

## **Residential Life Housing Policy**

Questions about this policy may be directed to Dr. John Jobson, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residential Life and Housing or Dee Campanella, Associate Director of Residential Life and Housing, 395-7800

*All degree-seeking students at Hope College will live in college-owned housing unless granted annual permission to live off-campus or to commute daily from their parent's home.*

The Hope College vision statement includes a commitment to the residential nature of the college experience. All students live on-campus for three academic years. The College understands the need for independence in preparation for life after graduation and, therefore, has created living opportunities in cottages and downtown apartments, as well as allowing senior students to live off-campus. Degree-seeking students are those students who are pursuing an academic degree from Hope College. Students who are part-time status may request on-campus housing.

Degree-seeking students who are married will be exempt from this requirement provided they follow the application procedure. Proof of marriage will be required. Exceptions to the Housing Policy may be granted to students who have earned 75 credits by January 31 prior to the academic year for which the exception is sought or those students who will be 23 years of age or older at the start of the academic year for which the exception is sought. (Note: The College reserves the right to alter the minimum number of credits required for the exception; changes will be publicized in a timely manner.) Exceptions also may be granted for extreme medical or psychological reasons. Documentation from qualified medical and/or mental health professionals will be required.

## **Hostile Living Environment Response Policy**

Questions about this policy may be directed to Dr. John Jobson, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residential Life and Housing or Dee Campanella, Associate Director of Residential Life and Housing, 395-7800

This policy is intended to be utilized in situations where a hostile environment has been created within the assigned college housing. A "hostile environment" is defined as a situation in which one or more individuals in a living unit intentionally creates tension between roommates, making the residential environment unlivable for personal, academic and/or psychological reasons.

When a hostile environment occurs, the Residential Life staff will respond taking the following appropriate actions:

- A. A Residential Life staff member will meet with the student or students causing the disruption. Expectations of appropriate roommate behaviors will be stated and discussed at that time.
- B. Mediation of conflicts will be initiated by the Residential Life staff.
- C. Roommate contracts, which should have been completed in the beginning of the semester, will be revised to address issues of concern.

If the behaviors which have caused the hostile environment continue, Residential Life staff have the option to move the student or group of students causing the disruption to another room assignment and/or charging that student or group of students for the cost of the open space(s).

The policy also is applicable to situations in which a student or group of students intentionally discouraging a potential roommate from moving into the available space(s) in the housing assignment.