
- Guest Policy
- Health and Safety Inspections
- Smoke Detectors/Fire system
- Text Alerts: alert.vcu.edu/signup
- LiveSafe Mobile App



Fire Safety in the Residence Halls

- RLH is required to complete four fire drills each year
 - One must be completed within ten days of the start of the semester
 - One must be before sunrise or after sunset
- False Alarms cannot count as part of these drills
- All residents must evacuate during every alarm
- Residents may be held accountable for alarms that are caused by policy violations



Residence Hall Policies

Student Code of Conduct

Guide to Residential Living

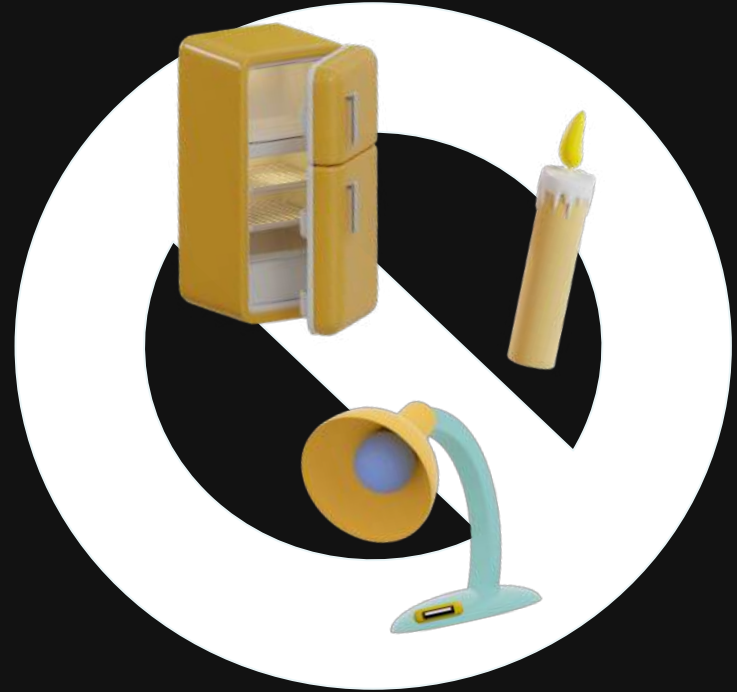
— 2026-2027 GUIDE TO — **RESIDENTIAL LIVING**



Residential Life and Housing

Guide to Residential Living

Prohibited Items List

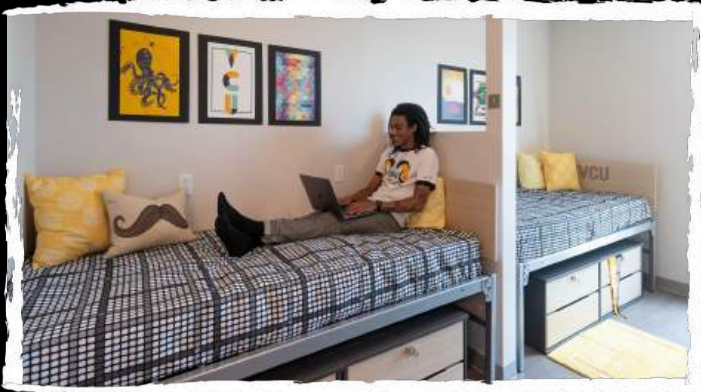


Renter's Insurance

- Renter's Insurance is highly recommended, as VCU is not financially liable for damages or loss that occur to the personal property of students.
- Check to see if your student is covered by your insurance policy.
- Renter's Insurance through GradGuard is offered in the housing application.



