

## 2018 Fire Safety Act Report



Issued September 2018

California State University, Long Beach

### Fire Safety Systems in Residential Facilities

CSULB maintains a comprehensive fire safety program that involves regular inspections, drills and compliance enforcement with established state law, campus policies and on-campus housing fire safety rules and regulations. Employees of Housing & Residence Life undergo annual training involving hands-on use of fire extinguishers and locations where they are placed. They are also trained on proper evacuation routes & procedures. They are educated on identifying different classes of fires and what methods work best to extinguish them.

On-campus (reasonably contiguous) student housing encompasses the following residential complexes; 1) Hillside College located at the northeast corner of Beach Drive and Earl Warren Drive, providing housing for about 1040 student residents [includes Los Alamitos Hall, Los Cerritos Hall & International House]; 2) Parkside College located on the west side of Earl Warren Drive, south of Atherton Street, providing housing for about 1000 student residents; 3) Beachside College located on Pacific Coast Highway, north of Clark Avenue, providing housing for about 700 student residents.

Building codes mandate that these complexes are equipped with a fire sprinkler system, pull alarms, smoke and heat detectors. Designers of each complex installed numerous heat and smoke detectors and sprinklers in each residential dwelling.

All fire safety alarms/activations within CSULB housing are monitored by the CSULBPD Communications Center. In the case of an actual fire, fire-fighting responsibilities are delegated to the Long Beach Fire Department.

Fire safety regulations at CSULB are designed and intended to prevent death, injuries and/or damage to university property and its facilities. To this end, a fire inspection of each on-campus living space is conducted monthly by Housing and Residence Life staff to ensure that residents are in compliance with published on-campus residential fire safety rules and regulations. Twice each year, all detection and prevention equipment such as smoke detectors, heat detectors, pull stations, fire extinguishers, emergency lighting and backflow preventers are professionally inspected and tested to ensure that each is serviceable and fully operable by a locally operated and properly licensed vendor. Finally, periodically, the State of California Fire Marshal reviews all fire inspection data along with a physical inspection of campus buildings with a particular emphasis of our campus residential housing areas.

With an enhanced focus on the student residential areas, the CSULB general fire safety plan is never ending, always evolving in order to improve and enhance our existing fire safety systems and methods to safely evacuate campus buildings. The student residential area is scheduled for hardware and software upgrades to the fire safety systems in the very near future.

Any member of the student housing community who observes a fire should activate a fire alarm and evacuate to a safe location. All instances of fire must be immediately reported to CSULBPD, even those that have been extinguished.

- a. Residents should think often about fire safety. All members of the student housing community should familiarize themselves with the buildings, fire alarm stations, fire extinguishers, hallways, stairwells and exits within the student housing community.
- b. Residents should preplan an escape route(s) in anticipation of the possibility of a fire.
- c. Residents should know and recognize the alarms that signal a building evacuation.
- d. In the event of a reported fire, residents should never enter a room that is smoke-filled or if the door is warm to the touch. Use caution, feel the door with the back of your hand before entering or exiting. If it is cool, exit the room/apartment, close the door, evacuate the building and proceed to the evacuation area.
- e. If the exit door is hot, don't open it. If possible, fill any cracks with wet towels, signal from your room by hanging a sheet out your window and wait to be rescued.
- f. If you are able to leave, close your door behind you to impede the movement of smoke and flames.
- g. If smoke is present in the hallways, lie down and crawl to safety, fresh air will be near the floor. Exit down the nearest stairwell. After you have exited, proceed to the designated evacuation area and await further instructions.
- h. Once in evacuation area, find an RA (Resident Advisor) or a Housing and Residence Life staff member and check in with them. Remember to notify an RA if someone in your apartment cannot be accounted for. The fire department will give an "all clear" when it is safe to re-enter the building.

i. For safety sake, always let your roommate know where you are, a practice commonly known as the “buddy system”.

j. Resident Advisors will check to see that everyone has evacuated to the evacuation areas. You are required by law to evacuate the building when the alarm sounds. Do not attempt to re-enter the building until you are instructed to do so by the proper authority.

