

RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION & HOUSING

Accepted Students Day Virtual Brochure

First Year Housing Options

The Residential Experience

Contact housing@tcnj.edu for any additional questions!

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FIRST YEAR HOUSING REQUIREMENT

The College of New Jersey has a housing policy that promotes a vibrant on-campus experience for all first-year students.

Incoming first-year students who are **unable to live on campus** may make this request by completing a **housing exemption request**. These requests are subject to approval from the Department of Residential Education and Housing.

Housing Exemption Process

While the following students are eligible for exemptions with a submitted request, many students who fall into these categories choose to live on campus and would be welcomed to live on campus:

- Pathways Students
- Students who have dependents or are married
- Students 21 years of age or older
- Students who reside with parents or legal guardian within a 10 mile radius
- Students who have lived on campus for two full semesters at another college or university
- Students who identify as veteran status with at least 6 months of active duty status
- Students experiencing financial hardship that would impact their ability to live on campus
- Students who identify as having a medical need that on-campus housing cannot accommodate.

TCNJ REQUIRES FIRST YEAR STUDENTS TO LIVE ON CAMPUS, HERE'S WHY

1

Higher quality social interactions than commuters

Easier to meet new people & create friendships

2

Easier access to campus events & programs

Get involved with student organizations for outside classroom experience

3

On campus seniors were more *engaged* with advisors & faculty than off-campus peers.

4

High quality interactions between students & peers or students & faculty

linked with

BETTER

Academic engagement & success



Easily form study groups to support academic success & peer socialization

FIRST YEAR COMMUNITIES

Lakeside

The Lakeside complex, consisting of **ABE** (Allen, Brewster, Ely), **Norsworthy**, and **Centennial** Halls, is situated along the campus loop with a view of Lake Sylva.

ABE is also home to GIH (the Gender Inclusive Housing) and Umoja, the Multicultural Housing Community.

These halls are the nearest to the Library and Atrium at Eickhoff.

Learn more on pages 7-9.

Cromwell

Cromwell offers suite-style living to first year residents. A specialty of this residence hall is that each suite shares a bathroom.

Learn more on page 10.

Towers

Travers and **Wolfe** Halls are two interconnected, ten story halls that offer a dining facility.

With one of the most popular communal spaces, residents are at the hub of various programs and events.

Learn more on page 11.

TAKE A TOUR

Accepted Students Day:

Campus tours of **all** first year residence halls available!

Miss a tour?

