

**HOUSE RULES**

1. **Residents are required to stay drug and alcohol free.** Failure to do so will result in immediate dismissal. Residents must consent to their belongings being searched by manager or police at anytime, without notice. Urinalysis, breathalyzer, or saliva testing may be conducted at anytime, for any reason. Failure to comply will be considered a positive reading, resulting in immediate dismissal. Residents of the house may not take mood altering/psychoactive medications. The House Manager *must be informed in advance* of any medication being taken (prescription or non-prescription).
2. **Each resident is responsible for his or her own rent;** failure to pay rent will result in dismissal. If you leave or are dismissed prematurely, all previously paid money will be forfeited.
3. **All residents are expected to maintain a productive lifestyle,** being up and out of bed by 8:00 am on the weekdays and 9:00 am on the weekends. All beds must be made upon rising and rooms left neat and orderly.
4. **Residents are expected to become financially independent** while staying at Synergy Houses. If you are unemployed, you will be given 14 days from the date of admission to obtain employment. We do not allow residents to work second or third shifts that bring them home after curfew. The house manager must approve all residents' work schedules. While you are unemployed, residents are expected to be out of the house between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm looking for work, volunteering at community service, or attending 12 Step Meetings. If you have not obtained employment within this 14-day period, your status will be examined and you may be asked to leave.
5. **All new residents are subject to a higher level of structure during their orientation period (Phase 1).** The length of Phase I is determined at the House Manager's discretion, and typically may last 14 to 45 days. During Phase I, residents may not leave the house alone unless it is for approved work, volunteer service, to interview for a job. You must be with a senior member of the house to go elsewhere unless given special permission by the house manager. At any time as behaviors warrant, a resident may be moved back to Phase I at the House Manager's discretion.
6. **All residents must sign out when leaving the house and sign in upon returning. No exceptions.**
7. **Curfew from Sunday thru Thursday is 10:30 pm and 11:30 pm on weekend nights (Fri & Sat).** Curfew may be extended by 1 hour on the weekends after Phase I with House Manager permission on a case-by-case basis.

8. **Overnight passes** may be granted after the end of the Phase I at the House Manager's discretion.
9. **Residents** must attend at least one 12- Step Meeting every day, join a home group and begin taking service commitments in Phase I. Within the first seven (7) days residents must find a temporary sponsor. After Phase I, residents must attend at least 5 meetings per week or more at the House Manager's direction.
10. **Each resident will be assigned a chore**, which is to be done everyday between the hours of 7 am-10 pm. All residents are responsible to clean their own living and eating areas, and keep them clean at all times. All residents must participate in any chore asked of them by House Manager, owner, or House Mentor. These tasks may include, clearing of snow on walkways, yard work, or helping neighbors.
11. **There will be one mandatory House Meeting per week**, followed by a House 12-Step Meeting. All residents must arrive on time and attend these meetings.
12. **Vehicles must be registered, insured, and in good condition.** Residents with vehicles onsite must carry a current drivers license without suspensions. During the probationary period residents may have one vehicle at the house with the manager's permission.
13. **Weapons, gambling, and bullying of any kind are forbidden on the premises.** Threats of violence of any kind are taken very seriously and may result in immediate dismissal. Residents are expected to show respect towards other residents, the community and neighbors; failure to do so will result in dismissal.
14. **Women are forbidden on the property** unless they invited by a Synergy Houses representative. Sexual behavior on the premises is forbidden. Residents are expected to focus on themselves and their recovery; therefore it is not recommended to begin any new relationships during the first year of recovery. Immediate family members only (male or female) may visit if granted advanced permission by the house manager. No visitors are allowed during probationary period except on designated Family Days.
15. **Eating is restricted to the kitchen and dining areas only**, and all residents are expected to clean up after themselves. Each resident must thoroughly wash out all cups, plates, and utensils immediately after use, there should be no dishes left in the sink for any reason at anytime.
16. **Lights, television, computers and personal appliances** should be turned off when leaving a room. Many residents will be waking up early for work,

therefore, at 10 pm all volume must be set to minimum and the kitchen will be closed to residents. Meals must be eaten at reasonable hours out of respect for other residents.

- 17. **All personal items should be kept in residents' rooms.** Shoes and coats may be kept in the laundry room in an orderly fashion; no other personal items should be left in common areas. Rooms must be kept clean and orderly at all times. Personal gaming equipment is not allowed.
- 18. **There is no smoking inside the house at anytime.** Smoking is allowed on the side porch with all cigarette butts disposed in the Smokers' Outpost™. Residents and guests are not to congregate outside the front entrance. When outside, residents are expected to keep the noise level down and refrain from any inappropriate language, conversation, or behavior, remember we are part of this community and must treat everyone with respect.
- 19. **Dismissal:** Noncompliance with these rules is grounds for immediate dismissal. Additionally, any resident suspected of theft or illegal activity on or off the property will be dismissed. Inappropriate language or behavior or bullying may result in dismissal. Honesty and Integrity are core values of the house and expected to be upheld at all times.
- 20. **Any resident dismissed from the house** will be given one (1) hour to vacate the property and will not be allowed to return. You will be given 24 hours to remove all of your belongings. You must arrange a time with the house manager to retrieve your belongings, you will not be allowed on the property without house manager supervision. Residents who are asked to leave may reapply for admittance into the house only with owner, house manager, and house mentor approval.
- 21. **Group consciousness at all meetings is to be followed;** this includes respect for other attendees, and establishments. Residents are a reflection of this house, and are expected to participate at meetings. Residents are not to be late or leave early from any 12 Step or House Meetings. Texting, talking, or using the bathroom, etc. during meetings is disruptive to the whole group.

I have read and understand the rules listed above. I will abide by these rules while a resident at Synergy Houses.

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Applicant

Date

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Synergy Houses Representative

Date