

# Rationale for Roommate Agreements

Loyola University Chicago - Department of Residence Life



Living successfully with a roommate requires flexibility and the willingness to communicate in an open, honest, and respectful manner. The purpose of this agreement is to help you develop a healthy living arrangement with your roommate(s).

The questions on the Roommate Agreement are intended to start your thinking about areas where potential roommate problems may arise, help you discuss these issues in a safe space, and help you and your roommate(s) come to an agreement that is mutually acceptable to each of you. This agreement aims to promote community living and learning environments in the residence hall communities and should be created in accordance with the Loyola University Chicago Student Promise.

***As a part of the Loyola University Chicago residential community, each Loyola resident has the following rights and responsibilities:***

Student Rights	Student Responsibilities
The right of access to one's room and facilities at all times;	To respect oneself, others, staff, community, and property;
The right to feel secure in one's living space;	To respect the rights listed above of every community members;
The right to live free from physical, emotional, and mental abuse;	To understand and abide by university and residence hall policies and procedures necessary for community living;
The right to clean living space;	To be open and responsive to reasonable requests of community members;
The right to sleep during the night undisturbed;	To be open, responsive, and cooperative with residence hall staff members.
The right to privacy;	
The right to study in one's room free of noise and distractions;	
The right to have one's belongings respected by others;	
The right to be listened to and to be heard.	

When planning for and completing this agreement, consider each question carefully and avoid vague or general responses. Honest and open communication between roommates about expectations of one another is the best way to maintain positive roommate relationships. Please discuss the issues listed below and document your thoughts and comments in the space provided. The Resident Assistant (RA) on your floor/in your building can be a valuable resource if you have questions about any of these of issues.

Once you have had the opportunity to consider the questions in this agreement, your Resident Assistant will meet with you and your roommate(s) to discuss and complete this document together. The completed document will then be kept on file in the Residence Life Office for your area. Each roommate will also be e-mailed a copy of the agreement so they may have a record of the completed document.

In the event that you and your roommate experience any conflict or disagreement as the year progresses, we encourage you to refer to your responses as a place to begin further discussion. If you need additional support or someone to mediate the discussion, your RA can serve in this role. The Resident Director/Assistant Resident Director of your building can also help mediate roommate concerns.