#### Reporting a Fire (All fires shall be reported to CSULBPD)

1. Dial (562) 985-4101
2. Dial 9-1-1 from any campus telephone to report a fire emergency
3. Dial 9-1-1 from a cellular telephone to report a fire emergency
4. Use any one of the more than 90 building emergency telephones to report a fire emergency
6. Use the emergency intercom system found in most building elevators to report a fire emergency
7. Use any one of the 95 Blue Light Emergency call-boxes and/or poles strategically located around campus, the parking lots and the parking structures to report a fire emergency
8. Off-campus calls for emergency assistance should be directed to the appropriate local law enforcement agency
9. Pull a fire alarm

#### **Remember to always be ready to provide:**

- **Your name, telephone number and location**
- **Calmly describe the fire emergency**
- **Do not hang-up, allow the dispatchers to end the call**

#### Fire Evacuation Drills

Housing and Residence Life conducts mandatory fire evacuation drills each calendar year. Fire evacuation drills are supervised by Student Housing staff and (as necessary) monitored by personnel from Emergency Management and/or CSULBPD. The Long Beach Fire Department will always be notified before any Fire Drill exercise. Housing and Residence Life staff members are also responsible for conducting periodic fire safety instruction sessions with residents during the academic year.

For the safety of all student residents, all building evacuations shall be considered genuine emergencies and residents will be instructed to take all necessary precautions and to follow all evacuation instructions from Housing and Residence Life staff, CSULBPD Officers or Long Beach Fire Department personnel. Residents are encouraged to read and follow all policies, rules and

regulations regarding fire alarms, evacuations, assembly locations and the accounting of roommates and neighbors.

#### Potential Safe Staging Areas

(Subject to consideration of current conditions at time of evacuation)

The following locations in the housing complexes have been designated as potential safe staging areas for housing evacuations dependent upon actual occurrences. Emergency personnel may designate other specific areas as needed.

Housing and Residence Life Office Lawn Area – The lawn area adjacent to the Main Housing office is the potential safe staging area designated for Parkside Commons Halls: G, H, J, K, L, M, N, P, Q, Parkside Dining hall, Parkside office, and Main Housing offices’ residents, guests and staff.

Los Alamitos Lawn Area – The lawn area north of Los Alamitos hall is the potential safe staging area designated for Los Alamitos hall, Residential dining hall, D, E, and F Building residents, guests and staff.

Los Cerritos Lawn Area – The lawn area south of Los Cerritos hall is the potential safe staging area designated for Los Cerritos hall, A, B, and C Buildings’ residents, guests and staff.

International House (IH) – Lot 1 to the east of the IH hall is the potential safe staging area designated for residents, guests and staff.

Beachside College – The park area towards PCH is the potential safe staging area for the Beachside dining hall, Pacific hall, and Beach hall residents, guests and staff.

Graphical reference-

[http://www.csulb.edu/sites/default/files/u25711/evacuation\\_assembly\\_map.pdf](http://www.csulb.edu/sites/default/files/u25711/evacuation_assembly_map.pdf)

Assuming that an emergency evacuation is one that does not require evacuating from campus or onsite housing complex, emergency personnel will remain at their posts until the “all clear” signal has been given by the Hall Coordinator or CSULBPD.

#### Housing and Residence Life Policies: Open Flames and Smoking

- a. The burning of any material, incense, candles, oil lamps or open flame is prohibited.
- b. Intentionally or negligently starting or causing a fire, explosion, or release of gas, fumes or smoke is prohibited.
- c. Smoking is strictly prohibited in all apartments, student rooms, hallways, and meeting rooms.

d. The smell of smoke (any kind) without a response at the apartment door will cause Housing and Residence Life staff to enter the apartment in order to check on the safety of the residents inside. Note: Tampering with any fire safety equipment is a violation of state law.

#### Housing and Residence Life Policies: Electrical Appliances

- a. Space heaters, hot plates and other heat producing portable electrical and/or propane devices are prohibited inside any Housing and Residence Life building.
- b. All electrical domestic devices (electric shavers, electric tooth brushes, hair dryers, hair curling irons, televisions, radios, computers, chargers, modems, surge- protectors, and electrical extension cords, etc.) used in an apartment shall be in good working condition with no signs of damage and have the UL (Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.) seal of approval. Note: Extension cords must only be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

#### Housing and Residence Life Fire Safety Rules and Regulations

a. The possession of any type of an explosive device, fireworks, combustible decorations, chemicals, ammunition, gasoline or any other similar highly flammable substance is prohibited. Note: A violation of this policy may result in criminal prosecution.

b. Tampering with or deactivating fire safety detection equipment including fire alarms, smoke detectors or heat detectors is a violation of state law. Residents are responsible for the actions of their visitors or guests.

