



# 2024-2025 Student Handbook

## RESIDENCE HALL GUIDE TO COMMUNITY LIVING

Meredith College’s commitment to an inclusive living/learning environment provides the motivation for community building that serves undergraduate and graduate students and offers opportunities for intellectual, physical, social, emotional, spiritual, and professional growth. The Residents Housing Association provides the structure for the governance of the residents on campus and is instrumental in planning and monitoring campus communications as well as special programming. Residence life staff assess and respond to the particular interests and needs of students living on campus and provide interesting, developmental, informative, and entertaining programs and events.

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### Mission Statement

Meredith College Residence Life is dedicated to facilitating holistic, value-based student development where residents feel safe, supported, and comfortable on campus. We are committed to providing intentional educational opportunities that empower residents to become confident leaders in our community and beyond.



**We're**



**Faircloth**

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### **Cb!8 i hm FYg]XYbWY @]ZY GhUZZ**

Residence life team members are here to assist you. Staff members serve on a rotating schedule to be on duty to assist resident students who need assistance. Residents are encouraged to

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transition to campus and living on

## Personalizing Your Space

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# Roommate Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

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### Residence Hall Closings Over Breaks

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In order to make a room change:

1. Meet with residence life staff to discuss your request and to obtain a Room Change Form.
2. Once approved for a room change, complete and secure the signatures of all involved.
3. Move from your former room to your future room.
4. Follow the proper Check-In/Check-Out procedures as outlined earlier in this section and either meet with an RA or do Express Check-Out.
5. Return the former room key to RD within 48 hours of receiving the new key.
6. A resident who moves and does not turn in her old room key within 48 hours will be billed \$60 for a lock change and new keys.

Follow check-out procedures for the old room and check-in procedures for the new room.

**Residents who do not follow proper room change procedures will be charged \$50 for an improper check-out.**

## **Private Rooms**

Residents can rent a double room as a private room for an additional fee of \$850 per semester. Private rooms are granted as space allows.

A student may move into an unoccupied room if the private room fee is paid, which is an additional \$850 per semester. The private room option is only available if there is space and with approval of the director of residence life. A room that is not ready for a second roommate to move into can result in a \$50 fine.

If one student occupies a double occupancy room, that individual has the following options:

- move to another room with another student
- have another student move in with that individual
- pay the private room fee so that a roommate will not be assigned
- be randomly assigned a roommate at any time a space is needed

The College reserves the right to consolidate rooms when needed.

## **Vacancies**

When a vacancy occurs in a double occupancy room and space allows, the Office of Residence Life has the right to assign a new roommate at any time. A student who lives in a double room with a vacancy must keep her room available to receive a roommate at any time by leaving one dresser, nee and e allows,

## **Insurance Claims**

The College is not responsible for the loss or damage of personal property in the residence halls. In most cases, a student's personal property is covered under their family's homeowner's insurance. When this coverage does not apply, students should secure insurance coverage under a renter's policy.

## **Residence Life Policies**

### **Honor Council**

The Honor System is a long-cherished tradition and a basis for all life at Meredith. It is essential that each student commit to abide by and uphold Meredith's Honor Code and system of self-government. A student violating college policies included in the "Residence Life Guide to Community Living" or the Student Handbook will be obligated to report herself to the solicitor general of the Honor Council. See detailed information [about](#) [it](#) [here](#).

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possession of a drug. The abuse or misuse of any prescription drug by any student also is prohibited. Abuse and misuse of prescription drugs includes taking medication in ways other than prescribed, and/or providing or selling prescription drugs. The terms "controlled substance" and "counterfeit controlled substance" shall be defined in accordance with the definitions set out in the North Carolina General Statutes and the Durham Public Schools Policy Manual.

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## **Parking**

Residents must have a parking decal in order to park on the premises. An apartment parking decal may

ESAs on campus. Any unauthorized animal will result in a \$100 fee per day. For questions about emotional support animals and

## Residence Requirements

Campus residence halls are living/learning environments that provide supportive communities for student development. Traditional-aged students are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity for building friendships, developing interpersonal and communications skills, and participating in programs and activities that are all part of the residential living experience.

