



River
HOUSING

House Rules

Welcome to River Housing. We offer structured living for those with substance use disorders who want to learn a new way of living without the use of drugs or alcohol. We are committed to helping our residents in their journey through recovery by providing them with a safe, structured, and nurturing home environment that will allow them to reach their highest potential. Although we call our “House Rules” rules, they are more than that; they are the guidelines to living a clean and productive life. We recommend that you treat your stay here as if it was your own home.

The “House Rules” are set forth below:

1. Admission Process:

- a. Complete application
- b. Attend interview, which consists of discussion of application, “House Rules,” contract, and provide proof of identification in the form of a government issued photo ID or Social Security card.
- c. Member will read and sign all forms with Director or House Manager.
- d. Member will be given an intake urine drug test.
- e. Member will remit financial responsibility:
 - i. First & last week’s rent
 - ii. \$5.00 key deposit

2. Member Responsibilities:

- a. Member must actively seek employment, volunteer, or attend school Monday through Friday from 9am to 3pm.



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- b. Member must attend a recovery program, choose a home group, and get a sponsor.
- c. Member must attend a minimum of three recovery-based meetings per week.
- d. Member must attend weekly house meetings.
- e. Member must adhere to house curfew, and will sign in and sign out when entering or leaving River Housing.
- f. Member will be responsible for completing assigned chores.
- g. Member must be completely abstinent from drugs and/or alcohol.

3. Curfews:

- a. Sunday through Thursday: 10:00 p.m.
- b. Friday and Saturday: 11:00 p.m., unless prior arrangements are made with the Director and/or House Manager.
- c. There are no overnight requests for the first 30 days of residency. Each overnight request must be approved by the Director or Operations Manager, and the member is subject to a drug test upon return to the House.

4. Financial Responsibility:

- a. Dues are paid weekly (\$250.00) and must be paid to River Housing by 4:00p.m. the latest each Friday. If dues are not paid by the deadline, alternative arrangements must be made with the Director.
- b. The Director will determine a necessary payment schedule should the member fall behind in dues.
- c. There will be a \$30.00 fee for all returned checks.
- d. Groceries are not supplied by the house. Each member is responsible for purchasing their own groceries. **There is absolutely no sharing or trading of groceries or other products.**



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5. Employment Obligations:

- a. Member must be gainfully employed within 14 days of intake.
- b. Members who receive disability or retirement payments must either volunteer for a local agency or attend college/vocational school.

6. Other:

- a. Members are routinely drug tested once per week, but are also subject to random drug testing while living at the River Housing. Members must be willing and cooperative when submitting to random drug testing. If member refuses to submit to testing, that will be considered a positive result, and the member must immediately vacate the premises.
- b. Member must respect the anonymity and privacy of all house members. All house business is confidential and must not be discussed outside the house. Violation of this policy will be grounds for immediate expulsion from the house.
- c. Daily chores must be completed prior to leaving the house in the mornings (by 10:00 a.m.). Weekly chores must be completed on Wednesday by 7:00 p.m. All members are responsible for house cleaning, and chores shall be inspected by the House President or the Operations Manager. Members are expected to plan their time accordingly in order to complete their assigned chores. Chores must be completed sufficiently; leave it better than you found it. If employment interferes with this schedule, other arrangement must be made with the House President or Operations Manager prior to the chore deadline.
- d. All rooms are subject to inspection at any time by the Director or Operations Manager. Rooms should be kept neat and clean, and the bed must be made every morning before leaving the house.
- e. Absolutely NO sexual/inappropriate relationships are to be had in River Housing, with staff members or other sober house residents. Violations will result in immediate termination of residency.



7. Visitors:

a. No visitors are permitted on the property, unless other arrangements have been approved by the Director or Operations Manager. Absolutely no children or pets of any kind allowed inside or outside the premises.

8. Honor code:

a. Anyone who is aware of another member's alcohol or other drug use and does not make the Director or Operations Manager aware, will immediately be asked to vacate the premises. It is the responsibility of each member to bring to the attention of the staff any behaviors, actions, or infractions by another member that requires attention.

9. Disruptive Behavior:

a. Disruptive behavior is grounds for immediate dismissal from the premises, and is defined as follows, but not limited to:

- i. Bullying, Threats or acts of physical violence
- ii. Abusive or loud verbal behavior
- iii. Sexual harassment or misconduct
- iv. Destruction of house property
- v. Theft
- vi. Breaking confidentiality
- vii. Violation of house rules or breach of contract
- viii. Possession and/or use of drugs, alcohol, weapons, and/or fireworks
- ix. Gambling

b. Director and/or House Manager will determine any decision regarding expulsion and/or "House Rule" changes.



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10. Common Courtesy:

- a. Members are required to knock before entering another bedroom. DO NOT enter another member's bedroom if no one is in there.
- b. Do not eat another member's food. Do not use anything that is not yours without permission from the Director and/or Operations Manager. Taking another member's property is stealing. Be respectful to others. Violations will result in termination of residency.
- c. Since excessive power bills could potentially force higher weekly dues, adherence to only opening windows when it is cool enough to turn off the air conditioning. Windows and doors are to remain closed when air conditioning or heat is running in the house.

d. Personal Hygiene:

- i. Member agrees to be responsible for personal hygiene. Member is required to do personal laundry regularly, wash dishes after each use, and keep personal property clean. Member is required to bath/shower and brush teeth daily.

e. Personal Space:

- i. A member's room is considered their personal space; other members are not permitted in another member's room without the presence of the member of that room.
- f. It is encouraged that you make your space your own; however, no changes, improvements, decorating, or repairs are to be done to any part of the property without the express consent of the management. This includes installing appliances, moving and/or adding furniture, moving and/or adding pictures, photos and/or posters on the walls, and painting walls.
- g. No pornographic materials are allowed in the house.



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11. Medication:

- a. Member may not be prescribed narcotic medication.
- b. Each member must self-administer all medication, and all medication must be taken as prescribed by the member's physician. If a new prescription is provided to the member while at River Housing, it is the member's responsibility to inform either the Operations Manager or Director to update member application.
- c. Medication must be stored in a lock box and out of plain view of other members. If the lock box is provided by a member, a copy of the key or the combination must be provided to the management.

12. Smoking:

- a. Any smoking is PROHIBITED inside the house, this includes vapors or e-cigarettes.
- b. Smoking is permitted outside the house, provided the member immediately uses an ashtray and does not dispose of the cigarette butt on the grounds of the property.

13. Pets:

- a. No pets are allowed on the property at River Housing, either inside the house or outside the house.

14. Termination of Residency:

- a. Upon leaving the house, the member's bedroom must be thoroughly cleaned.
- b. Upon expulsion, member agrees to vacate premises immediately upon request from River Housing management.
- c. All member's personal belongings must be picked up within three days, or belongings become the property of River Housing.
- d. Upon expulsion, prepaid dues will not be refunded, NO EXCEPTIONS.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

My signature below signifies that I have read, and understand, the terms and conditions set forth in this contract and I agree to abide by them.

_____ (initial) I understand that I must pay my weekly Dues in the amount of \$250.00 each week on time.

_____ (initial) I understand that I must remain completely abstinent from any drugs or alcohol and will be subject to weekly drug testing as well as random drug tests.

_____ (initial) I understand that the violation of any of the rules listed in this document can and will result in the immediate termination from River Housing's program.

Member Signature:

_____ Date: _____

Operations Manager or Executive Director Signature:

_____ Date: _____