

**Department of Housing and Residence Life**  
**Housing and Meal Plan Contract and Terms of Agreement**  
**2025 – 2026 Academic Year**

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(See [instructions](#) at end of document for signing and submitting)

This is an agreement between DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, hereinafter “UNIVERSITY,” and the undersigned STUDENT. The UNIVERSITY and the STUDENT both agree to enter into this agreement upon the following terms and conditions. This contract is non-transferable and the STUDENT shall not assign it or attempt to sublet the premises.

**I. TERMS OF AGREEMENT**

- A. Term of Occupancy.** The term of this agreement shall be for the ENTIRE academic year inclusive of the fall semester and the spring semester. The scheduled dates of occupancy may be subject to change.
- B. Termination**
- 1. By Student.** The STUDENT may request to terminate this agreement by submitting a [housing petition form](#) to the Department of Housing and Residence Life.
    - a)** The UNIVERSITY may, in its sole discretion, grant or deny the request and may require the STUDENT to provide appropriate verification of the reasons supporting the request. The STUDENT shall remain financially responsible for all payments of room and meals until the end of the contract period or until the UNIVERSITY secures a satisfactory replacement, whichever occurs first.
    - b)** If the request to terminate is approved, the UNIVERSITY reserves the right to assess the STUDENT a \$500 early termination penalty.
    - c)** If the STUDENT withdraws from the University, this agreement will terminate and eligibility for any refund will be determined by the UNIVERSITY’s [Tuition and Fees Refund Policy](#).
  - 2. By University.** The UNIVERSITY may terminate this agreement in its sole discretion, and assess the STUDENT for the price of room and meals for the full occupancy period together with all nonrefundable fees upon the occurrence of any of the following:
    - a)** the STUDENT’S abandonment of the premises;
    - b)** the STUDENT’S violation of the rules of student behavior;
    - c)** the STUDENT’S loss of eligibility of housing as defined below or
    - d)** the STUDENT’S breach of any term or condition of this agreement, including failure to pay fees.
- C. Semester Breaks.** STUDENTS must vacate rooms for the duration of the scheduled semester break periods (winter and summer), unless the UNIVERSITY gives advance approval.
- D. Holdover Fee.** If the STUDENT does not vacate the premises during the semester break period or at the end of the term of occupancy, the UNIVERSITY reserves the right to charge a \$100 per day holdover fee.
- E. Room and Meal Fees.** The fees for room and meals vary depending on choice of meal plan and room occupancy. These fees may be paid pursuant to a schedule provided by the UNIVERSITY. This schedule, once provided to the STUDENT, becomes a part of this agreement and STUDENT agrees to make all payments promptly when due.
- F. License.** This agreement is a license only, and no lease or any other interest in real property is created.
- G. Unavailability.** In the event that the UNIVERSITY cannot provide housing due to conditions not reasonably foreseen at the time this agreement is entered into (but not as a result of conditions caused by the STUDENT), the STUDENT shall be entitled to a pro rata refund of any fees applicable to periods after the STUDENT was required to vacate. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, damage caused by floods, slides, fire, earthquake, other natural disasters and vandalism; room renovation; civil disorder; compliance with state/federal law; and interruption of basic services because of labor strife.

**H. Force Majeure.** The UNIVERSITY assumes no responsibility, and will not be deemed to be in default of this Agreement, for any delay or failure to perform any terms or conditions of this Agreement due to any force majeure. For purposes of this Agreement, the term “force majeure” shall mean fire, earthquake, flood, act of God, strikes, work stoppages or other labor disturbances, riots or civil commotions, crimes, litigation, war or other act of any foreign nation, plague, epidemic, pandemic, power of government or governmental agency or authority, or any other cause like or unlike any cause mentioned above, which is beyond the control or authority, or any other cause like or unlike any cause mentioned above, which is beyond the control or authority of the UNIVERSITY, or in the event other circumstances render the fulfillment of this Agreement impracticable or impossible. UNIVERSITY shall provide notice as soon as practical in the event that this Agreement is being terminated pursuant to this section. In the event of termination by the UNIVERSITY, the UNIVERSITY shall provide the STUDENT not less than 48 hours notice, except in cases of emergency.

## **II. UNIVERSITY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

**A. Room Assignment.** The UNIVERSITY shall assign the STUDENT to a specific room without regard to race, religion, sexual orientation, or national origin. During the term of this agreement the UNIVERSITY shall have the right to reassign the STUDENT to a different room, or change the room occupancy, at any time and without the consent of the STUDENT. In the event that the room occupancy is changed, the UNIVERSITY may adjust the STUDENT’S room rate to a prorated amount. The UNIVERSITY does not promise or guarantee specific rooms, halls, or roommates. Furnishings may vary by residence hall and room, and no promises or guarantees are made with regard thereto.