1. First and second year students under the age of 21 (regardless of hours completed) must live in the residence halls or reside off campus and commute from the primary residence of their parents, spouses, or (with special permission) another close relative. Freshman and transfer students who enter the College over the age of 21 may apply to live off campus.
2. Continuing juniors and seniors (students in their third and fourth years at Meredith) with at least a 2.0 GPA may request to live off campus by a designated deadline in the spring semester. Along with at least a 2.0 GPA, students must have at least 60 hours or have resided at least four semesters in the residence halls. Transfer students who meet established eligibility requirements as stated on the transfer application for admission may apply as commuting students under the off-campus housing option.
3. Campus housing is available to undergraduate degree-seeking students, including students in the Wings program, and graduate students enrolled in at least six credit hours.
4. Undergraduate resident students must be enrolled as full-time (at least 12 hours) students while living in the residence halls. Graduate resident students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours to be eligible to live on campus. If a student drops below full-time, the student will not be eligible to live on campus unless approved by the dean of students.
5. Students interested in housing during the summer terms should check with the Office of Residence Life for housing options and stipulations.
6. The cost of health services and meals in the dining hall is included in the payment for residence hall room and board. Students who live off campus must pay a health fee in order to receive services from the Health Center. Students who live off campus must pay for any meals eaten in the dining hall.
7. Students who do not meet the requirements to live off campus but choose to do so can be charged the full amount of room and board for the academic year.
8. Residential policies will be reviewed annually.

## Resident Obligations

Resident shall:

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removal of property from the apartment whatever the cause, except such damage, defacement or removal caused by ordinary wear and tear; W H D U

acceptable. Residents in violation of courtesy and quiet hours may be fined \$15 for the first offense and \$25 for the second offense. Further offenses may be referred to Honor Council for possible disorderly conduct violation.

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Meredith College takes student safety very seriously. If a member of the College community has reason to believe that a Meredith student who resides in on-campus housing is missing, immediately notify Meredith College Campus Police at 919-760-8888. Campus Police, in conjunction with College Programs staff (residence life staff, Dean of Students, etc.), will initiate an investigation which will include the following:

Conduct a welfare check in the student's on-campus residence.

Attempt to contact the missing student via their phone numbers on file in the Office of Residence Life and/or the Office of the Registrar.

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Electric holiday lights or decorative string lights (with the exception of battery-operated lights) may not be used anywhere in the residence halls. All decorations must be nonflammable or treated with fire retardant chemicals.

Wax warmers are not permitted in the residence halls

Meredith College bans from campus residential spaces the indoor storage, operating, or charging of hoverboards and similar products. Neither residents nor their guests are permitted to have or use hover boards within residential spaces on campus. This ban applies to all residential spaces including the residence halls and Oaks apartments both inside rooms and in public areas.

Live or cut holiday trees are not permitted.

Metal trash cans are recommended.

All hallways and exit ways are to be kept clear of obstructions with complete access available at all times. Students who leave items in the hall may be fined. "Welcome mats" are prohibited.

All students must exit the building immediately when fire drills are conducted or the fire alarm sounds.

Smoking in any resident room or residence hall is prohibited.

No tissue paper or other flammable materials may be placed on walls or doors except on designated bulletin boards.

Posters and notices cannot be placed on exit doors, stairwell doors or walls. Use only hall bulletin boards and the bulletin boards that are provided for you on your door.

Draperies must be made of fire resistant material.

Residents are not permitted to hang or affix any items to the ceiling.

All types of extension cords are prohibited in the residence hall. Only UL-approved surge protector power strips or other products with on/off switches may be used. All power strips need to be plugged into the wall. A power strip cannot be plugged into another power strip. No electrical splitters of any kind may be used in the residence halls.

Electrical appliances of any kind (i.e., hair dryer, curling iron, curlers) must be Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) approved. Students are expected to use all appliances with utmost safety.

One single-cup coffee brewer is permitted per room. Coffee makers with a hot plate are not permitted.

Electrical cooking appliances or food preparation appliances are not permitted (deep fryers, toasters, toaster ovens, sandwich makers, drip coffee makers, indoor grills, crock pot cooking, m



Disposing of food waste accordingly to personal trash cans and/or on campus compost locations

NOT disposing of food waste down individual sink drains

NOT disposing of food waste in toilets

NOT disposing of food waste in shower drains/tubs

Residents will be held responsible for damage to sinks, toilets and showers if food waste is found to be the cause of damages. Damage fees will apply when they have caused damage to their own rooms or common areas.

Irons must only be used in the designated area of each residence hall. Irons may be stored in resident rooms.

One refrigerator is permitted per room and cannot exceed 4.5 cubic feet.

Halogen and lava lamps of any kind are not allowed in the residence halls.

Fire safety violations are not eligible for appeal through the Honor System. Students who wish to appeal fire and life violations may contact the director of residence life.

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Residents should refer to the Security, Safety and Emergency Procedures section for more complete information.

CamCards and keys cannot be given to other individuals for use including friends and parents.