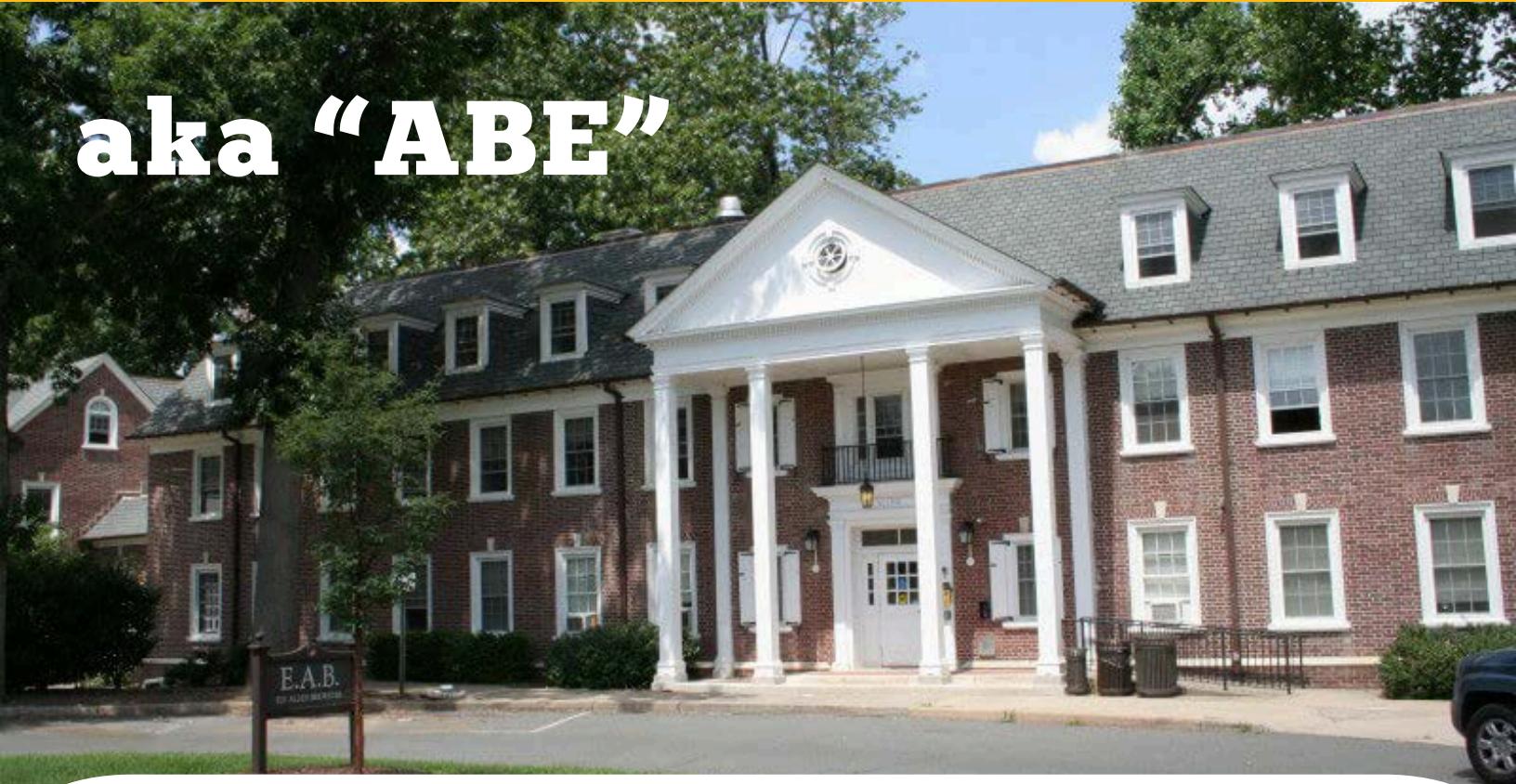
Virtual tours of first year residence halls available on individual **building profiles**.



ALLEN, BREWSTER, ELY

Traditional co-ed housing

aka "ABE"



[click here for all ABE virtual tours](#)

Double
Room
type 1

Double
Room
type 2

Double
Room
type 3

Single
Room

Allen
Drawing
Room

click to view individual tours 

This residence offers standard **double** and **single rooms** with a **communal bathroom**, accommodating around 150 students. Built in 1931, it features three lounges, one of which includes a baby grand piano and pool table.

Each room boasts a unique layout and the residence is conveniently located near the Library and Eickhoff Atrium.

CENTENNIAL

Single sex by wing, communal housing

aka “Cent”



click here for all Cent virtual tours

Double Room

Study Lounge

Main Lounge

click to view individual tours ↪

This residence offers standard **double** and **single rooms** with **communal bathrooms**, accommodating 214 students. Built in 1955 and renovated in 2012, it features three lounges: a study lounge, social lounge, and air-conditioned game room equipped with a pool table and piano.

Known for its spacious rooms, it is conveniently located near the Library and School of Education.

NORSWORTHY

Traditional co-ed housing



aka "Nors"

[click here for all Nors virtual tours](#)

Double Room

Community
Lounge

Main Lounge

click to view individual tours 

This air-conditioned residence offers standard **double** and **single rooms** with a **communal bathroom**, accommodating 166 students. Originally built in 1932 and renovated in 2014-2015, it features a main lounge and game room equipped with a kitchen and ping pong table.

Each room features a distinct layout, and the residence enjoys a convenient proximity to the Library and the Atrium at Eickhoff.

CROMWELL

Suite-style housing



aka "Crom"

[click here for all Crom virtual tours](#)

6-person suite

Main Lounge

click to view individual tours 

This residence offers standard **double rooms** with a **suite-style bathroom**, accommodating 278 students. Renovated in 2012-2013, there are common area lounges located on the first floor and laundry rooms are located on even floors.

The first floor features the hall office, mailboxes for residents, a kitchen, and a large lounge big enough to hold events up to 200 people.

TRAVERS & WOLFE

Suite-style housing

aka “Towers”



[click here for Towers virtual tours](#)

[Double room](#)

[Main Lounge](#)

[click to view individual tours](#)

This residence offers standard **doubles** and **single rooms**, all featuring communal bathrooms. Built in 1971, each tower can house up to 500 students, fostering a vibrant community atmosphere.

