

TERMS OF RESIDENCE HALL AGREEMENT 2023–24

The terms specified below constitute a housing contract between Calvin University and the student. The contract does not create a landlord/tenant relationship. The contract is effective for the duration of an individual's full-time enrollment as a student under Calvin's residency requirement.

Residency Requirement

At Calvin, we believe that a residential environment is an important component of the university experience. As a result, first and second-year students not living with their parent(s) or legal guardian are required to reside in the Calvin University residence halls or apartments. Students at least 21 years of age, married students, or students who are two full years removed from their high school graduation date are permitted to reside off campus or may continue to live on-campus during their entire Calvin enrollment. Resident students are encouraged to participate in the various co-curricular programs and activities that are available in their halls.

Effective Dates of Contract

The following calendar information clarifies the dates covered by the Terms of Contract. The opening date and time for the above academic year is August 24, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. for new students; for returning students, it is August 25, at 9:00 a.m. On-campus housing closes during Christmas break from 10:00 a.m. on December 15, 2023, to 10:00 a.m. on January 14, 2024. Those moving in for second semester may move in on January 13 after 2:00 p.m. On-campus housing closes for Spring Break from 10:00 a.m. on March 2, 2024, to noon on March 10, 2024. Students must check out for the school year by 10:00 a.m. on May 3, 2024, or within 24 hours of their last exam, whichever is earlier. Residence Life staff may make exceptions for special circumstances.

Terms of Contract

The Student Agrees to the Following:

- a. Maintain a lifestyle guided by Biblical principles and reflecting a Christian commitment.
- b. Pay Calvin University the established room and board rate for each year of residency. Cost changes will be communicated to students in advance of each academic year.
- c. Become familiar with and adhere to all regulations of the college and governing bodies of the Residence Halls as stated in the Student Conduct Code and the Residence Hall Reference Guide.
- d. Maintain full-time enrollment during both semesters.
- e. Cooperate with staff members in carrying out the aims of Calvin University and the Residence Halls.

The University Reserves the Right to the Following:

- a. Hold residents of the Hall responsible for the damage and losses to Residence Hall property.

- b. Make any reassignment or adjustment in accommodations deemed necessary by the staff. The college also reserves the right to control use of the rooms in the event of an epidemic or emergency and, after prior notification of the student, to use the rooms during the regular college recesses.
- c. Make routine room inspections upon proper notification in advance by the Residence Life staff.
- d. Enter student rooms without prior notification and/or permission when there is good reason to believe there is a violation of college or state regulations or for maintenance purposes.
- e. Cancel the contract if a student does not maintain full-time enrollment (a minimum of 12 semester hours), or does not attend classes regularly.

Restrictions

Taking into consideration respect for fellow residents and university property, and considering standards of behavior Calvin University expects of its students, the college prohibits the following in the Residence Halls:

- a. Use of rooms or facilities in Residence Halls for any commercial purposes whatsoever.
- b. Soliciting, peddling, or vending of all types and distribution of literature by residents or outsiders without approval of the dean of residence life.
- c. Use or possession of firearms, fireworks, or explosives of any sort.
- d. Possession of mercury thermometer or other toxic or hazardous chemicals as directed.
- e. Use or possession of other weapons, including switchblades, paint-ball guns, potato launchers, slingshots, and similar devices.
- f. Possession of alcoholic beverage containers, use or possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia.
- g. Presence in an apartment or room in which alcohol is present and/or being consumed.
- h. Engaging in conduct promoting sexual intimacy—i.e., nudity, partial undress, lying or sleeping in bed together.
- i. Inappropriate or offensive posters or room decorations.
- j. Weightlifting equipment, waterbeds, use of hot plates, and all small kitchen appliances (except for hot pots, and coffee pots) in student rooms. Refrigerators are permitted but must not be more than four feet in height.
- k. Installation of outside aerials.
- l. The housing of birds, cats, dogs, and all other pets (except fish).
- m. Removal of window screens.
- n. Use of drum sets. Electric guitars or any amplified instruments must be used within the noise guidelines, or they will need to be removed.
- o. Incense, candles, or potpourri burners.
- p. Removal of or tampering with smoke detectors or room accessories (bulletin board, closet reed curtain, draperies, doors, or any other items fastened with hardware including beds).
- q. Removal of any university furniture from student rooms and/or disassembling of furniture (including beds).
- r. The construction of lofts, walls, and floors is prohibited.

