

Security at University Facilities

On-Campus Housing Security

The Department of Housing and Residence Education security programs exist to support the university's educational mission. The safety and security of residents' property are shared responsibilities of residents and the university. The Department of Housing and Residence Education provides security programs, but cannot guarantee personal and property safety. The department increases resident safety by providing services including security staffing, safety-related facilities review, and educational programming.

Residence halls and entrances to student living areas are locked 24 hours per day and are restricted to residents and their guests. Residents and guests are required to conform to visitation hours, all residence hall rules and regulations, as well as all city ordinances and state and federal laws. Reported crimes occurring on campus are handled the same as those occurring in the city of Gainesville, Alachua County, and your hometown. Additionally, if an alleged perpetrator is a student, the perpetrator also risks disciplinary action by the university through the university judicial process. Civil, criminal, and/or university action against alleged perpetrators can occur individually, concurrently, or sequentially.

Security upgrades to facilities are reviewed on a continuing basis. Keys to facilities are regularly inventoried and a key control policy by Department of Housing and Residence Education staff is in place. Building and room locks are changed on a routine basis, and exterior doors to graduate and family housing apartments, which include dead bolt locks, are changed at the time a tenant moves out in preparation for a new tenant and can be changed immediately upon request.

Nighttime Building Security (NTBS)

NTBS is a specialized security program staffed by police officers, department security personnel, and University of Florida students equipped with police radios and picture IDs. The primary function of this program is the securing of buildings during the nighttime hours. In addition to providing building security, this program enhances the personal safety of students, faculty, and staff working in academic buildings after hours by providing law enforcement with more "eyes" on the streets and around our buildings.

Housing Security Staffing

Internal staff

All residence hall staff members monitor both internal and external security at all residence halls. Live-in residence hall staff members are trained to respond to safety and security concerns and to provide support and appropriate referrals to victims of crime. Live-in staff includes Resident Assistants, Graduate Hall Directors, Residence Life Coordinators, and Residence Directors.

Additionally, uniformed maintenance and custodial staff members have been trained to report all suspicious activities or persons they might see as they complete their routine duties in residential living areas. The Department of Housing and Residence Education also maintains ten residence hall information desks that are staffed 24 hours per day. Information desk staff provides assistance or referral services to residents who call or stop by the area desks.

The University of Florida Police Department and Housing Security provide security for the graduate and family housing through regular car and foot patrols. Live-in staff includes Resident Directors, Resident Managers, and Assistant Resident Managers.

External Staff

The Department of Housing and Residence Education security dispatcher is trained to respond to all requests from residents and staff by dispatching the appropriate staff or agencies. Housing Security Assistants and Security Shift Leads provide external security at single student residence halls. These security assistants are radio dispatched and patrol single student residence halls on foot and by vehicle from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m.

The Security Assistant's primary duties include:

1. Securing entrances
2. Safety and security patrols of bike racks, parking lots, commons areas, and the facilities/grounds
3. Watching for and reporting suspicious activities

Security Assistants are student employees hired, trained, and supervised by a full-time Department of Housing and Residence Education administrator.

In addition to the security services provided by residence hall security staff, the Department of Housing and Residence Education promotes crime prevention and personal safety through educational programming. Numerous services, workshops, and publications are available to residents of single student housing areas as well as graduate and family housing residents, with each program being designed to meet the needs of the specific residential area.

For more information about University of Florida Department of Housing and Residence Education security programs, call 392-2171 (V/TDD).

Sorority and Fraternity Security Programs

Fraternity and sorority house residents are free to determine what level of security they feel is necessary for their respective houses. To assist them, however, interior and exterior premise security surveys are conducted on an annual basis by the University of Florida Police Department, and recommendations are submitted to the appropriate house official and to the Dean of Students Office. The University of Florida Police Department also offers residents educational programs on personal safety and property security, as well as other topics of concern. At the end of the spring semester contact is made with each sorority and fraternity to assist with security of unoccupied houses during the summer break.

Sorority Row Security

A uniformed police officer is stationed nightly on foot patrol in the Sorority Row area to



provide for the safety of sorority members. The Sorority Row officer maintains close working relationships with the house directors of each of the sororities in an effort to keep sorority members informed and educated on security issues pertinent to their area. The officer will provide escorts as requested and is always ready to help with security concerns of any kind.

Access to University Facilities

In the interest of students, staff, and faculty of the University of Florida, campus facilities are continuously maintained and all necessary security provisions are provided. Many cultural and athletic events held in university facilities are open to the public. Other facilities, such as the bookstore, libraries, and cafeterias, are likewise open to the public. Access to academic and administrative facilities on campus is generally limited to students, employees, and visitors for the purpose of study, work, teaching, and conducting other university business.

Landscaping and Lighting

Landscaping and outdoor campus lighting are designed with safety and security in mind and utilized in an effort to provide pedestrians peace of mind. The University of Florida has a comprehensive campus lighting program that is constantly monitored and updated as needed.

The more heavily traveled walkways on campus are well-lit and equipped with emergency telephones to promote and enhance personal safety, especially during nighttime hours. Those areas of campus that are traveled by foot during daytime hours, but are impossible to light for nighttime travel, are posted with signage to discourage use after dark. Pedestrians and bicyclists should travel well-lit pathways, and not take unlit short cuts that could jeopardize their safety.