Amenities



Rhoads, Brandt, Honors, and Gladding Residence Center

- Furnished Rooms
- Resident Community Space
- Inclusive Laundry
- Microfridge in each bedroom
- WiFi and ethernet



Gladding Residence Center III

- Furnished Rooms
- Resident Community Space
- Inclusive Laundry
- Microwave and Refrigerator in each suite
- Wifi and ethernet

West Grace South

- Furnished Rooms
- Resident Community Space
- Inclusive Laundry
- Refrigerator and stove in each apartment
- WiFi and ethernet

Residence Hall Schedules



Brandt, Gladding Residence Center, Gladding Residence Center III, Honors, & Rhoads

Fall Break: Closes Saturday, November 21, 2026 at 10 a.m. and reopens on Sunday, November 29, 2026 at 10 a.m.

Winter Closing: Residents must vacate their residence halls within 24 hours after their last final exam or by Wednesday, December 16, 2026 at 10 a.m., whichever comes first, as stated in their housing contract. Halls reopen Friday, January 15, 2027.

Spring Break: Closes Saturday, March 6, 2027 at 10 a.m. and reopens on Sunday, March 14, 2027 at 10 a.m.

West Grace South

Remains **open** for **Fall Break**, **Winter Closing**, and **Spring Break**.

All Halls

Spring Year-end Closing: Residents must vacate their residence halls within 24 hours after their last final exam or by Saturday, May 15, 2027 at 10 a.m., whichever comes first, as stated in their housing contract.

Residence Hall Mail & Packages



- Mail is delivered to each Mail & Package Center on campus and processed by RLH staff.
- Mail & Package Center Locations:
 - Rhoads/Brandt
 - Gladding Residence Center/Gladding Residence Center III
 - 207 N. Laurel Street
- Mail and packages must be addressed properly for timely delivery.
- When a package is ready for pickup, the resident will receive an email from reshallmail@vcu.edu.
 - A delivery notification from a carrier (USPS, UPS, FedEx, DHL) or a vendor (Amazon, etc.) does not mean that the package is available for pickup, it must be processed first.
- Questions?
 - Visit housing.vcu.edu/help/mail or email reshallmail@vcu.edu.

Residence Hall Mailing Addresses



Student's Full Name

Room #, **Brandt Hall**

710 W. Franklin St.

Richmond, VA 23220-4106

Student's Full Name

Room #, **Rhoads Hall**

710 W. Franklin St.

Richmond, VA 23220-4106

Student's Full Name

Room #, **Honors College**

207 N. Laurel Street

Richmond, VA 23220-4126

Student's Full Name

Room #, **West Grace South**

207 N. Laurel Street

Richmond, VA 23220-4126

Student's Full Name

Room #, **Gladding Residence Center**

711 W. Main Street

Richmond, VA 23220-5508

**Brandt, Rhoads, GRC & GRC III packages & mail are delivered directly to each hall.
Honors, WGS, packages & mail are delivered to the Residence Hall Package Center on campus.**