There's a main lounge boasting floor-to-ceiling windows and air-conditioning, lounges on every floor, and laundry rooms conveniently located every other floor.

The ground floor hosts late-night, a/c dining at **T-Dubbs**.

TRANSFER HOUSING

Integrated within your cohort

At the College, we follow a cohort-based model for housing. Students are classified into cohorts, with each cohort living within certain residence halls.

Sophomore:

First time, first year students who entered the College in Fall 2024 or Spring 2025, or transfer students who have fewer than 16 units by the close of the Spring 2024 semester.

Click to view virtual room tours in each residence hall

- Eickhoff
- New Residence
- Decker
- Townhouse East

Upperclassmen:

- First time, first year students who entered the College before Fall 2024.
- Transfer students who have 16 units or more by the close of the Spring 2024 semester.
- Transfer students entering the College with an Associate's Degree.

Click to view virtual room tours in each residence hall

- Townhouse South and West
- Hausdoerffer and Phelps

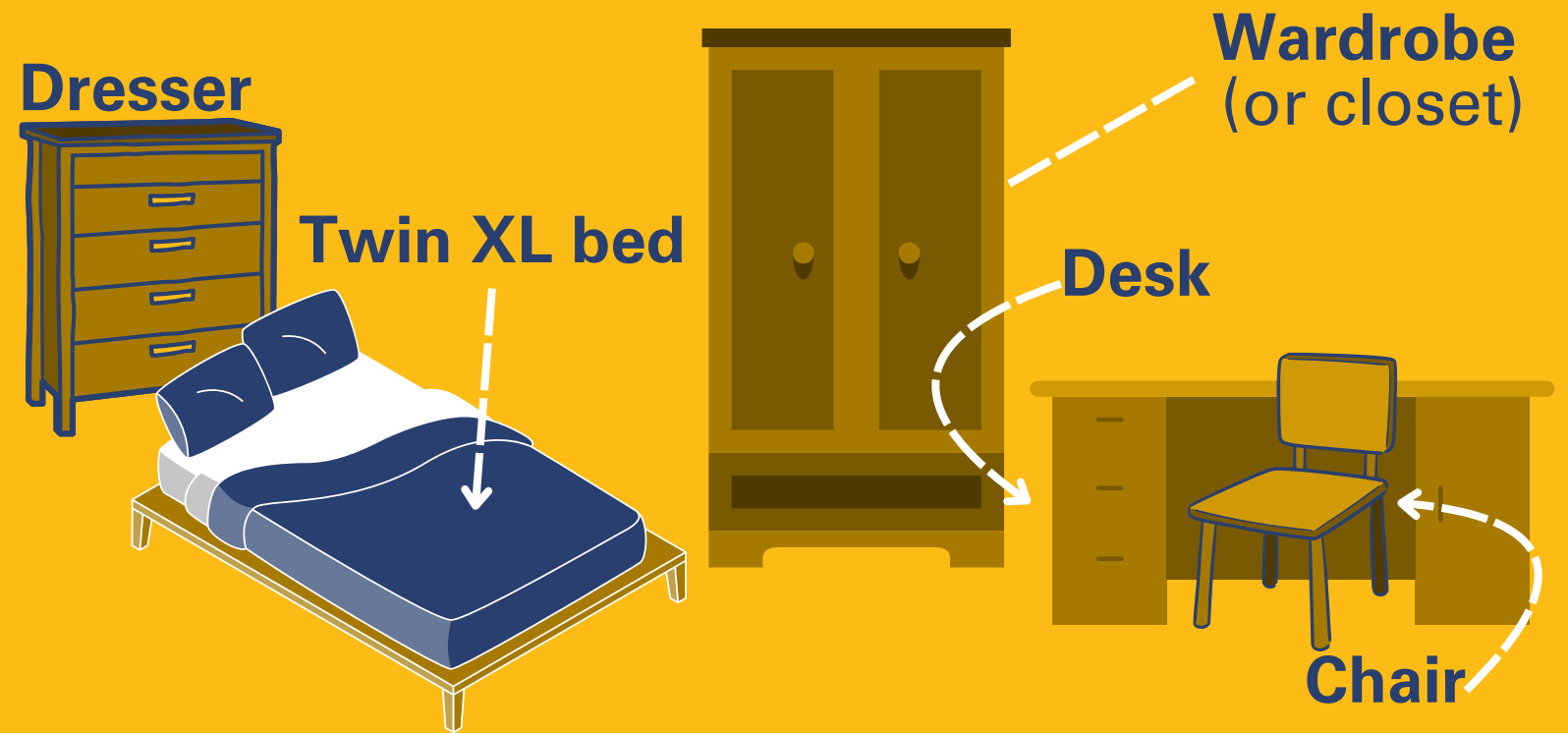
Housing for transfers is processed on a rolling basis; interested students are encouraged to apply for housing once their TCNJ credentials are live. When students are able to access TCNJ systems with their login, they can apply with these steps:

