

# **Housing & Dining Services Agreement 2025-2026**

This Housing License and Dining Services Agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into by and between The Catholic University of America ("University") and the undersigned student (the "Student") (together, the "Parties"). The University and the Student mutually agree as follows:

## I. DEFINITION OF AGREEMENT

The Parties agree that this Agreement is a license and shall not be construed as a lease or otherwise interpreted or applied to create or transfer any interest in or lien on real estate. Policies and information on the Office of Housing Services ("HS") website are integral elements to this Agreement and are incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement. Such policies and information may be revised periodically; the most current version will always be available on the HS website. It is the Student's responsibility to become familiar and comply with all provisions of this Agreement. Submission of this Agreement and/or housing application materials does not guarantee a housing assignment.

#### II. TERM

The term of this Agreement begins on August 24, 2025, or a specifically arranged date that is approved by HS, whichever is earlier. This Agreement will terminate automatically twenty-four (24) hours after the Student's completion of his/her spring 2026 semester course requirements or May 10, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. noon, whichever is earlier. Notwithstanding the foregoing, spring graduating undergraduate Students may remain in the premises until the day of their spring graduation exercises.

## **III. PAYMENTS**

The Student agrees to make full and prompt payment to the University for all charges and costs under this Agreement, including but not limited to, occupancy charges, dining services charges, and damage assessments ("Charges"). Students will be charged for all Charges under this Agreement through their student accounts. Occupancy charges will be based on the room type with no additional charge or credit assessed due to size variations between rooms classified as the same room type. Residence hall room types and rates as well as dining plan information is available on the Enrollment Services website.

Failure by the Student to pay for any Charges does not automatically cancel or terminate this Agreement or negate the Student's obligations hereunder, but such failure, if not cured, is a material breach of this Agreement and grounds for termination of this Agreement by the University, in the University's sole discretion.

Prior to the submission of this Agreement, newly admitted Students agree to pay a \$500 <u>nonrefundable deposit</u> to the Office of Admission. No housing assignment will be made until the enrollment deposit is received by the University.

## IV. HOUSING TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## A. Student Responsibilities

The Student agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of this Agreement as well as the <u>Code of Student Conduct</u> and the policies of the University, which are incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement. The Student may be required to live in on-campus housing, as governed by the <u>Student Housing Policy</u>.

## **B.** Occupancy

The University shall provide the Student an assigned space in a residence hall or other facility that the University may now or hereafter own, lease, or otherwise arrange to make available for student housing ("Premises") in accordance with this Agreement. The University shall also provide standard furnishings and equipment in the Premises.

Submitting this Agreement after the established deadlines on the <u>Housing Services website</u> could result in placement on a waitlist for housing and provision of an assignment subject to availability.

The Student may occupy the Premises in accordance with the following dates:

- 1. Fall semester 2025: The Student may move in to the Premises on August 24, 2025, unless HS grants prior written approval for the student to move in earlier. The Student must vacate the Premises twenty-four (24) hours after the Student's completion of his/her course requirements, but no later than 12:00 noon on December 14, 2025.
- Vacation periods: Unless previously approved by HS in writing, students must vacate residence halls between the end of the fall semester and the
  beginning of the spring semester. All residence halls will be closed during this period other than to students with written approval from HS to
  remain.
- 3. Spring semester 2026: The Student may move in to the Premises on January 10, 2026, unless HS grants prior written approval for the Student to move in earlier. Unless the Student is graduating, the Student must move out of the Premises within twenty-four (24) hours after the Student's completion of his/her course requirements, but no later than 12:00 noon on May 10, 2026. Notwithstanding the foregoing, spring graduating undergraduate students may remain in the Premises until the day of their spring graduation exercises.

If the Student occupies the Premises without approval after the dates indicated in this Section, the Student will be liable to the University for an additional fee plus penalties, as determined by the University. Occupying the Premises includes, but is not limited to, physically dwelling in the space, retaining keys to the space, and/or maintaining belongings in the space.

The University reserves the right to temporarily relocate or remove an individual from the Premises for violations of this Agreement pending an investigation and hearing when, in its sole discretion, the University deems it appropriate to do so.

# D. Assignments

- 1. The University reserves the right in its discretion to make room assignments, to authorize or deny room and roommate requests or changes, or to require the Student to move from one Premises to another. The University also reserves the right in its discretion to assign the Student to temporary space.
- 2. The Student may only occupy the Premises assigned to the Student by the University. The right to occupy the Premises may not be assigned or transferred by the Student.
- 3. If a vacancy in the Student's Premises arises, the Student is obligated to accept a roommate(s) assigned by HS. Any attempt to discourage another student from moving into a vacancy in the Student's Premises may result in the Student's reassignment to another room, suite, or apartment and/or further disciplinary action with the Office of Student Conduct & Ethical Development.
- 4. The Student gives consent for the University to share his/her first name, last name, room assignment, and University email address with other students for purposes of facilitating room change requests and communication efforts with potential roommates.
- 5. If the Student has a diagnosed disability or condition and wishes to request reasonable housing accommodations for a specific type of room or assignment, the Student must initiate a Housing Accommodation Request through the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) for consideration by the established deadlines.