Partnering For Success

Roommates

- Roommate Agreements
- Healthy Communication is key

Roommate Conflicts

- Remember, it's normal!
- Students can reach out to the RA or HD for assistance



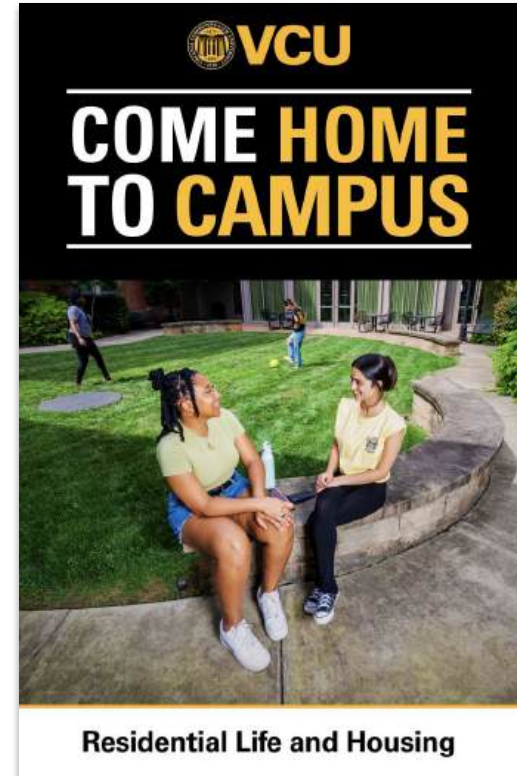
Leadership Opportunities

- **RAM Camp**
- **Community Council**
- **Residence Hall Association (RHA)**
- **Residence Hall Student Worker Positions**
 - Conference Assistant
 - Desk Assistant
 - Community & Connection Ambassador
 - Operations Assistant
 - Office Assistant
 - Mail Assistant
 - Resident Assistant
 - Programming Assistant



Housing After the First Year

- Returning students who wish to live in on-campus housing after their first year can apply for housing when the process opens in January. Students are encouraged to review all their housing options, which will be listed in an informational booklet sent to their home address over winter break.
- Currently, the demand for on-campus housing is greater than the supply and on-campus housing is not guaranteed. Rising sophomore students are given preference in the housing assignment process.



Maintaining Housing Eligibility

What students **SHOULD** do:

- Be familiar with, and follow all VCU and RLH policies in residence halls and on campus.
- Engage in positive community building behaviors, such as programming, events, and socializing.
- Engage in residence hall leadership opportunities, such as RHA or becoming a DA/RA.
- Make independent decisions and avoid peer influence.

What students **SHOULD NOT** to do:

- Violate VCU or RLH Policies consistently, repeatedly, or regularly.
- Intentionally contribute negatively to others' ability to live harmoniously in community.
- Follow the crowd simply because others are doing it.

Ongoing conduct that violates RLH, VCU, or state and federal laws and policies will result in a student becoming ineligible for housing through the duration of their VCU experience.