1. Log into **MyHousing** with your TCNJ email.
2. Click on the application for the upcoming academic year.
3. Fill out the personal profile, emergency contacts and additional information pages.

For any questions regarding your application, email [**housing@tcnj.edu**](mailto:housing@tcnj.edu).

HOUSING AMENITIES

In your room



THINGS TO *CONSIDER*

1

First years and sophomores are guaranteed housing *as long as they apply by the deadline.*

2

Our office has been able to house **all transfer and upperclassmen** students who requested housing.

3

Dates for New Students

May 1: Deposit deadline

May 5: Applications **live** for 2025-2026!

June 19: Timeslots allotted

June 24-July 6:

- First year students will be allotted timeslots to select into their own rooms. They will have the ability to create roommate groups, if so desired.

July 24-August 20: Drop & Go appointments are live on MyHousing.

August 15-20: Drop & Go

August 21: New student move in for Welcome Week.

4

For a general idea of what is and is not permitted in the residence halls, please refer to the [Guide to Residence Living](#).

5

Room Rates

Rates are determined by the **Board of Trustees** in **July 2025**, finalized room and meal plan dates will be available then.

As of Fall 2024:

- Doubles will have a discounted rate and single occupancy rooms will be more expensive. This will allow students agency around financial planning.
 - *We anticipate a \$500 per semester rate difference between singles and doubles.*

6

Meal Plans

All residential students are required to have a meal plan. They are eligible to select from a Meals per Week plan.

Components of a Meals per Week plan:

- **Weekly** swipes into the Atrium at Eickhoff (10, 15, 19)
- **Semester** deposit of flex points to other eateries on-campus
 - Meal plans with more swipes are balanced with less points.
 - *Points can be used at the Atrium, Student Center, Traditions, Fresh Pride, C Store, Ed Cafe, STEM Cafe, Lib Cafe, and T-Dubbs.*
- **Weekly** meal equiv swipes (Monday - Friday)
- 2 guest swipes

All plans come with a minimum of \$100 in Campus Town dollars, per semester, that can be used at participating locations.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS

Residential Education and Housing works in conjunction with the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC) to accommodate students with documented disabilities.

Do I need accommodations?

Accommodations may be needed across multiple college functional areas: academic, classroom, housing, parking, dining, etc.

With limited single rooms and air-conditioned spaces for first year students, we encourage students with a medical need to affiliate with ARC. For more information regarding their services, you can [refer here](#).

Dates for New Students



New incoming first year students can begin registering through ARC *after* May 1, 2025.



Deadline for students affiliating with ARC to qualify for early placement housing accommodations.



Staff process ARC Housing Accommodations request and send notification to students.

SPECIAL INTEREST HOUSING

Residential Education and Housing provides various living communities that students can choose to be a part of. Each community has a separate application process, in addition to the Housing Application students complete.

Gender Inclusive Housing

GIH is an accommodating and welcoming environment for all students, regardless of gender identity/expression.

Students will be housed in double rooms (with students of any gender identity or assigned sex) and will have access to gender neutral communal bathrooms.

Learn more about GIH here.

Umoja

Umoja (Swahili for 'Unity') invites any first year student interested in exploring the experiences of Black Indigenous Persons of Color at a predominantly white institution.

Providing an opportunity for students to explore values and share knowledge.

Learn more about Umoja (Multicultural Housing Community) here.

Lion's House

Lion's House is a **substance-free residential program** for TCNJ students who identify with, and are committed to, recovery. Students that participate in the Lion's House program have the opportunity to live with other students in recovery within TCNJ's Substance Free Residence Hall.

Learn more about Recovery Housing: Lion's House here.

WHAT IS ON-CAMPUS LIFE LIKE?



