

L.I.F.E. House (Living in a Free Environment)

Thank you for your interest in L.I.F.E. House, Fairleigh Dickinson University's newest special living option as of the 2008-2009 academic year. We are very excited to offer this housing option to new and returning students. This information, in addition to defining the concept of L.I.F.E. House, will also:

1. Provide rationale for the establishment of the environment, and
2. Explain the philosophy of living in University housing on Fairleigh Dickinson University's Metropolitan Campus. It is very important to remember that by choosing to live in L.I.F.E. House, you agree to abide by the policies set forth in the University Housing & Meal Plan Contract and L.I.F.E. House Agreement.

What is L.I.F.E. House?

L.I.F.E. House is a residence hall located in University Court 5 on the Metropolitan campus for students who desire a living environment which promotes and supports an individual's decision not to use unhealthy substances (i.e. alcohol, tobacco products and illegal drugs).

Residents of L.I.F.E. House, and their guests, agree not to possess or distribute alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco or other smoking materials. Residents mutually agree to keep the community free of all aforementioned substances.

This residence hall has single, double, and triple rooms which, for continuing students, may be requested during the room selection process in the Spring semester, and for incoming first year students, when you make your housing request.

Residents are also encouraged to be active in creating, planning and executing substance free programs, events and activities in collaboration with the BACCHUS (Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students) Peer Educators. The critical difference between L.I.F.E. House and the other residence halls is that students (as well as their guests) who choose this option will be required to abstain entirely from using tobacco, among other smoking products, and alcohol.

Rationale for L.I.F.E. House

Many studies have shown the devastating effects of substance use/abuse of college students in the U.S. Nationwide surveys are conducted with students who choose to live a healthy, substance free lifestyle. These surveys show how these students are affected by fellow students' decisions as reflected in the following statistics:

- 34% college students report having their sleep or studying disturbed by a student under the influence
- 54% report having to take care of another student who was inebriated
- 26% report having unwanted sexual advances by a fellow student who is under the influence of alcohol or other substances.
- 34% report being insulted

Our primary reason for establishing L.I.F.E. House is to provide a living option for students who have made the decision to live in a substance free environment. ***The possession, sale, use or distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs is strictly prohibited in all University housing. Smoking is prohibited inside all residence halls.***

Numerous studies have shown that substance-free environments are more conducive to studying, stimulate more creative educational and social programming, promote healthier lifestyles and reduce negative peer pressure. It is our belief at Fairleigh Dickinson University that L.I.F.E. House will produce similar results.

One last thought to consider

Though this living environment is unique, it is not for everyone. It is important to take the time to think about yourself and the conditions of living in L.I.F.E. House, and decide whether or not you would prefer to live within such an environment. We encourage you to talk to your parents, but *you* need to make the final decision.