

# Dorm Room Setup Guide

Practical guidance for wiring up and furnishing your room safely, based on SCAD housing policy. Use this alongside your floor plan when deciding what to bring and where to plug it in.

## ■ Electrical Outlets

### What you're working with

- A limited number of built-in outlets per room — they cannot be altered or modified in any way.
- Max two appliances per double outlet.

### What you can bring

- One UL- or ETL-listed surge protector per resident, 6 ft or shorter, with a built-in circuit breaker.
- The UL/ETL certification must be printed on the plastic housing or on a manufacturer label — check before buying.
- Longer cords need prior approval from housing staff based on the room's layout.

### What's not allowed

- Non-UL/ETL surge protectors of any kind.
- Standard multi-plug adapters and power strips (these are different from a proper surge protector and are prohibited).
- Chaining surge protectors into one another — one per resident, plugged directly into the wall.

### Setup tip

Plan your surge protector placement near your desk (for your laptop, monitor, lamp) before move-in day — since you only get one per person, it's worth mapping out what actually needs to reach it.

## ■ Lithium-Powered Devices

### The rule

Any device or piece of equipment with a lithium battery rated over 100 watt-hours (Wh) is banned from inside every university building — this includes residence halls and academic buildings, not just your room.

### Commonly affected

- E-bikes, electric scooters, hoverboards, and similar electric transportation devices.

### Good news for your electronics

- Standard laptops typically run 50–100 Wh, so most laptops are exempt and fine to bring.

### If you have a covered device

- It cannot be carried, used, stored, or charged inside any university building.
- Store it outdoors at bike racks or in approved parking-garage areas instead.
- Always charge with the manufacturer-approved charger and cable — no substitutes.
- Never charge any lithium device on a flammable surface like a bed or couch.

## Accommodations

If you rely on an electric mobility aid, contact the Office of Disability Resources — exceptions to this policy may be available.

## ■ ■ Appliances

### Prohibited outright

- Sun/heat lamps, space heaters, toaster ovens.
- Individual microwaves and full-size refrigerators (unless part of the approved program below).
- Ice makers, slow cookers, rice cookers, hot plates, and other standalone kitchen appliances.

### Fridge & microwave — the MicroFridge® rule

In traditional halls — Chatham, The Hive, Montgomery House, River, FORTY FOUR, Turner House, and suites in FORTY / FORTY FOUR / FORTY FIVE / FORTY EIGHT East — the only permitted fridge/microwave setup is a rental unit through the MicroFridge® program (via MyMicrofridge). You're allowed one unit per two residents, so coordinate with your roommate before ordering so you don't double up.

*(If you're in Barnard Village, Boundary Village, Sand at Victory Village, SCAD House, FORTY, FORTY FOUR, FORTY EIGHT West, or a FORTY pod, a fridge and microwave are already built into the apartment — no rental needed.)*

### Allowed to bring freely

- Personal computer, radio, fan, stereo, TV, DVD player, video game console, clock.
- Electric blanket — must have automatic shut-off.
- Blow-dryer.
- Coffee maker — must have automatic shut-off.

### Power for it all

You're allowed one UL- or EL-approved, 6-ft surge-protected extension strip per student to help run multiple appliances — this is the same one-per-person allowance noted under Electrical Outlets above, not an additional one.

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*Based on an excerpt of SCAD's housing policies. This is guidance for planning your setup, not a substitute for the full Housing License Agreement in MySCAD — check there for anything not covered here.*