

RESIDENCE HALL SOLICITATION POLICY

Because of its unique relationship with students, the University has the right and responsibility to establish policies and procedures to ensure the security and general welfare of students residing in its residence halls. Also, the University has the responsibility to create and maintain an environment which will promote the educational goals and objectives of the institution. Therefore, it is within these rights and responsibilities that the University has established a policy concerning solicitation within the residence halls.

Any personal or commercial solicitation, sale or distribution of material, pamphlets, newsletters or newspapers making a political, religious or otherwise non-commercial statement on a door-to-door basis within a residence hall living area is prohibited. Group presentations or demonstrations in public areas for the purpose of conducting commercial activities are also prohibited. Violators may be denied the privilege of any further presentations or demonstrations in any University of Florida residence hall. Violators of the Solicitation Policy will be reported to the residence area desk and to the University Police Department.

The solicitation policy restricts the commercial activities of student and non-student groups or individuals whether they live within the residence hall area or not. Recognized housing organizations may sponsor activities in residence halls involving commercial vendors under certain circumstances at the discretion of the Director of Housing or his/her designee.

Individual resident students may invite to their rooms for purposes of explanation or demonstration an individual for commercial or non-commercial purpose. Contact between a salesperson and a student which was invited by the individual student for his/her benefit may not involve other persons. Resident students wishing to purchase or contract with an individual or company must do so in the privacy of their own individual rooms or outside the building. Though the University may establish regulations concerning the sales, contracting or credit arrangements, the University cannot attempt to censor the content of any presentation, either in the language used in oral or written presentations which deal with sales, contract or credit arrangements.

Student organizations wishing to establish display areas within the lobby of the residence hall may do so within the guidelines as explained in the "Policies for Use of Table and Display Space." As noted in the policy, the use of public area space for social or other types activities must have the permission from the residence hall Council as well as the appropriate staff members for that hall. It should be noted that the facilities within the residence halls are primarily for the use of the residents and, therefore, functions planned by the residents or by their area government shall have first priority over all other requests.

Questions of interpretation should be referred to the University Housing Office for clarification.