**B. Right of Entry.** The University reserves the right to enter any STUDENT room without notice for, but not limited to, the following reasons:

1. to show the room to a prospective student;
2. to inspect for condition of room and compliance with safety regulations;
3. to repair, maintain, or clean;
4. to respond to reported or perceived emergency situations;
5. to enforce University policies and investigate possible violations thereof;
  - a) Authorized representatives of the UNIVERSITY may respond to violations of law or UNIVERSITY policy discovered upon entering a STUDENT room.
  - b) Typically rooms will be searched after providing 24 hours’ notice unless an Administrative Search authorization has been granted by the Dean of Students (or their designee), or a search warrant has been issued by a court of law. The occupant(s) will be informed of the reason for any room search.

**C. Internet.** The UNIVERSITY agrees to install and maintain internet access in residence halls. The STUDENT agrees to strictly abide by the UNIVERSITY Information Technology (IT) policies contained in and referred to in the Dominican University Student Handbook and on the University website.

**D. Cleaning.** The UNIVERSITY agrees reasonably to maintain and clean common areas of the residence halls. Common areas are to be defined by the UNIVERSITY, but generally include common hallways/stairways, lounges, and other shared space in the residence halls. STUDENTS are responsible for cleaning assigned rooms, bathrooms, and kitchens and living rooms.

**E. Mailboxes.** The UNIVERSITY shall provide the STUDENT with the use of one mailbox.

## **III. STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

**A. Student Behavior.** The STUDENT agrees to strictly abide by all federal, state, and local laws, all UNIVERSITY policy and procedures, including those contained in the Dominican University Student Handbook, the Student Code of

Conduct, and all Residence Hall Policies and Guidelines – which may be revised from time to time and without prior notice. The UNIVERSITY reserves the right to terminate this agreement for any violation of UNIVERSITY policy.

1. The STUDENT agrees that the UNIVERSITY may, from time to time and without prior notice, promulgate and enforce additional rules and regulations which may be reasonably necessary or appropriate for the safety, care and cleanliness of the room or residence hall, the general operation of the UNIVERSITY, or for the general welfare of the residents, and the STUDENT agrees to observe such rules and regulations.
2. The STUDENT agrees to respect the rights, privileges, and property of all members of the UNIVERSITY community. and agrees to refrain from acting/behaving in any way that detracts from the educational experience of those in the community.
3. The STUDENT understands and agrees that violations may result in disciplinary action being taken by the UNIVERSITY, including the termination of this agreement, dismissal from the UNIVERSITY, or exclusion from on-campus housing, in which event the STUDENT shall vacate the assigned room within 48 hours' notice. The STUDENT shall remain financially responsible for all payments of room and meals until the end of the contract period or until the UNIVERSITY secures a replacement, whichever occurs first.

**B. Eligibility.** The STUDENT must be a regularly enrolled, full-time (12 units or more), registered student of DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA for the term of this contract. The UNIVERSITY reserves the right to terminate this agreement for any loss of eligibility.

1. Students not considered full-time (i.e. fewer than 12 units) may be granted permission by the Department of Housing and Residence Life to reside on campus.
2. The STUDENT must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 to remain in the residence halls. If the STUDENT'S GPA falls below the minimum standards set, STUDENT may be placed on Residence Hall Probation for the following semester. If the STUDENT fails to sufficiently improve their GPA during this allotted time period, this agreement may be terminated at the discretion of the UNIVERSITY.
3. The STUDENT must be in good standing with the Office of the Dean of Students.

**C. Room Assignments.** The STUDENT shall not permit any other person (including, but not limited to, children, parents, family, friends of the STUDENT) to occupy their assigned space. The STUDENT may not transfer to another UNIVERSITY housing space unless express written permission is given by the Office of Housing and Residence Life. Any unauthorized transfers will result in disciplinary action.

**D. Meal Plan Requirement.** Students assigned to live in Pennafort Hall, Fanjeaux Hall, or Edgehill Village are required to select/purchase a University meal plan each semester. If a student fails to select a plan, the UNIVERSITY will automatically enroll the student in a 14 meal plan. No credit or refund will be given for meals not eaten by the STUDENT. Each meal plan is non-transferable and for the exclusive use of the STUDENT. Students assigned to live in the Dominican Townhomes are not required to select/purchase a meal plan but have the option to purchase a meal plan if desired. Students who are not required to have a meal plan but opt to purchase a meal plan are bound to all policies and regulations associated with having a meal plan.

