










Tufts University Fire Safety GUIDE for Off-Campus Residence Selection













	Category						
1	Smoke detection	NONE 	Battery operated ✓?	Hard wired ✓✓	Hard wired & interconnected ★	Local fire alarm control panel ★★★	Fire Alarm panel monitored 24 / 7 ★★★
2	Carbon Monoxide detection	NONE 	Battery operated ✓?	Hard wired ✓✓	Hard wired & interconnected ★	Local fire alarm control panel ★★★	Fire Alarm panel monitored 24 / 7 ★★★
3	Fire Sprinkler	NONE 			Hallways only ✓✓		Apartments and hallways sprinkled ★★★
4	Means of Egress	Basement apartment / one egress path 	Attic apartment w/ one stairway 	One egress path; and one means of escape via accessible window ✓?		Apartment is <u>above</u> ground level; but has 2 clear stairways to exit ★	Apartment is <u>ground level</u> w/ two or more clear egress paths ★★★
5	Hallways / egress pathways	Storage, combustible items in hallway 	Storage, bicycles, etc...creates difficult passage 			Minor storage, pathway maintained for easy passage. ✓?	Clean; no storage allowed. Enforced by policy ★★★
6	Interior hallways & stairways wall coverings	No policy / or no enforcement 	Many papers or other combustible wall coverings 	Wood paneling – not fire-resistant		<u>Wood</u> paneling – <u>with</u> fire-resistant treatment ★	Walls are <u>plaster</u> ; good condition, little or no combustible coverings ★★★


 = minimal protection
Needs further inquiry.

 = Better level of protection


 (stars) = BEST protection levels 1/2/3 stars

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7	Windows Of sufficient size for an adult to climb through	No windows for apartment 	No window for bedroom 	Properly sized window is present...but difficult to open ✓?		The apartment has a properly sized and easily opened window 	<u>Each bedroom</u> has properly sized and easily opened window 
8	Portable Escape Ladder (chain, etc)	Needed; but not present 			Needed, device present, good condition ✓?		Not needed due to sufficient egress 
9	Fire Escape	Needed, but not present 		Appears in need of maintenance 		Appears good, but not inspected in past year ✓?	Inspected & proper OR <u>not needed</u> 
10	Window Access for ladder rescue	Exterior access to any window with ladder is <u>NOT possible</u> due to obstructions 			Exterior access to my windows with a ladder is difficult due when ground is snow covered.	Exterior access to <u>some of my windows</u> with ladder Is maintained <u>always</u> ✓?	Exterior ladder access to <u>each</u> of my rooms is maintained always. 
11	EXIT signs	NONE			Non-illuminated signs ✓?		Lighted properly 
12	Electrical	Not enough outlets & common blown circuits 	Common electrical disruptions 	Not enough outlets 		Fuse box & sufficient outlets. 	100 amp (min) Circuit breakers, sufficient outlets 


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13	Heating	Space heaters policy not enforced 	Space heaters with open coil allowed 		Oil filled space heaters allowed by policy – enforced ✓?		Sufficient heat / professionally installed 
14	Emergency Power / Lighting	NONE	Flashlights ✓?	Battery units 		Automatic backup generator for fire alarm and hallway lighting 	Automatic backup generator for whole building 
15	Fire Extinguishers	NONE 			Laundry room only ✓?	Hallways ✓✓	In each apartment 
16	BBQ grilling	Allowed on porch, etc... 		Allowed; but movable on ground ✓?			Allowed in fixed location 10' or more from building 
17	Cooking	Dirty appliance & no exhaust fan 	Dirty appliance w/ filtered hood ✓?	Clean appliances w/ filtered hood 			Clean appliances and functioning exhaust fan piped outdoors 
18	Smoking	No policy or no enforcement of policy 	Frequent violations of policy 	Smoking takes place outdoors - near entrance door ✓?		No smoking in or within 10' of building and is enforced 	Building is 100% non-smoker & enforced 

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19	Porches / decks	<p style="color: red;">Upholstered furniture allowed / smoking allowed</p> 		NO upholstered furniture allowed / but smoking IS allowed	<p>Upholstered furniture present, but smoking is NOT allowed</p> <p style="color: green;">✓?</p>		<p>Non upholstered furniture only / and smoking NOT allowed</p> 
20	General upkeep	<p style="color: red;">Building is always littered / messy in common areas...and is generally known as a "party house".</p> 	<p style="color: red;">Building is frequently littered / messy in common areas.</p> 	<p>Building is kept orderly. <u>Frequent</u> alcohol use by occupants creates concern.</p>	<p>Building is generally kept orderly. <u>Occasional parties /</u> alcohol use by occupants.</p> <p style="color: green;">✓?</p>	<p>Building is kept orderly usually. Fire safety efforts generally apparent.</p> 	<p>Building is kept orderly <u>always</u>. Fire safety is taken seriously.</p> 



Noted conditions should be carefully considered. If at all possible, deficient items should be improved prior to occupancy.



STRONGLY recommended that NO rental agreement should be signed unless conditions are improved.



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