Smoke and heat detectors in the student resident apartments are sensitive. When taking a shower, close the bathroom door to ensure the steam does not affect the detector. Never hang anything from the sprinklers, smoke or heat detectors.

If a detector makes a beeping sound it means the battery is low. Complete a work order as soon as possible to have the battery replaced. Anytime a smoke detector alarm sounds, you should respond as if it were an EMERGENCY.

c. Tampering with or activating an alarm in a non-emergency situation, or use of a prohibited cooking or other device that can cause activation of the fire alarm system is prohibited.

Residents are responsible for the actions of their visitors or guests.

d. Hookahs are not permitted inside the student housing buildings for any reason.

e. False alarms do happen! The smoke detectors can be set off by dust, an insect or just may need routine cleaning. Opening the front door and windows (to allow fresh air into the apartment) may stop the false alarm.

**WITHOUT EXCEPTION ALL FIRES MUST BE IMMEDIATELY REPORTED  
TO THE CSULB POLICE DEPARTMENT, EVEN THOSE THAT HAVE  
ALREADY BEEN EXTINGUISHED.**

Location	Fire Alarm Monitoring by UPD	*Full Sprinkler System	Smoke Detectors	Fire Extinguisher Equipment	Evacuation Plan	Evacuation Drills in 2017
Beachside	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1/25, 10/11
Hillside	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1/26, 10/11
Los Ala	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1/26, 10/11
Los Cer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1/26, 10/11
Int'l Hse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1/26, 10/11
Parkside	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1/25, 10/11

\*Full sprinkler system is defined as having sprinklers in both individual rooms and common areas

**Fire Statistics**

The annual fire safety statistics reported below contain Housing and Residence Life statistics compiled from the 2016 calendar year and from the two previous calendar years.

**2017 Fire Statistics**

Location	Address	Date	Time
Beachside College	4385 E. PCH LB, CA 90804	No fires	n/a
Report #	Cause	Loss Value	Injuries
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Location	Address	Date	Time
Hillside College	5851 Beach Dr. LB, CA 90815	No fires	n/a
Report #	Cause	Loss Value	Injuries
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Location	Address	Date	Time
Los Alamitos	5859 Beach Dr. LB, CA 90815	No fires	n/a
Report #	Cause	Loss Value	Injuries
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Location	Address	Date	Time
Los Cerritos	5855 Beach Dr. LB, CA 90815	No fires	n/a
Report #	Cause	Loss Value	Injuries
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Location	Address	Date	Time
International House	5854 Beach Dr. LB, CA 90815	No fires	n/a
Report #	Cause	Loss Value	Injuries
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Location	Address	Date	Time
Parkside College	1601 Earl Warren Dr. LB, CA 90815	No fires	n/a
Report #	Cause	Loss Value	Injuries
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(Previous years...)

2016 Fires	Case #	*Related Injuries	Related Deaths	Value of Loss	Cause of Fire		
					Unintentional	Intentional	Undetermined
None	N/A	0	0	0	-	-	-

2015 Fires	Case #	*Related Injuries	Related Deaths	Value of Loss	Cause of Fire		
					Unintentional	Intentional	Undetermined
None	N/A	0	0		-	-	-

\*Injuries that resulted in treatment at a medical facility

Causes:      #1 – Cooking                      #2 – Smoking                      #3 – Open Flame  
                   #4 – Electrical                      #5 – Hazardous products      #6 – Machinery/Industrial  
                   #7 – Natural                              #8 - Other

#### Definition of a Fire

For the purposes of fire safety reporting, HEA defines a fire as *any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.*

This definition contains two (2) descriptions of fire.

1) Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning.

Examples include:

- Trash can fire
- Oven or microwave fire
- Burning oven mitt on a stove
- Grease fire on a stovetop
- Flame coming from electric extension cord
- Burning wall hanging or poster
- Fire in an overheated bathroom vent fan



- Couch that is burning without any flame evident

2) Any instance of open flame or other burning in an uncontrolled manner. Examples include

- Chimney fire
- Gas stove fire
- Fuel burner or boiler fire

The 2018 Annual Security Report (ASR) is available at the following link:

[http://www.csulb.edu/sites/default/files/groups/university-police/asr\\_2018.pdf](http://www.csulb.edu/sites/default/files/groups/university-police/asr_2018.pdf)