1. Meal Plan Exemption: An exemption from the assigned meal plan may only be granted if the STUDENT has a reasonable medical accommodation request which directly impacts the student's ability to use the established meal plan. Students must seek an accommodation through the [Office of Accessibility and Disability Services](#).
2. Modification to Meal Plan: a request to modify the meal plan selection must be made in writing to the Office of Housing & Residence Life no later than August 1 (for fall semester) and no later than December 5 (for spring semester). Requests for modifications after these deadlines may not be accepted.

**E. Damage.** The STUDENT shall not change/modify/alter any room, its fixtures, furnishings, equipment, or decoration without the written consent of the Department of Housing and Residence Life. The cost of any

unauthorized change, loss or damage to the residence hall, any room, its fixtures, furnishings, equipment, or decoration shall be charged to the STUDENT if either the STUDENT or their guest/invitee is deemed responsible. Reasonable costs will be determined by the UNIVERSITY and payment of such costs shall be added to STUDENT'S account. The Department of Housing and Residence Life will complete a Room Condition Report upon the termination or expiration of this agreement, and the UNIVERSITY reserves the right to override the damage assessment on the Report if the UNIVERSITY discovers damages after the STUDENT'S departure.

1. Each student sharing a room shall be individually liable for damage occurring to that room; the cost of repairing such loss or damage shall be charged pro rata to each student occupying the room, unless after reasonable investigation, the UNIVERSITY determines that the cause of such damage was beyond the reasonable control of the STUDENT.
  2. If the STUDENT or their guest/invitee is the cause of any damage to the common or public areas of the residence hall, the STUDENT will be jointly and individually liable with other involved students, for any damages done to the common or public areas.
- F. Keys.** The STUDENT is responsible for the room key at all times once the key has been issued to the STUDENT. If the STUDENT loses or misplaces the key, the UNIVERSITY reserves the right to charge the STUDENT up to \$50 to replace it. If a door lock needs to be rekeyed, there will be a \$200 cost, and if a lock needs to be replaced completely, the cost is \$300. Please note that each cost is separate.
- G. Maintenance.** It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to clean and maintain their bedroom, bathroom, and shared living rooms and kitchens (in apartments/suites), furnishings, and fixtures during the term of this contract. The STUDENT also agrees to leave their room in a clean and orderly condition at the termination or expiration of the contract. If this section of the agreement is not followed, the UNIVERSITY reserves the right to charge the STUDENT for all expenses related to cleaning.
- H. Fire Safety.** The STUDENT understands and agrees to observe all fire safety measures. All persons are required to evacuate the building any time an alarm sounds and follow evacuation instructions. During an evacuation, staff may enter individual rooms to verify evacuation. No person is allowed to re-enter the hall during an evacuation until approved by staff or emergency personnel. Intentional misuse of, tampering with or obstruction of the fire safety system or firefighting equipment (e.g., fire alarm, fire extinguisher, emergency exit signs, smoke detectors, electric panels, fire sprinkler heads, etc.) is a violation of UNIVERSITY policy and local ordinances.
- I. Dangerous Materials or Possessions.** The STUDENT shall not possess any firearm, ammunition, fireworks, explosives, flammable material, dangerous weapons, or any other material or instrument which poses an unreasonable risk of damage or injury to the STUDENT, any member of the UNIVERSITY community, or UNIVERSITY property.
- J. Communicable Illness.** The STUDENT understands and agrees to observe all public health safety measures. Any STUDENT diagnosed with or suspected of having a communicable illness (e.g., measles, tuberculosis, virus), or not vaccinated against said illness, may be quarantined or sent home (at the STUDENT'S expense) for a period of time designated by the UNIVERSITY in consultation with public health or medical professionals.
- K. Courtesy/Quiet Hours.** STUDENT understands and agrees to observe courtesy/quiet hour guidelines as posted. During these times, all noise shall be held to a minimum. During all other times, reasonable respect for other residents should be shown.
- L. Visitors.** The STUDENT shall permit no visitors, guests or invitees to enter the residence halls or private grounds except as permitted in UNIVERSITY policies, and shall be responsible for their behavior while they are on UNIVERSITY property.

**IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

- A. *Fee Increases.*** The UNIVERSITY may, at its sole discretion, increase room and meal fees up to 10% with 30 days' notice to STUDENT.
- B. *Liability.*** The UNIVERSITY assumes no responsibility for the STUDENT'S personal property at any time, including periods when the STUDENT is not in occupancy or after the term of the occupancy has expired.
- 1.** Personal property includes, but is not limited to, automobiles parked on-campus, personal property in rooms, common areas or on-campus storage, and any property left after expiration or termination of this agreement. If the STUDENT abandons the room, the UNIVERSITY may consider any personal property left on the premises also to be abandoned and may dispose of it at the STUDENT'S expense in any manner allowed by law.
  - 2.** The UNIVERSITY shall not be responsible for bodily injuries, including death, property loss or damage, due to the STUDENT'S use of residence hall facilities, unless such injury loss or damage resulted from the gross negligence of the UNIVERSITY.
- C. *Insurance.*** The UNIVERSITY provides no insurance or financial protection for the STUDENT'S personal property at any time, including periods when the STUDENT is not in occupancy or after the term of the occupancy has expired. The UNIVERSITY encourages the STUDENT to acquire renter's insurance from an authorized agent.
- D. *Indemnification.*** The STUDENT shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, defend, hold harmless and indemnify the UNIVERSITY and its affiliates, trustees, directors, officers, members, partners, principals, employees and agents against any and all claims, demands, causes of action or damages, including attorneys' fees (collectively, "claims"), arising out of or relating to any of the obligations undertaken in connection with this Agreement, including but not limited to (i) any breach of this Agreement; (ii) any actual or alleged injury or death to a person and/or loss of or damage to property caused directly or indirectly, wholly or in part by a party, its officers, directors, trustees, agents, contractors, employees or representatives. This indemnity does not apply to any Claims arising from the gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the indemnified Party. The provisions of this paragraph shall survive the termination of this Agreement with respect to any indemnifiable actions occurring prior to such termination of this Agreement.
- E. *Taxable Possessory Interest.*** It is the position of the UNIVERSITY that this agreement does not create a taxable possessory interest in real property. However, the STUDENT is hereby notified that a taxing authority may take a contrary view and may assess this agreement.
- F. *Waiver, Modification, Entire Agreement and Severability.*** Any waiver or non-enforcement by the UNIVERSITY of any term or condition of this agreement shall in no way constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or any other term or condition of this contract. This Agreement constitutes the complete and entire agreement between the parties, supersedes all prior agreements, oral and written, and may not be modified except in writing signed by both parties. If any term of this agreement is found to be illegal, void or otherwise unenforceable, it shall be severed here from without affecting the validity of the remainder of the agreement.
- G. *Release.*** You agree to release the University, its trustees and officers, its employees, and agents from any and all damages, liability, claims, expenses, or loss (collectively, "Claims") resulting from or arising out of your use of University facilities (University Housing or Rec Centers, or Training Facilities, etc.), or participation in our programs including those with the potential exposure to contagious diseases like COVID-19. Furthermore you agree to indemnify and hold harmless the University, its agents, and employees from any Claims resulting from or arising out of your breach of the terms and conditions of (your housing contract, the behavioral expectations set by the College related to social distancing, etc.) You understand that by participating in this activity (or living in campus housing, etc.), you are assuming the risks associated with the activity and, as in any activity involving other persons, those risks include potential exposure to contagious diseases, including COVID-19.

**H. Attorney Fees, Choice of Law and Acceptance.** The STUDENT agrees to pay all fees and costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, which shall be incurred by the UNIVERSITY in enforcing this contract. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of California. Completion and delivery of this agreement by the STUDENT does not constitute acceptance by the UNIVERSITY. This agreement is approved and accepted by the UNIVERSITY only when signed by the representative of the Housing Office in the appropriate space contained herein.

**V. ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS**

☐ By checking this box, The STUDENT agrees that this document may be electronically signed, and for the purposes of this agreement, electronic signatures are the same as handwritten signatures in terms of validity, enforceability, and admissibility.

STUDENT Signature:  DATE (--/--/----)  DUC ID:

Parent/Guardian Signature (if STUDENT under 18):

DATE:  
(--/--/--)

**Meal Plan Selection (please choose one of the following):**

☐ 10 meals per week      ☐ 14 meals per week      ☐ No Meal Plan (Townhome Resident Only)

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SIGNING AND SUBMITTING FORM**

1. Download in a format which allows you to edit this document (docx should work)
2. Complete Section V (Acceptance of Terms) by typing in the gray boxes
  - (be sure to check the box under acceptance of terms)
3. Save the document to your computer as follows:
  - Save as: **lastname.firstname25-26** (Ex: Jones.Chris25-26)
  - Please be sure to save it in .pdf format
4. Complete the Housing Contract and email to [housing@dominican.edu](mailto:housing@dominican.edu). (Due no later than **Monday, July 28th, 2025**)