Graduate Residence Hall Information Handbook
Graduate Residence Hall

The Graduate Residence Hall (GRH) is a five-story building composed of 58 fully furnished apartments housing more than 200 graduate, law, and medical students. Some apartments offer three or four single bedrooms, while other apartments have two double bedrooms (where students share a bedroom with a roommate).

The Graduate Residence Hall is an independent, apartment-style living environment where students focus on their academic and professional aspirations. Our live-in staff is trained to support students with their academics as well as maintain a safe and orderly living environment. Although the Graduate Residence Hall is a nontraditional on-campus living option, all Hofstra resident students must adhere to the New York state fire safety codes and the regulations set forth in Hofstra’s Residential Living Agreement.

Graduate Residence Amenities

Apartments in the Graduate Residence Hall are furnished. Individual bedrooms offer a twin bed, wardrobe, desk with hutch, desk chair, and a dresser. Every bedroom also has a window and an individually controlled heating and air-conditioning unit. Each room is equipped with a telephone, satellite TV hookup, and wireless Internet service. Each common area includes a couch, two chairs, and end tables. The kitchenettes are complete with a stovetop burner, refrigerator, microwave, and kitchen table with chairs. Installed in the facility are a sprinkler system (for fire safety), two hydraulic elevators, and three stairways. The first floor houses the fitness room, mailboxes, GRH Office, a community kitchen, a conference room and common area lounges. Each floor is equipped with a recycling room, two study rooms, and a laundry room. Please note that all resident students pay a $40 laundry fee per semester for unlimited use of the washers and dryers. The Graduate Residence Hall is 100-percent accessible to persons with disabilities.
What to Bring

We encourage residents to bring personal items to make their living experience more enjoyable. Due to space limitations, we suggest that residents consult with roommates and suitemates regarding what items each will bring in order to avoid duplicates.

Suggested Items: area carpet(s), television(s), utensils, dishware, cookware, coffeemaker and toaster (not toaster oven).
Please note: Only one coffeemaker and/or toaster are permitted and must be located in the apartment kitchen, not individual rooms.

Prohibited Items

In order to maintain a safe living community within the Graduate Residence Hall, we do not permit the following items in the residence halls: extension cords, curtains, tapestries, electric grills, candles, incense, halogen lamps, rice cookers, and toaster ovens. All furniture and room furnishings must be fire retardant.

For a complete list of prohibited items, please refer to the Electrical Appliances Policy and Fire Safety Guidelines of The Living Factor, which can be accessed online at hofstra.edu/studentaffairs/studentservices/reslife (click on “Policies and Procedures”).

Cooking in Graduate Residence Hall

Cooking is permitted only in the kitchen areas of the apartments or in the common area kitchen located on the first floor. Residents may cook in their bedrooms using only a University-approved refrigerator/microwave unit.
Mail Services

Upon checking into the Graduate Residence Hall, each student will be issued a mailbox and a mailbox combination. The mailboxes can be accessed at all hours and are located on the first floor of the GRH. Mail is delivered from the Hempstead Post Office directly to the building on a daily basis. Packages that are sent through the United States Postal Service are also delivered directly to the building, and residents can pick up their packages from the GRH Office during posted office hours. Packages sent through FedEx and UPS are delivered to the Hofstra Post Office located on the lower level of the Mack Student Center. The mailing address for any student living in the Graduate Residence Hall is as follows:

Student Name
Graduate Residence Hall
Room #
400 Hofstra University
Hempstead, NY 11549-4000

Damage and Vandalism Deposit

All resident students pay a $300 housing deposit when they apply to live on campus. Once a student occupies a residence hall space, the $300 housing deposit is then held for the academic year as a damage and vandalism deposit. This deposit is held in an account by the University and is credited to the student’s account when room inventories have been made and damages have been assessed at the end of the academic year. Costs to repair damage to the room, suite and/or residence hall common area are deducted from the damage and vandalism deposit. If it should occur that the damage and vandalism deposit does not cover the damage charges incurred, the resident(s) will be responsible for the outstanding balance. If the University is unable to determine the specific individual(s) responsible for the damage/vandalism, the cost will be deducted from all residents of the room, suite, floor or building, as appropriate.
It is the responsibility of each resident to remain vigilant with regard to the actions of fellow residents and guests. Should a resident observe vandalism being perpetrated, the resident should notify a Residential Programs staff member and/or contact Public Safety, so the responsible person(s) can be held accountable.