Educational. Connected. Engaged.

Educational Priority

Through their residential experience, TCNJ Lions will engage in their communities as resilient citizens.

Learning Goals



Grow the Lion

Students will develop knowledge, skills, & behaviors that will allow them to grow as a whole person



Grow the Pride

Students will develop the knowledge, skills, & behaviors that will allow them to effectively engage with others.

FIRST YEAR FACE OFF

aka FYFO

First-Year Face-Off commonly known as FYFO is a longstanding tradition here at TCNJ! Throughout the academic year, the first year staff host a series of events to build community, add opportunities for engagement, promote healthy competition and teamwork, and instill a sense of Lion's Pride!

During FYFO, some staple events among the First-Year Experience Residence Halls are:

- a Talent Show
- Trivia Night
- Sip & Paint
- Mural Competition

There are many other ways to win points that help us encourage positive roommate relationships and responsible citizenship.

Residents can win points by completing their Shared Living Agreement with their suitemates/roommates. Shared Living Agreements helps us to keep residents accountable for maintaining positive living environments for anyone they share a space with.

Additionally, they can win points by scheduling and meeting with their Community Advisor (CA) to talk about how they are doing and let us know what support they need as they navigate through their first year. These in-person meetings are called One-on-Ones and they happen once every semester.

We have had a really successful Free Rita's Kick Off Event over the past two years and we are excited to bring it back!

The Kick-Off takes place on Convocation Day and all First-Year students are invited to enjoy Rita's Water Ice, play lawn games, and start earning points just for participating! We have seen great connections being built from our FYFO traditions and we appreciate the opportunity to continue this tradition with future TCNJ Lions.



First Year Face Off or FYFO

is a friendly competition between all of the first year residence halls that last throughout the academic year. It is comprised of events, community service, and an opportunity to leave your mark! Learn more about the events and ways to earn points below and on the back of this flyer!

**AUG
26**

Rita's Pawprint Palooza

FYFO's kickoff event to introduce all residents to the competition. Allow residents to engage, play and enjoy Rita's ice.

OCT

UMOJA Talent Show

UMOJA, TCNJs Multicultural Housing Community, hosts an annual talent show, now in collaboration with FYFO. Sign up to showcase your talent and win either a \$100, \$75, or \$50 gift card to Amazon!

**SPRING
2025**

Sip & Paint | Murals

Come join our Sip & Paint Event to kickoff the start of Murals...Leave your mark in your area. Enter a design to be forever painted on the walls of your hall. Each floor has the opportunity to create a mural!

**SPRING
2024**

FYFO Finale

FYFO's final event to celebrate the end of the year! Enjoy food, mocktails, games and more. We will also announce the winning murals, the OVERALL building / area winner and the winner of FREE HOUSING!

STAYING HOME WITH US

OUR GOAL is to build strong communities and help students develop skills that help them live effectively in communities. Resources and processes help students manage conflict, a natural part of living in a community.

Building Connections Through...



Intentional **one on one** conversations twice a year

- Referrals to TCNJ experiences
- Connecting peers with similar goals
- Creating brave spaces

100+ Events Across the Halls!

These events help students **connect** & feel like TCNJ is their *home away from home*.

Community Events

- Hosted by CAs
- Events meant to **build connections** among the community

Facilitated Events

- Hosted by Professional Staff
- Events meant to **build resilience**

Developing Life Skills

Formal & informal **experiences** that will allow students the opportunity to prepare for life after TCNJ.

- Setting **S.M.A.R.T. Goals** for each semester.
- Learning to navigate **challenging** situations while living independently
- Exploring various **wellness** practices.

WHO'S IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

CAs

Community Advisors

CAs are *undergraduate student employees* with more than 100 hours of training in topics like:

- community development
- cross-cultural competence
- listening skills
- campus resource referral
- conflict management
- crisis response



25:1
New student to
CA ratio

Each floor has 1-2 CAs.

- OLS *do not live on the floor*, but partner with the CAs to help create community and develop a welcoming experience for first year students.
 - They can't wait to meet you through the summer and during Welcome Week!

25:1

New student to
OL ratio



OLs

Orientation Leaders

R.D.s

Residence Directors

RDs are *full-time, live-in, professional staff members*, many with master's degrees in College Student Development or similar academic areas.