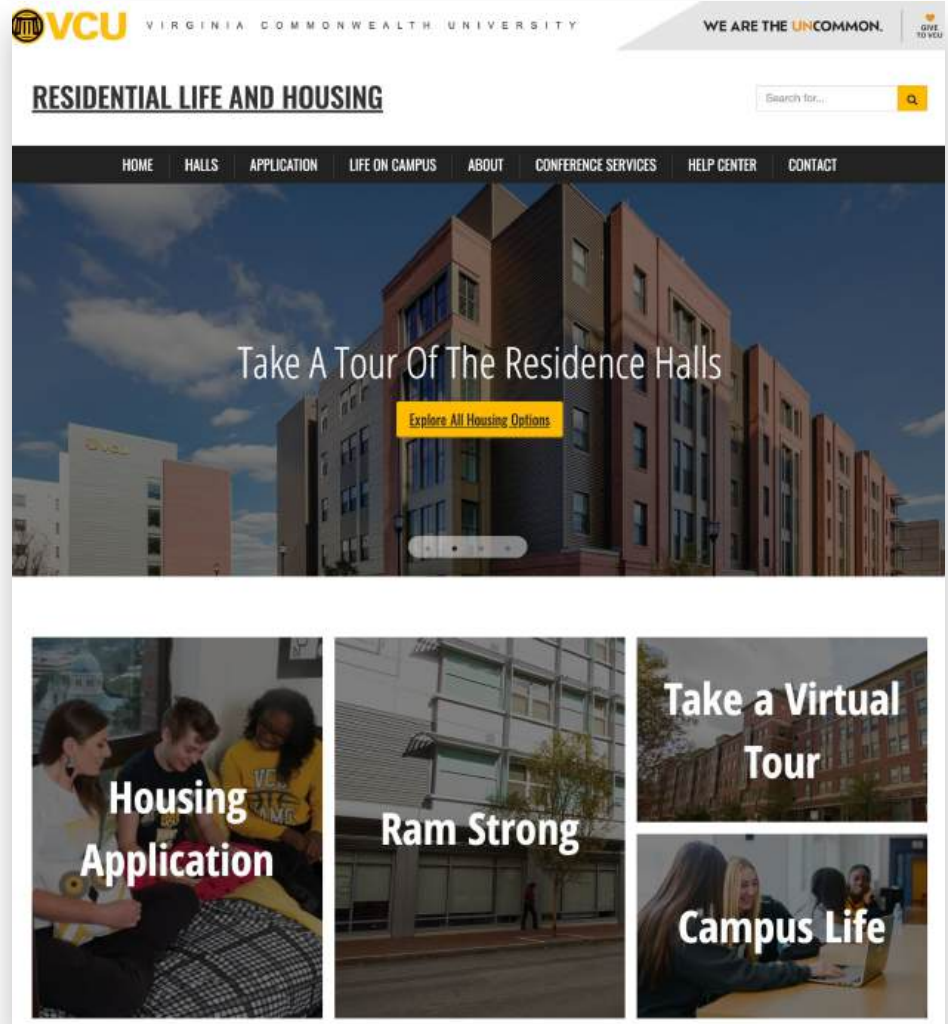
Our Website

The Residential Life and Housing Website is your resource for important information, policies, helpful tips, and more!



HOUSING.VCU.EDU

check it out!



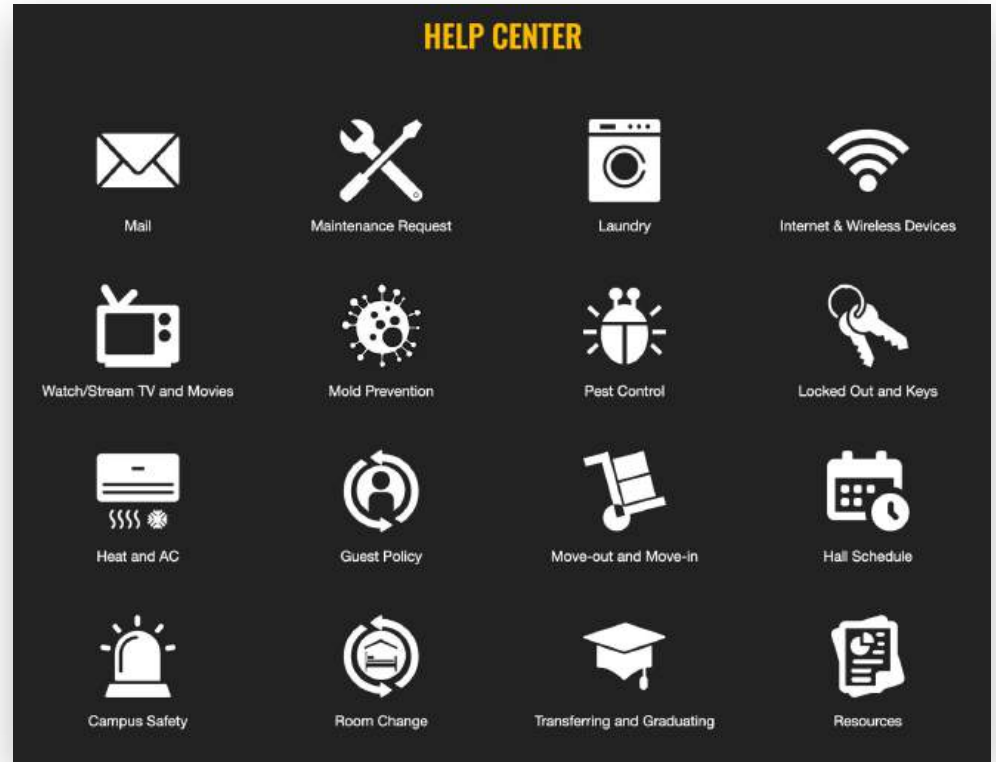
The Help Center

The Help Center is Located at the bottom of each page of the housing website.



HOUSING.VCU.EDU

check it out!





VCU

Residential Life and Housing

Contact & follow us!



vcuhousing@vcu.edu



housing.vcu.edu



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