Residential Programs Staff

If you have any concerns while living at Hofstra University, we have a fully trained staff available to assist you. The Graduate Resident Director (GRD) and Resident Assistants (RA) are designated to address the needs of graduate, law, and medical students specifically residing in GRH. We have additional staff located in the main Residential Programs Office on the second floor of the Mack Student Center, Room 244. You are encouraged to become acquainted with your Graduate Residence Hall staff who will be available to answer your questions and make living in the Graduate Residence Hall a positive experience.

Who Is a Part of the Graduate Residence Hall Staff?

The Graduate Residence Hall is staffed by one GRD and three RAs. The GRD and RAs are part-time, live-in graduate students who help oversee the daily operations of the Graduate Residence Hall. The GRD directly supervises the RA staff and together they are responsible for addressing student concerns and facility issues within the building. Your GRD and RAs are available in the office based on a set schedule or by appointment. The GRD can be contacted at 516-463-7252. The RA staff can be contacted at 516-463-7251.
Residential Programs Office Hours

The GRH staff holds office hours daily in the GRH Office (106 GRH) and are available to address emergency concerns within the building, distribute packages and answer any questions you may have. The hours of operation of the GRH Office vary each semester and are posted on the office door as well as the Office of Residential Programs’ website. In addition, staff is always available at the Office of Residential Programs, located at 244 Mack Student Center, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., and can be contacted at 516-463-6930. In the event of an emergency, please call the Department of Public Safety at 516-463-6606.

Residential Living Agreement

Notice: You signed this agreement as part of Hofstra University’s housing application. Here are two important sections that warrant review.

1. The Residential Living Agreement binds the student for both the fall and spring semesters. Any student who leaves the residence halls at any time after taking occupancy of the room will be charged a $750 cancellation fee.
   This cancellation fee may be waived with written approval for reasons that include but are not limited to graduation, study abroad, student teaching, military service, official University withdrawal, or official leave of absence. Students may incur charges for the January Session if they maintain occupancy of the room during that session.

2. The following rules shall apply at all times in all areas of the residence halls, and failure to comply may constitute a breach of this agreement and may result in judicial action being taken:
   a. No pets except for fish in filtered tanks.
   b. No cooking appliances of any kind, including but not limited to: broilers, hot plates, hot pots, coffee makers, including but not limited to one cup coffee makers, popcorn poppers, microwaves, or immersion coils. Refrigerator/freezer/microwave units rented from the University are allowed under established guidelines. Personal microwaves are prohibited in the residence hall rooms and suites. Residents may bring their own refrigerator for their residence hall room, but it may not exceed five (5) cubic feet in size.
Additionally, the number of these legal-sized refrigerators is limited to one per room or two per suite. Residents of Graduate Residence Hall are permitted to have coffee makers and toasters (not toaster ovens).

c. No illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, including hookahs.
d. No firearms, explosives, or any type of fireworks or weapons, including air pistols and BB guns.
e. No gambling.
f. No candles, incense or anything that burns, and no open flames of any kind.
g. No electric heaters, multiplugs or extension cords.
h. No smoking.
i. No soliciting.
j. No littering or damaging of any area or equipment of the residence halls.
k. No removal of lounge furniture to rooms.
l. No tampering with fire extinguishers, equipment, alarms, or signs.
m. No motorcycles or any gas engine vehicles, and no gasoline storage of any kind.
n. No throwing of anything from windows or balconies.
o. No waterbeds or lofts.
p. No life-support equipment of any form, including but not limited to containerized oxygen units and/or electrical generators.
q. No playing of sports that may cause damage to University property or harm to others.
r. No creating of any type of hazardous condition.
s. No construction, including lofts, bars, cinder blocks or materials to loft beds, etc.
t. No illegal room changes.
u. No propping of doors or tampering with security/card access equipment.
v. No tampering with room stops, window stops, safety bars, or window stickers.
w. No unauthorized wiring; this includes but is not limited to outside TV antennas, satellite dishes, room-to-room wiring, and extension cords.
x. No storage of bicycles in hallways or stairwells.
y. No halogen lamps.
z. No duplicating of University keys (i.e., room/suite keys).
aa. No curtains, valances or drapes; no tapestries or fabric shall be placed on the ceilings or walls.