RDs maintain different responsibilities throughout the residence hall or complex:

- Oversee day to day management of their area
- Supervise the student staff
- Create educational programming that compliments students' co-curricular development and provides an *out-of-classroom* educational experience and environment.
- Provide after hours crisis support through a duty rotation

There is **1 RD** for each building or complex.



KEEPING YOU SAFE



Mobile ID



24-hour **swipe access to residence halls** via TCNJ ID, only given to students who live and staff who work in the building.



Required **guest sign in** from **8:00pm-12:00am**.

Robust duty staffing after hours

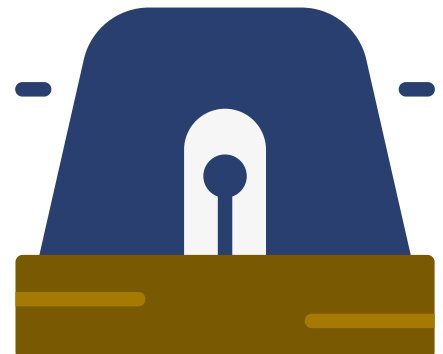
Each residence hall has a student staff member available after hours. In case of an after hours crisis, there is a professional or graduate staff member on site.



AED Machines in all buildings

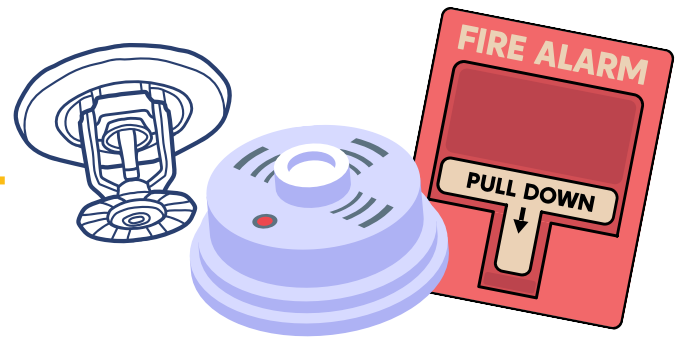


Blue Light & Emergency phones in residence halls and throughout campus.



Over **100 live-in student staff** across campus and, up to an additional, **100 hourly staff** are trained on safety and security measures. We provide refresher training and practice opportunities throughout the year.

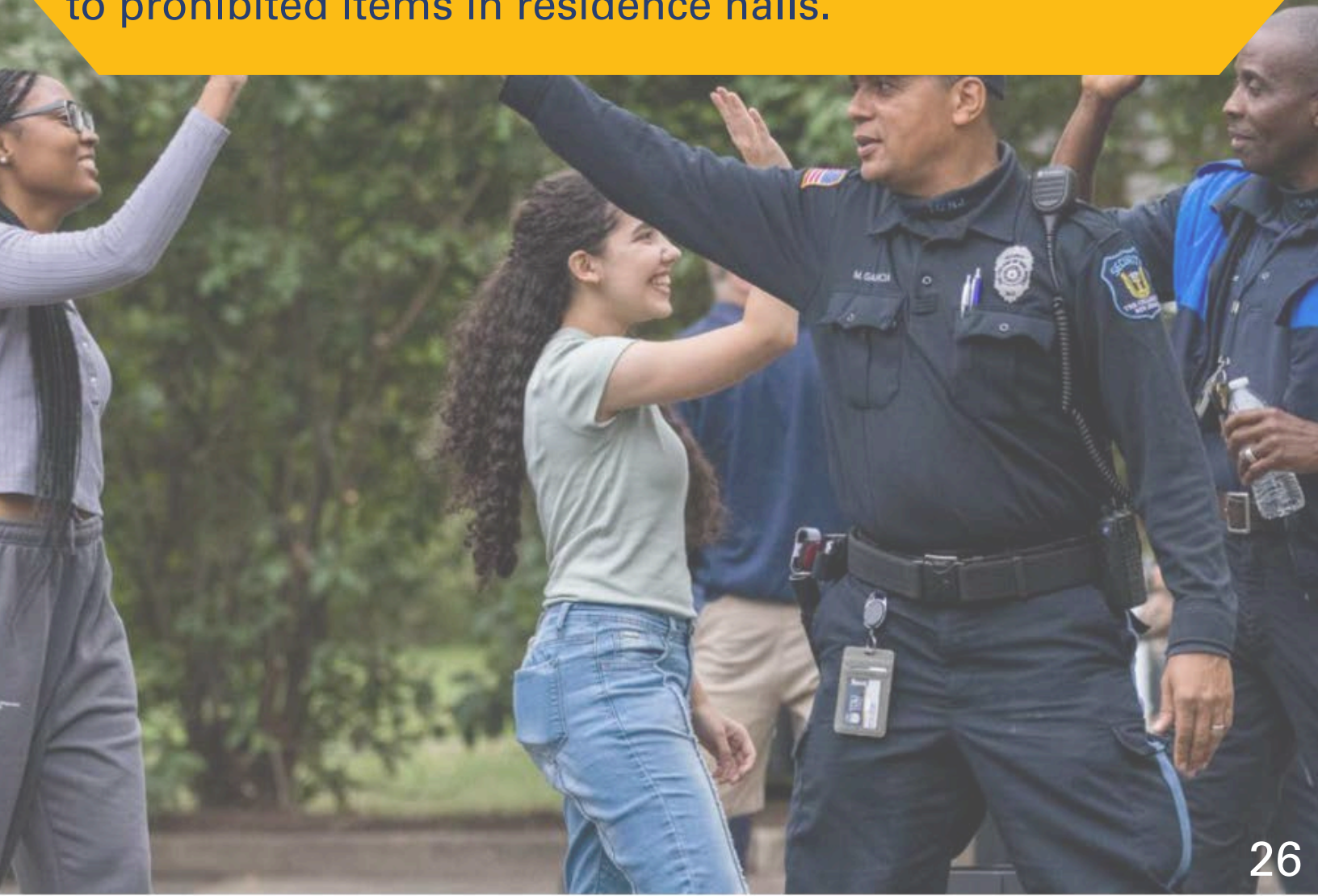
Sprinkler systems, smoke detectors, and fire alarms throughout the residence halls.