#### E. Late Arrivals

Failure to occupy the Premises by 5 p.m. on the Student's first day of classes could result in assignment of the room to another student, unless advance permission for an extension is granted in writing by the Assistant Vice President of Campus Services or his/her designee ("AVPCS"). For additional information, see the <u>Cancellation of Housing policy</u> on the HS website.

## F. Room Condition

The Student is responsible for daily care and cleaning to maintain the Premises and any common areas in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition. Upon expiration, termination, or cancellation of this Agreement, the Student must leave the Premises, its furnishings, and its equipment in as good an order and condition as the same were upon commencement of the Student's occupancy, ordinary wear and tear excepted. For additional requirements and more information, see the <u>Safety Responsibilities and Room Condition policy</u> on the HS website.

## **G.** Damages

The Student agrees to make no alterations to the Premises. Any damages to the Premises, its furnishing, and its equipment caused by the Student or the Student's guest(s) will be repaired or replaced by the University at the expense of the Student, ordinary wear and tear excepted. If the Premises is assigned to more than one student, each shall be responsible for his/her own payments; but all shall be responsible jointly and severally for the cost of such damages, beyond reasonable wear and tear. Damages to common areas may be charged to all students in that area. For additional requirements and more information, see the <u>Damage Charges and Room Condition policy</u> on the HS website.

# **H. Personal Property**

Personal property left in the Premises following the termination of occupancy will be deemed <u>abandoned</u>. If the Student leaves personal property in the Premises at the termination of occupancy, the Student will be charged for the removal of such property.

The University does not insure the Student's personal property. The University disclaims all liability and shall have no responsibility for any theft, damage, destruction, loss, etc., of any personal property in or taken from a residence hall, including, but not limited to, money, valuables, equipment or any personal property whatsoever belonging to or in the custody of the Student, whether caused by an intentional or negligent act, failure to act, natural causes, fire or other casualty. The University encourages the Student to obtain Renters Insurance policy or have their parent's/guardian's homeowner's insurance policy extended to include his or her personal property in the University's Residence Hall. More information can be found on the <u>HS website</u>.

# I. Housing Cancellation

The Student may request cancellation of housing in accordance with the <u>Cancellation of Housing policy</u>. If approved to cancel, the Student must vacate the Premises by the check-out date designated by Housing Services. The Student may be assessed a Housing Cancellation Fee.

## J. Appeal of an HS Decision

The Student may appeal any HS decision within three (3) business days following the date of the final decision by filing a written appeal, including all supporting documentation, with the AVPCS or his/her designee. The AVPCS or his/her designee will issue a final decision based on the appeal and supporting documentation. The Student forfeits any right to appeal if it is not properly and timely filed.

## K. Refunds

Any refund of Charges under this Agreement will be processed in accordance with the <u>Refund of Student Charges Policy</u>. Approved refunds are based on the date that the Student is approved for cancellation.

## I IItilities

The University is not liable for the failure or interruption of any utility, or for conditions resulting from their failure or interruption.

## M. Air Quality

The Student is required and agrees to comply with all instructions, and to take reasonable steps, to maintain appropriate air quality in the Premises. The Student must immediately report any situation which does or may reduce air quality, including the presence of suspected mold/mildew, improper functioning of air quality equipment such as the heater, air conditioner or dehumidifier, or any water leakage or overflow in the Premises by <u>submitting a maintenance request</u> to the <u>Facilities Maintenance and Operations</u> office or call (202) 319-5121.

# **N. Housing Termination**

The Student's violation of any term or condition of this Agreement constitutes a material breach and is grounds for termination of the Agreement, in the University's sole discretion. The Agreement may be automatically terminated if the Student no longer meets the terms of eligibility as detailed in the <u>Student Housing Eligibility Policy</u>.

Upon termination of the Agreement, the Student is required to vacate the Premises immediately or on such other date designated by Housing Services. The University reserves the right to take appropriate measures to remove the Student and the Student's personal property, at the Student's expense, upon failure or refusal to vacate the Premises after termination of the Agreement. The Student has no right to a refund and may be assessed a \$500 Housing Termination Fee. The University shall also charge the Student a *pro rata* charge and penalty fees for each day or partial day the Student continues to occupy the Premises after such termination.

