Surge Protectors with a reset switch plugged directly into the wall – 3-prong type only
Appliances with an outlet or USB ports; (i.e. lamps, vanity mirrors, etc.)
UL-approved electrical devices that meet other fire safety standards

Power or plug-in tools cannot be used in the room
If needed, space heaters provided by SMU (must be unplugged when not in the room)
Battery backup (universal power) devices less than 600 watts

2-Pronged extension cords
Surge protector or extension cord plugged into a surge protector or extension cord ("daisy chain" fashion)
Extension cords with multi-plug outlets
Multi-plug outlets without surge protection
Any non UL-approved electrical devices
Fog or smoke machines
Gasoline powered equipment (i.e. generator)

Fluorescent or LED bulbs
Battery-operated LED candles
Lights with an outlet
UL-approved lights that meet other fire safety standards

No more than three strands of lights (miniature style) may be connected together and may not be hung around doors or touch the metal part of the bed
Lava and oil lamps
Candles / incense
Black lights
Halogen or incandescent bulbs
Any non UL-approved lights

UL-approved personal appliances that meet other fire safety standards
Appliances with heating elements must be unplugged when not in use
• clothes irons
• curling irons
• hair straighteners
• curlers
• garment steamers
• and the like

Unattended cooking
Additional refrigerators
Grills (charcoal, gas and cooking)
Deep fryer appliances such as "Fry Daddy"
George Foreman grills and the like
Any cooking device with open coils
Any non UL-approved appliances

UL-approved appliances that meet other fire safety standards
Pod-style coffee makers (may remain plugged in)
Appliances permitted in the Kitchen area must be attended when in use.
Appliances with heating elements (no open coils) must be unplugged when not in use
• Coffee pots, electric kettles
• Microwave oven
• Toaster or toaster oven
• Slow cookers, rice cookers and the like
• Electric skillet and woks

Additional refrigerators
Unattended cooking
Grills (charcoal, gas and cooking)
Deep fryer appliances such as "Fry Daddy"
George Foreman grills and the like
Any cooking device with open coils
Any non UL-approved appliances

Prohibited Behavior
Smoking and/or evidence of smoking in the building or within 25 feet of a building. This includes e-cigarette type devices.
Any form or source of an open flame in the building
Possessing flammable/combustible liquids or gases
Possessing chemicals other than cleaning supplies

Discharging or removing a fire extinguisher
Fireworks of any type/explosives/gun powder
Tampering with control valves
Breaking sprinkler head(s)
Removing or covering smoke/heat detectors
Disabling/tampering with fire suppression system
Disabling/tampering with fire alarm system

Criminal mischief (Arson)
Tampering, covering or damaging the following: fire exit lights, fire exit signs, pull stations, horns, strobes, fire exit doors
Obstructing or locking fire exit doors
Failure to evacuate in a timely matter when the fire alarm sounds

Apartment Halls Fire Safety Regulations

Fire safety violations result in a minimum $150 fine. Additional violations found on the same date will increase the fine by $50 per violation, up to $250. Cost for any damages caused by fire safety violations will also be charged to the resident(s) and may result in conduct action.

1. When a violation is found, residents will be notified by email or by written notice left in the room.
2. Residents have 72 hours to discuss responsibility with their Residential Community Director.
3. If resident(s) do not contact the Residential Community Director within 72 hours, the fine will be divided equally between roommates and/or suitemates and charged to the student accounts.
4. Residents are encouraged to participate in educational opportunities to reduce the fines.
5. Residents who have questions about fire safety or who have a prohibited item are responsible for discussing it with a Residential Community Director immediately. The Residential Community Director will store any prohibited items if the resident brings it to his/her attention prior to Safety and Maintenance Inspections.

These violations will be investigated and sanctioned by the University Park Fire Department. Sanctions referred to a municipal judge may include up to a $2,000 fine. In addition, residents are sanctioned by the SMU Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. SMU sanctions may include a $500 fine and removal from the Residence Halls. These violations are considered Class C misdemeanors.
Apartment Halls Fire Safety Regulations

Ensuring Resident Safety

At Southern Methodist University (SMU), Residence Life & Student Housing (RLSH) works closely with the Office of Police and Risk Management and the University Park Fire Marshal to educate residents about fire prevention. All students residing in residence halls are expected to abide by the fire safety regulations and policies to better ensure the safety of the entire residential community. The list of violations is subject to change at any time and will be communicated by official postings.

All resident rooms are inspected for safety and maintenance at least once per semester by University staff and/or the University Park Fire Marshal. The purpose of inspections is to enhance safety of all residents, assess need for repairs and to enforce residence hall policies, including fire safety regulations. Residents will be notified of violations via email or written notice left in the room. Prohibited items will be confiscated by the Residential Community Director and/or designated staff during inspections. Residents are responsible for violations in their rooms, even if they are not directly responsible for the prohibited item or condition leading to the violation. Prohibited items may be a violation, even if not in use.

Five Easy Ways to Avoid a Fire Safety Fine

1. The number one way to avoid a fine and the easiest to do--unplug appliances with heating elements (hair straightener, iron, coffee pot) while not in use.

2. Not enough light in the room? Use compact fluorescent (CF) or LED bulbs in your lamps.

3. Use only a 3-prong surge protector with an on-off switch (avoid any other “extension” cord).

4. Need to freshen the air? Use only canned or freestanding air fresheners.

5. Read and follow the fire safety regulations, and ask questions if you’re not sure about something!

Do You Know...

How to Prevent a Fire?

How to Avoid a Fire Safety Fine?

Start Here! Read the policies and learn what is allowed & what is not.

Residence Hall Fire Safety Contact Information

SMU Fire Manager
Office of Risk Management
214-768-4203

Questions, Comments, Suggestions of Feedback on Fire Safety?
Email: safety@smu.edu
Call Residence Life & Student Housing 214-768-2407
RLSH Website: smu.edu/housing