Fire drills **twice a semester** to ensure equipment works properly and residents know how to safely evacuate.

NJ State Fire Code

We follow all NJ State Fire Code, especially as it pertains to prohibited items in residence halls.



HELPING YOURSELF STAY SAFE

TCNJ employs quite a few strategies to ensure the safety and security of our residents and buildings, but the BEST safety is protective practices.

Safety requires a partnership with you, our students.

1

Lock your door

2

Don't let people "tailgate" into the building

3

Make sure your guests know policies that protect our community

4

Report suspicious activity

Know and comply with our policies. They are there to protect our community and to create a space that is both safe and enables students to be successful academically and socially.

All colleges & universities are required to provide campus crime statistics and detail safety practices. You can find TCNJ's report [here](#).

ROOMMATES

More than 95% of first year students have never shared a room before.

Living with a friend or acquaintance works for some, but is not always the solution.

Regardless of whom you live with, you may come across conflict. Learning how to navigate this conflict will help you navigate future relationships, challenges, and other conflicts in life.

When considering roommates, think about your...

Expectations related to guests (for you & your roommate)

Sleeping & studying needs

College class schedule



Approach to addressing potential problems

Communication style

Within the first couple weeks of moving in, residents will receive access to a **Shared Living Agreement**. This is a two part process:



Personal reflection

Conversation with your roommate, developing the document together, and signing it



In case of conflict with your roommate, our CAs and RDs advise students to communicate and renegotiate the Shared Living Agreement. We are ready to help either as a coach or mediator during this process.

During each semester, students can request room changes through the MyHousing Portal. If they encounter issues outside of the designated timeline or face a lack of available rooms, they should consult their RD to explore alternative solutions.

DINING

8+ different meal plans to fit a variety of circumstances & needs

10

on-campus dining locations



Dietary restrictions or allergies?

Click here on information regarding specific needs or to connect with the Dietician!

- Atrium at Eickhoff: main dining hall
- Lions Den: food court style
- Traditions: restaurant or to go
- 3 different cafes
- 1855: buffet-style restaurant
- Fresh Pride Cafe: smoothies, soup & salad to go
- Marketplace Convenience Store



RESOURCES

Click to learn more about different campus offices, programs, and protocols.

◆ Residential Education & Housing

- Umoja
- Gender Inclusive Housing
- Lion's House

◆ Clery / Campus Crime

◆ Student Transitions

◆ TCNJ Dining

◆ Join the Pride: you've been accepted...now what?

◆ Follow us on Instagram

**Stay
Home
With Us**