## V. DINING SERVICES TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## A. Dining Services

If the Student is a residential freshman or sophomore, based on enrollment date, the Student must participate in the Open Access dining plan. If the Student is a residential junior, based on enrollment date, the Student must participate in the Weekly 14 or Open Access dining plan, and will be assigned to the Weekly 14 plan if a plan is not selected. Participation in the dining plan requirement is independent of the Student's room assignment.

All other residential students may choose from any of the dining plans offered by Dining Services, which can be found on the Dining Services website. Please note that the specific dining plans are subject to change, and the most current plans will be available on the Dining Services website.

Unless changed or canceled pursuant to the provisions below, the dining plan in which the Student is enrolled for the fall semester will also be the dining plan the Student is assigned and billed for the spring semester. In the case of Community plans, unused meal swipes will carry over from the fall to the spring semester. Dining Dollars will carry over from the fall to spring semester if (and only if) the Student enrolls in a meal plan for the spring semester prior to the cancellation deadline as described in C. below. Dining plans begin with the dinner meal on August 23, 2025 and terminate with the brunch meal on May 9, 2026. Dining plans are not in effect during the Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and Spring break periods.

If the Student has a diagnosed disability or condition that impacts his/her full participation in the dining plan program, the Student must initiate a Dining Accommodation Request through the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) for special consideration. Depending on the nature of the request, DSS may refer the student to the Dining Services management team and/or university staff that oversees dining services. The Dining Services team is available to help students who may benefit from support from culinary and nutritional professionals to navigate needs not addressed via a DSS accommodation. Chartwells, our Dining Services provider, takes all reasonable steps to meet needs related to food allergies and dietary restrictions. If it is determined that the Dining Services offerings do not reasonably meet the Student's dietary needs, a modification to the meal plan requirement or to the provided meal service may be granted as a reasonable accommodation.

The University reserves the right to suspend the Student's dining plan and privileges at the discretion of the University.

# **B. Dining Plan Changes**

All dining plan changes must be completed by close of business on the last day of the first week of classes of each semester (August 29, 2025, for the Fall Semester and January 16, 2026, for the Spring Semester). Dining plans can be changed in MyHousing via <u>Cardinal Students</u>.

## C. Cancellation of Dining Services

Residential students required to participate in a dining plan may cancel the dining plan only if their housing is canceled or terminated. All other students (residential or non-residential) may request cancellation of their dining plan by close of business on the last day of the first week of classes each semester (August 29, 2025, for the Fall Semester and January 16, 2026, for the Spring Semester) in MyHousing via Cardinal Students. After such dates, the Student may cancel the dining plan only if he/she officially withdraws or takes an academic leave from the University. All refunds are processed according to the University's Refund of Student Charges Policy. Any change or cancellation approved for the Student's fall semester dining plan will be automatically applied to the spring semester.

# D. Appeal of a Dining Services Decision

The Student may appeal any Dining Services decision within three (3) business days following the date of the decision by filing a written appeal, including all supporting documentation, with the Assistant Vice President of University Events and Dining Services. The Assistant Vice President of University Events and Dining Services will issue a final decision based on the appeal and supporting documentation. The Student forfeits any right to appeal if it is not properly and timely filed.

# **VI. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

## A. Termination of Agreement

This Agreement or any part thereof may be terminated, without penalty or liability, at the discretion of the University.

# **B. Indemnification and Hold Harmless**

The Student agrees to indemnify and hold the University harmless from any and all claims arising from the Student's violation of this Agreement or any improper or illegal act of the Student or the Student's guest.

## C. Severability

In the event any provision of this Agreement is, for any reason, held invalid or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision in this Agreement, and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid or unenforceable provision had not been included.

## D. Entire Agreement

This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement and understanding between the Parties with respect to the subject matter contained in this

Agreement.

## E. Modification

Only the Vice President who oversees Housing Services has the authority to modify any term or condition of this Agreement, and such modification must be done in a signed written instrument.

#### F. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia. Any dispute arising under or in connection with this Agreement will be brought solely in the District of Columbia.

## **G.** Headings

The Headings in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not affect its interpretation.

## H. Assignment and Delegation

Timothy Carney

The Student's obligations under this Agreement may not be assigned or delegated without prior written consent of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

# I. Signature

By electronically signing and submitting this Agreement, the Student voluntarily agrees to and is bound by the terms and conditions in this Agreement. By signing this Agreement, the Student represents that the Student is at least 18 years of age. If the Student is not at least 18 years of age, then the parent/guardian of the Student must also sign the Agreement. The authentication procedures for the University's web application serve as an electronic signature for Students, parents and guardians. Submitting this Agreement electronically, and then being provided a housing assignment by the University, enters the Student (and/or parent and guardian) into a legally binding contract with the University and obligates the Student (and/or parent and guardian) to pay all Charges for the full term of the Agreement.

**Timothy Carney** 

Assistant Vice President of Campus Services