

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Division of Student Affairs
Office of Residence Life

Welcome to Howard University!

One of the most exciting and memorable aspects of the college experience is the opportunity to live and learn with other students in a residential setting. We are pleased you have chosen to contribute to Howard University's residential community. I encourage you to read the information enclosed, as it will aid in orienting you to the expectations of our community.

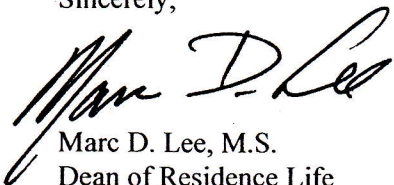
Many students have never lived away from home or shared a room before coming to the University and are anxious about what the experience will be like. Adjusting to residential life means establishing new ground rules, negotiating different standards of sharing and fairness, and learning to respect others' priorities and opinions. Thus, we have a support network available to help you through the transition; one of these resources is your Resident Assistant (RA). As a peer counselor and resource person, she/he will be available to you and your roommate(s) as you negotiate differences and learn how to live together. It is important that you think about your priorities and how you might accommodate your needs and those of your roommate(s) in a new environment.

During orientation week, your RA will help you to talk with your roommate(s) and lay the groundwork for a pleasant, tolerant, and mutually respectful living environment. While you will be eager to unpack and settle in, please wait for all your roommates to arrive in order to begin the discussion of room and furniture arrangements together. Adjusting to life at the College (including sharing a room) is a process that takes time. Consequently, we do not make changes in housing assignments until the Room Change period begins in October. Since the College does not assume responsibility for loss or damage to students' belongings, you may wish to consider coverage under your parents' homeowner's policy, or student property insurance information which is provided in this packet.

Another memorable aspect of this time is your "First Year Experience", which will be highlighted by B.I.S.O.N. S.U.C.C.E.S.S. this is the program designed specifically for you to become better acclimated to the university and the surrounding community through the residence halls, "your home away from home!" This phrase encapsulates the people with whom you will spend the next nine months with your Community Director, Graduate Assistants, Resident Assistants and Front Desk Receptionist as well as the Central Office. Please read the information online about B.I.S.O.N. S.U.C.C.E.S.S. and get involved!

When you arrive at Howard University in August, you should go directly to your residence hall, your Community Director will be there to greet you, direct you to the key distribution area, and answer any questions you might have. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please refer to information available on our website at www.howard.edu/residence or call our office at 202.806.6131. Enjoy the rest of your summer! I look forward to seeing you in August.

Sincerely,



Marc D. Lee, M.S.
Dean of Residence Life

