

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY  
**SOCIAL CONTRACT**  
2009-2010

We, the residents of The College of New Jersey, in order to form a community of learners, have developed this contract to guide us through the experiences we may encounter living on campus. This contract was created by the residents, for the residents, to ensure an environment that is safe, comfortable, and enjoyable for all its members. Membership in our community requires each individual's commitment, consideration, and cooperation to achieve our goals. By joining our residential community, we will work together to create an environment which supports our academic endeavors and allows us to establish close friendships, good times, and support others in times of need. My signature on this contract represents my willingness to join other members of the residence community in fulfilling this vision.

A true community strives for overall harmony while respecting the individual needs of all its members. I will make responsible choices and consider the effects my behavior has on others, before acting. I will also use good judgment and will not jeopardize my safety or that of any other member of our community. I understand that I will be held accountable for my behavior in residence.

Because The College is a place to understand and appreciate diversity, I will not discriminate against individuals because of our differences. I understand that physical and verbal abuse of any one individual or group will not be tolerated. Furthermore, any behavior deemed a threat to myself or others may result in my being removed from the residence community.

I understand that all people do not function on the same time schedule and that everyone studies and sleeps at different times throughout the day. I will consider other people's needs at all times and adjust my noise level to allow them the ability to sleep and study. To demonstrate my respect for other's rights, I will immediately respond to a request to be quiet.

Realizing that the common areas (bathrooms, stairwells, elevators, hallways, lobby, laundry rooms, lounges, kitchens, etc.) are for the use of all, I will clean up after myself and leave the area in the condition I found it.

The roommate, suitemate, floor common area, and house contracts are tools designed to help establish each individual's responsibility to the people with whom they live. I will take the contract seriously by participating in an open, honest discussion that outlines the agreed upon standards for our living arrangement. Our agreements will be thoroughly documented on the appropriate contract. As situations change, I understand these contracts can be re-negotiated at any time and as often as needed.

My room is my domain and should not be used by others without my permission and that of my roommate(s). I understand that I will be held accountable for any activities happening in my room, or the common areas of my suite or townhouse, whether my roommate(s)/suitemates/ housemates and I are present at the time or not.

When I invite guests into our community, I will be responsible for their actions and be held accountable should my guests violate this contract and/or any college policies. To honor my roommate(s) equal right to our living space, I will secure their written permission prior to inviting my guest to stay overnight in our room. I will not invite my guest to stay more than three consecutive nights.

As a member of the residence community I am aware of and understand my responsibility to abide by and adhere to all policies outlined in *A Guide to Residence Living* and the *Student Handbook*. When I am unclear, I will seek clarification from a staff member responsible for enforcing these policies. If I still do not understand or disagree with a policy, I will bring it to the attention of the Residence Hall Association.

The Residence Education Staff is here to assist with our safety and to benefit our community. The staff is required to enforce all Federal and State laws and all college policies. I agree to fully cooperate with the staff at all times when they are performing their duties. I understand that if I am found violating any of the terms previously mentioned, my actions will be documented and I will be held accountable. As a member of the residential community, I will be afforded fair treatment through the due process outlined in *A Guide To Residence Living*.