This list is not exhaustive; items not included here but listed in the Residence Hall Living booklet also constitute terms of this contract. In addition, the college staff reserves the right to regulate any activity or property used in Residence Halls that may threaten the health, safety, or well-being of the residents or damage hall property. The university also reserves the right to regulate the

outward appearance of residence halls. Further expectations of resident students are described in detail in the Residence Hall Living booklet, distributed to all residents.

Room Accommodations

Room furnishings include beds, desks, chairs, dresser, and wastebaskets. These furnishings are not to be removed from the student's room. The student must provide his or her own sheets (extra-long twin), blankets, bedspreads, towels, washcloths, and pillows. Students may not bring additional materials into the room to loft beds. For safety, we recommend that for high bunks the beds be rotated so that the protective side arms of the frames face outward rather than toward a wall.

Board

The dining halls serve three meals a day, seven days a week, beginning with the evening meal on the day the student is required to be on campus and continuing through the final examination period of each semester, exclusive of Christmas and spring recesses. First year students may choose the Core 19 meal plan or Gold meal plan. Meal plan changes may only be made during the first two weeks of each semester. Meal credits will only be given for illnesses that are documented by a certified physician or for emergency leaves from campus.

Dining privileges are not transferable. A \$25 fine will be charged to students involved in borrowing or lending a college ID to use the dining halls. The university considers any tampering with a college ID to be a serious offense for which a student will receive a fine and be referred to the Dean of Student Conduct.

Room and Board Fee

The fee for room and board is payable electronically, by mail, or at the financial services office at the beginning of each semester, or according to a schedule of monthly payments and due dates established by the college.

Breaking a Housing Contract

Full-time students who remain at Calvin may not break a housing contract unless given permission by the Director of Housing or Residence Life. If permission is not granted, the student will be charged full room and board for the duration of the contract. If permission is granted, students will be charged a \$400 fee for breaking the contract. Permission will only be given for extenuating circumstances. The university may terminate this contract and take possession of the room at any time for violation of any of the provisions herein; for violation of college regulations; for health or social reasons; or for any other reason deemed sufficient by the university. The university will take possession of the room within 24 hours after the occupant's withdrawal from the college.

Room & Board Refund Rate

Room & Board refunds follow the Tuition refund schedule. The breakdown is below:

- Calendar days 1–10 85%
- Calendar days 11–24 60%
- Calendar days 25–31 30%
- Calendar days 32–56 15%
- Calendar days 57 or more 0% (no refund)

A resident is issued keys when moving into the residence hall. These keys are to be returned to the college when the resident moves out. A charge of \$25 per key is assessed for keys lost or not returned. For security purposes, a card access system for the Residence Halls is in place. This card will also be your ID/Meal card. The replacement cost for a lost ID is \$25.

Campus Activities Fee

All students residing in Calvin University Residence Halls are represented by the Community Life Council of their hall, comprised of elected and selected student leaders. An activities fee is assessed from each student once at the beginning of the year and is not refundable. These funds are used by the Social Events Team, Resident Assistants, and other student leaders for academic, social, cultural, religious, and educational activities for students throughout the academic year.

Housing Damage and Cleaning Charges

When a student leaves campus housing, for whatever reason, a final check-out will be done by Residence Life staff. Students are asked to thoroughly clean and restore their room/apartment to its original arrangement. Failure to properly check out or clean the room will result in cleaning charges and fines, up to \$200, charged to the occupant's miscellaneous account with Financial Services. Any damage to, or loss of, university property (excluding incidental wear and tear) will also be charged to a student's miscellaneous account, when the damage occurs or as part of the final check-out process each year.

Loss

Although the university will make all reasonable efforts to protect the student's property, it is understood that the university is not in any way liable for the loss, theft, or damage to any property belonging to the residents, whether such items are stored in their own rooms or in the hall trunk rooms. The student agrees to cooperate with his/her roommates in the common protection of property. Room doors should be locked when the room is not occupied.

Keys/Building Access Cards