Use of sporting equipment such as skates, skateboards, roller blades or other similar items within residence halls is prohibited.

Running in hallways is prohibited.

Laser pointers, spotlights, and other similar devices should not be used to target another student or their residence hall room.

Residents and guests are not permitted to bring animals into their room or residence hall unless necessary for an individual requiring the assistance of service animals or the animal is an approved emotional support animal (ESA).

Sleeping overnight in hallways and parlors is prohibited.

Climbing on any campus roof or structure is prohibited.

Throwing any item(s) off of or up to a balcony or window is prohibited.

Violation of any of these policies will result in a \$15 fine. A second violation is \$25.

### **Room Health and Safety Inspections**

The residence life staff will conduct inspections any M inspus li co siãTãrn ryll c





of painting project or construction project, i.e., Corn props, organization banners, etc. Note: Residents are required to adhere to posted occupancy limits.

### **AJWfckUjYg**

Microwaves are available on each floor of the residence halls. Residents using the microwave should never leave it unattended. Residents are not permitted to have microwaves in their rooms. Residents should use precautions when using the microwave and wipe down the handle before and after use.

### **@UibXfm Fcc ag**

Automatic washers and dryers can be found in the following locations:

- Brewer: 1st and 3rd floors
- Faircloth: 1st and 4th floors
- Heilman: 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors
- Poteat: 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors
- Stringfield: 1st and 4th floors
- Vann: 1st and 4th floors

The cost of laundry services is included as part of the student room fee. Washers and dryers should not be used to wash and dry shoes or rugs. If a machine

Outgoing mail pickup is 5:00

guard may request identification of any guest coming in after closing hours. A guest will not be permitted on campus if she does not have or is not accompanied by her Meredith host. Residents are permitted to host the same overnight guest for a maximum of three nights within a 30-day period.

: Except during Open House, for reasons of privacy and security, male guests are allowed in the residence halls only in first floor parlors and only when accompanied by a Meredith student. During non-Open House hours, male guests must enter only through the first floor parlor doors (during hours in which the campus is not closed. During Open House hours, male guests may enter through any residence hall door when accompanied by a Meredith student. Males are not allowed on campus after closing hours (1:00 a.m. Sunday – Thursday; 2:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday) except to accompany students to their residence halls but may not enter. Then the male guest must immediately leave campus.

Open House hours for male guests: Beginning on Tuesday following Labor Day weekend in the fall semester and after the first day of classes in January.

Open Houses are planned for:

Mondays 5 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Tuesdays 5 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Wednesdays 5 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Thursdays 5 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Fridays 3 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Saturdays 10 a.m. – 1 a.m.

Sundays 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Male guests can be in the 1st floor residence halls parlors until 12:45 a.m. Sunday-Thursday and until 1:45 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

No Open Houses are held during exams, holiday weekends or breaks. Open House Hours are also limited during Lil' Friends Weekend (if scheduled). All open house hours are listed on the Residence Life MyMeredith page.

Residence directors may grant special permission for male guests to carry heavy items to or from a student's room (heavy items include: refrigerators, heavy trunks, book shelves, heavy furniture, unusually bulky or large items). This permission is a privilege; therefore, male guests should not linger on the halls after they have completed the task for which they were granted permission.

The person giving permission to a male to carry things onto the hall is responsible for checking to make certain the male vacated the hall. Residents are expected to announce "male on the hall." They are to escort their helper out of the building within 15 minutes. Fathers of Meredith



campus. Resident students must use the CamCard for Meredith dining services. CamCards are made in the Campus Police Office. Detailed information on CamCard use policies can be found in the College Policies and Regulations section of the Student Handbook. <https://www.meredith.edu/campus-police-office/>



Meredith Beach is the area surrounded by Faircloth, Brewer, Heilman, and Barefoot residence halls and is the only campus sunbathing area designated for students living in campus residence halls. The beach area designated for Oaks residents is the back patio of The Oaks.

### **How do I respond if a person comes to my residence hall door selling or soliciting?**

Members of the Meredith community enjoy protection of their rights of privacy. Solicitation by persons, organizations, or businesses is strictly prohibited unless authorized by the Vice President for College Programs or by the Director of Student Leadership and Service. Any use of College facilities by off-campus persons for purposes of solicitation, even those sponsored by campus organizations, must also be approved. Under no circumstances are off-campus persons allowed to solicit door-to-door. Any religious organization requesting to give a program or presentation is to be referred to the campus chaplain for approval. Students who are approached by individuals violating this policy should immediately contact Campus Police.

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