

Student Learning Doesn't Stop at Broadway

Off-Campus Housing goes wherever the Buffalo roam

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From help with housing, meals, and textbook replacement for students who've been affected by the flood, to free legal assistance with lease review and security deposit disputes, Off-Campus Housing & Neighborhood Relations supports CU students living in the Boulder community. This outreach happens during times of crisis, but also as part of an ongoing commitment to help students develop the skills they need to navigate the rental process and to become responsible community members.

The transition from campus housing to community living can sometimes be rocky. In partnership with FourStar Realty, Off-Campus Housing offers a comprehensive move-in orientation for student renters living on the Hill and in Goss Grove. According to the terms of the lease, students renting from FourStar can only collect their keys after at least one roommate has completed the orientation seminar. This year, 97 students completed the hour-long session. This program for students is designed to educate new residents on their tenant and community responsibilities.

During the session, Off-Campus Housing covers ordinances about noise and firework violations, nuisance parties, alcohol violations, littering, and trash and snow removal. Students are encouraged to get to know their neighbors and to treat their new community with respect. The second part of the orientation is facilitated by a Hill neighbor who discusses both the positive and negative qualities of a community blended with permanent and student residents. The goal is to help students make a connection to their new neighborhood and to realize that community members are "in it together." Throughout the program, the presenters continually reinforce that the students' new community is no different from the one they grew up in. FourStar Realty and Off-Campus Housing believe the orientation program is a successful way to educate students before problems occur.

At this year's sessions, more men attended (59%) than women (41%), and more sophomores (45%) than students from other years. 44% of the attendees were Colorado residents; most of the out-of-state residents were from California (15%), Texas (8%), and Illinois (6%). Most students (70%) reported that they had reviewed the entire lease prior to the orientation and nearly half (49%) indicated that their parents had read the lease for them. Only one student indicated that they hadn't read the lease at all.

Prior to the session, students completed a questionnaire to assess their knowledge of the Boulder ordinances that Off-Campus Housing covers in the session. After the orientation, students completed a follow-up assessment to determine whether they had a better understanding of their responsibilities as residents. As a result of attending the session, significantly more participants understood their responsibilities as tenants and neighbors.

Knowledge Measure	Percent of Students Who Answered Correctly	
	Pre-Orientation	Post-Orientation
The Residential makeup of the Hill and Goss Grove consists of student rental housing, permanent residents, and families.	89%	99%
Any music, conversation, or other noise that can be heard from > 100ft away from your house after 11:00 pm can get you an unreasonable noise ticket.	37%	100%
You can get a noise ticket any time of day in Boulder.	89%	93%
It is illegal to possess or use fireworks in Boulder.	50%	71%
A social gathering of 2 or more people can be considered a nuisance party if there is an ordinance violation.	15%	99%
You can get a nuisance party ticket for attending a nuisance party.	69%	86%
You have 24 hours to clear snow from your sidewalks.	46%	98%
In order to register a party with CU's Party Registration program, you must live at the address being registered.	67%	86%
Students under 21 can register a party.	68%	87%
It's a bad idea to put trash out the night before pick up.	28%	62%
It's not ok to drink beer on the sidewalk, even if you're 21.	66%	93%
I can't leave upholstered indoor furniture on my porch or lawn.	58%	86%