

## What to Expect...

A list of frequently asked questions and their corresponding answers about living on-campus at Bay State College.

**Q: How many residence halls are there and where are they located?**

A: On-campus housing at Bay State College consists of four different residence halls. Tudor Hall is located at 125/127 Commonwealth Avenue, Windsor Hall is located at 181 Commonwealth Avenue, Crowninshield Hall is located at 164 Marlborough Street, and Commonwealth Hall is located at 260/262 Commonwealth Avenue.

**Q: Are all of the buildings the same?**

A: While each building is a unique Victorian townhouse, they all have the following features which students can access 24 hours a day:

- Comfortable lounge complete with HD cable and a DVD player, as well as a microwave.
- Computer lab with a printer and free unlimited wireless internet access.
- SmartCard operated laundry facilities.
- Vending machines stocked with snacks, soda, and juices.
- Card access system for entry through the front door.
- Live-in staff, consisting of several Resident Assistants and a professional building director.

Please refer to the Residence Hall Profiles for a more detailed description of what they each have to offer.

**Q: Are phone, cable, and internet service provided by the school in each room?**

A: Each residence hall is equipped with a wireless network. Students will be able to connect to this network and obtain internet access with their Bay State email username and password, which they will receive upon arrival. Please be sure that your computer has the following requirements:

Operating System:

PCs: Windows XP or higher

Macs: OSX or higher

Wireless Network Card: 802.11 g/b/a

Additionally, each room comes equipped with cable television. Students are just required to bring the TV and cable cords. We provide the cable box. The costs of internet and cable service are covered by the Residence Hall Technology Fee. Phone service is not provided in each room. Many students choose to use cell phones. There is a house phone located in the lobby of each building where students are able to make local telephone calls and receive phone calls. These phone numbers are published in the [Resident Student Handbook](#) that each student receives upon moving in.

**Q: I've never had to share a living space with anyone before. What will it be like to have roommates?**

A: Learning to live with roommates is one of the best parts of the college experience. Hopefully, if you respond to the Housing Preference Form honestly and accurately, you will be placed with people whom you will share a similar lifestyle. It does take some compromising and patience to make the roommate relationship work, but many people end up becoming lifelong friends with their college roommate(s). The important thing is to be honest and open with your roommate(s), and most importantly, communicate with each other!

**Q: Is there a curfew in the residence halls? How about a guest policy?**

A: There is no curfew in our buildings. However, there is a guest policy in place for safety and security reasons. Each resident is allowed a maximum of two guests at any given time. Residents are expected to sign their guests in at the front desk and to sign them out upon departure. Guests should be accompanied by the resident they are visiting at all times and need to vacate the building by 12:00AM Sunday through Thursday and 1:00AM Friday and Saturday. Overnight guests are allowed, but must be registered with the building director or designee at least 24 hours prior to their arrival. In order for the overnight guests to be approved, all roommates must sign-off on the registration form, acknowledging their approval.

**Q: If I am 21 or older, am I allowed to have alcohol in my room?**

A: All first-year student residence halls are dry, meaning that, regardless of age, residents are not allowed to have alcohol in the residence halls at any time. Returning students may apply for Personal Consumption Privileges while living in Commonwealth Hall at 260/262 Commonwealth Avenue. The requirements for that privilege are stated in the [Resident Student Handbook](#) issued to each student upon moving into the residence halls. Please note that in all residence halls, empty or “trophy” bottles that are used for decoration also are not allowed on campus for any reason.

**Q: Will I be allowed to smoke in my room?**

A: No, there is no smoking allowed inside any room or area of any of the residence halls. Residents are also prohibited from smoking in front of any of the residence halls as part of our “Good Neighbor Policy.” However, in order to ensure a better fit for each resident, we do inquire on the Housing Preference Form as to whether or not you smoke. We find that placing those with the same smoking preferences together results in a better living environment for all. When filling out the Housing Preference Form, you should indicate whether or not you are a smoker, keeping in mind that although smokers may be placed together, there is still no smoking allowed in any of the residence halls.

**Q: Who exactly are these Resident Assistants and what are they there for?**

A: Each building has a live-in staff whose purpose is to aid in the development of those students who reside in the building. The Resident Assistants are upperclass students at Bay State College. Each Resident Assistant is responsible for students in his or her building and is there to guide them through their college experience. This is done by: planning both social and educational programs and events throughout the year, providing support to students who are struggling with academic or personal issues, providing a nightly presence in the building and responding to emergency situations as they arise. Each building also has a professional live-in director, who supervises the Resident Assistants and over sees the general operations and community development of the building.

**Q: Are the residence halls safe? What kind of security protection is there in the buildings?**

A: The Back Bay is one of the safest neighborhoods in the city of Boston. However, our staff takes all necessary precautions to make sure that our residents feel safe and secure. Residence halls are locked at all times, access to each building can only be gained through the front door, which is equipped with a card access system. We also have public safety officers who monitor the buildings during set hours each evening, as well as a staff member on duty nightly in each residence hall.

**Q: What is life like living on-campus?**

A: Living in the residence halls is one of the best ways to get involved at Bay State College and to meet new people. The staff encourages an open-door policy among residents, where people keep their doors open and venture from room to room getting to know each other. People are friendly and eager to make new friends. Residents are often found taking advantage of the common space in the residence halls to watch a movie, play cards, or share a late-night pizza. The residence halls are also beneficial for those students whose primary focus is academics. There are quiet hours in place each night to ensure that the halls are conducive to studying (or sleeping for those who have early classes).

**Q: Is there a place where I can cook my own food on campus?**

A: We do have two options for you. Each building has a community microwave located in the social lounge available for students to use 24 hours a day. Unfortunately, individual microwaves are not allowed in the student rooms. This includes the microfridge combo that is sold at some stores. We also have a full kitchen in “The Underground” in Commonwealth Hall at 260/262 Commonwealth Avenue. This area includes a stovetop, oven, utensils, and pots and pans that all students have access to with their Student ID. This area is open Sunday through Thursday evenings from 7:00PM – 12:00AM and Friday and Saturday evenings 7:00PM – 1:00AM.