

Dear Student,

The personal safety of every member of our campus community is of primary importance to all of us. As we begin a new academic year, we are writing to share some information related to guests and residence hall security.

**Guest Policy:** Changes to the guest policy are in accordance with Residential Life policy, as it relates to special circumstances involving concern for safety and security. Limiting non-UMass guests in residence halls is one of several strategies the campus has put in place for fall 2021 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The following guest policy is in place to start the fall semester and will be reviewed during the semester. Residential students will be notified of any changes to the guest policy.



- **Residential students may sign in UMass student guests only.** UMass Amherst residential students may host a maximum of two UMass Amherst student guests at one time. Guests who are not UMass Amherst students will not be permitted in the residence halls until further notice.
- **Room Capacity:** Each resident of a room/suite/apartment may host no more than two UMass Amherst students in their room/suite/apartment at one time. The maximum occupancy of a single room is three, maximum occupancy of a double room is six, and maximum for a four-person suite or apartment is 12.

All other [residence hall policies](#) regarding residence hall access, residential security, and hosting responsibilities remain in effect.

Electronic Guest Management is used by Residence Hall Security staff to verify residency and to sign in guests. Your UCard will be used to verify your residential status using the system. Your UMass student guests will also use their UCard and system to register as your guest.

**Please remember you are responsible for – and will be held accountable for – the behavior of your guests.** You should carefully consider who you sign into the residence hall as your guest. **To understand your rights and responsibilities as a host, please read the guests section of the [Residence Hall Policies](#).**

When your guests leave the residence hall, they should sign out with the Residence Hall Security staff. The electronic guest management system will enforce the limit of two guests per person, per evening, to the maximum room capacity described above. Students with restrictions imposed as a result of student conduct process and/or individuals trespassed by UMass Police Department will be flagged and not permitted to be signed in as guests.

**Residence Hall Security (RHS) is a collaborative effort between Residential Life and the UMass Police Department.** The work performed by RHS student employees with the aid of security cameras, the electronic card access security system, and the guest management system strengthens the security of the residential areas, providing a safer environment for the UMass student body. You will see RHS staff in your

residence hall every evening beginning at 8 p.m. They are working to keep our community safe and need your cooperation and respect to do their jobs well.

**Throughout the academic year, residence hall security hours may be extended and guest policies adjusted** for events such as Homecoming, Halloween, major athletic events, and weekends when a large number of guests are anticipated. Residential students will be notified when guest policies are adjusted.

Remember, everyone has a role in keeping the community safe so if you see something, say something. We thank you in advance for your active participation and support as we all work to make the campus community a safe and caring environment.

Sincerely,

**Jean Ahlstrand MacKimmie**, *Director of Residence Education*

**James Meade**, *Residence Hall Security Manager*

**Residence Education and Residence Hall Security**

Berkshire House, Second floor  
121 County Circle, Amherst, MA

