August, 2017

Off-Campus Housing Information
Important Dates, Reminders, and Resources

Dear Student,

We are sending this letter to all Boston College rising sophomores to remind you that you have been guaranteed university housing for either three or four years. The housing guarantee can be found in your admissions letter, but you can also call Students Services at 617-552-3300 or 800-294-0294 if you are unsure. Regardless of your housing guarantee, the information provided in this letter can assist all students who choose to live off-campus.

Junior Year Off-Campus

The majority of Boston College students receive three years of university housing, with the year off-campus to be taken in their junior year. Keep in mind, if students with three years of university housing decide to live off their sophomore year, they must also live off their junior year (the junior year off is non-transferable).

Apartment Search and Off-Campus Living Resources

Our office provides several resources for students, including information sessions, housing fairs, and one-on-one/group consultations. We also maintain a comprehensive resource page, apartment database, and roommate finder service. For access to these services, please visit bc.edu/offcampus or email specific questions to offcampus@bc.edu.

Off-Campus Housing and Student Life Information Sessions

The Office of Residential Life is hosting a kick-off information session on September 5, 2017 at 6:30PM in the Robsham Theater titled “Think Before You Ink.” This meeting will include representatives from the Office of the Dean of Students as well as staff from Residential Life to discuss housing appeals. If students cannot attend this meeting, we are hosting additional information sessions on Monday, September 11, Tuesday, September 12, and Wednesday, September 13 in Vanderslice Hall, Walsh Hall, and Roncalli Hall, respectively. Each of these information sessions will begin at 6:00PM. For more information, visit bc.edu/offcampus and select the “Events Calendar” tab.
Apartment Search Timetable

Students often feel pressure from rental agents or their peers to sign a lease early in the fall semester of their sophomore year. Please do not rush through the apartment search process. There are new apartment listings posted every day throughout the year. Some students do sign leases in the fall semester, but the majority will sign in the spring. Please review the many resources available on our website and attend one of our off-campus housing information sessions.

Local Zoning Ordinances

Please be mindful of local zoning ordinances that prohibit five or more unrelated full-time undergraduate students from living together in a house or apartment. We encourage students to follow this ordinance. For more information about the Boston zoning ordinance, please visit the City of Boston Inspectio nal Services website at www.cityofboston.gov/isd.

Housing Appeals

Students seeking an additional semester or year of housing must appeal for housing during their sophomore year. All requests for additional housing must be made through the Agora Portal (the appeal form will be active mid-October, 2017). Please note that demand for university housing far exceeds availability, and as a result, Residential Life's ability to grant additional semesters/years of housing is extremely restricted.

Residential Life Contact Information

Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Residential Life by calling 617-552-3060 or emailing reslife@bc.edu with questions. If you have questions about the off-campus housing search, please feel free to call Off-Campus Living at 617-552-3075, email offcampus@bc.edu or visit us on the web at bc.edu/offcampus. For questions pertaining to housing appeals, please email placement@bc.edu.

Sincerely,

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