

Erskine College and Theological Seminary  
Campus Fire Safety Report  
October 1, 2024

Overview:

The Higher Education Opportunity Act became law in August 2008. It requires all United States academic institutions to produce an annual fire safety report outlining student housing fire safety systems, fire drills, fire statistics, fire safety policies, and education and training programs. The following public disclosure report details all information this law requires regarding Erskine College and Theological Seminary. Paper copies of this report can be obtained from the Office of Public Safety or the Institutional Research Office.

Fire Statistics:

Fire Statistics - On-Campus Housing Facilities					
Residential Housing Facilities	Street Address	2023			
		Number of Fires	Number of Injuries	Number of Deaths	Value of Property Damage
Bonner	3 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
Carnegie	4 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
Grier	213 S. Main St.	0	0	0	\$0
Infirmary	5 Bonner Circle				
Kennedy	2 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
McQuiston	212 S. Main St.	0	0	0	\$0
Pressley	211 S. Main St.	0	0	0	\$0
Robinson	6 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
Women's Seminary House	7 E. Cleveland St.	0	0	0	\$0
Edwards	7 E. Cleveland St.	0	0	0	\$0
Mill Street Apts.	Mill Street	0	0	0	\$0
Villages	5 Depot Street	0	0	0	\$0



## On-Campus Housing Fire Systems:

Fire Safety Systems - On-Campus Housing Facilities						
Residential Housing Facilities	Fire Alarm Monitored 24/7 by Simplex Monitoring Co.	Sprinkler System (Full or Partial)	Smoke Detection 1	Smoke Detection 2	Fire Extinguisher Devices	Evacuation Plans/Placards Posted in All Common Areas/Hallways
Bonner	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Carnegie	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Grier	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Infirmary						
Kennedy	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
McQuiston	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pressley	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Robinson	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Women's Seminary House	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

1. Smoke Detection 1 is defined as smoke and heat detectors located in common areas and hallways tied directly into the fire alarm and monitored at all times by the Simplex Monitoring Company.

2. Smoke Detection 2 is defined as battery-operated smoke detectors/heat sensors (local alarm only) and is tied into the fire alarm.

## Policies on Portable Electrical Appliances, Smoking, and Open Flames:

Erskine's smoking policy can be found in The Pilot, the student handbook, and the Employee Resource Manual. No smoking is allowed in any building on the Erskine College campus, including, but not limited to, residence halls. This rule forbids smoking in residence hall hallways and personal rooms as well. Students are expected to only smoke outside and away from main entrance and exit doors.

Students are not allowed to have the following items: weapons, firearms, BB guns, slingshots, airsoft guns, dart boards, knives with blades longer than three inches, fireworks, candles, incense, potpourri burners, appliances with exposed heating coils (space heaters), George Foreman grills, toasters and toaster ovens, hot plates, halogen lamps, pets, and alcohol/drug paraphernalia.

## Fire or Fire Drills:

The number of fire drills performed in each on-campus housing facility is listed in the chart below.

Fire Drills - On-Campus Housing Facilities			
Residential Housing Facilities	Number of evacuation (fire) drills performed SY 2020-2021	Number of evacuation (fire) drills performed SY 2021-2022	Number of evacuation (fire) drills performed SY 2022-2023
Bonner	4	4	4
Carnegie	4	4	4
Grier	4	4	4
Infirmery			
Kennedy	4	4	4
McQuiston	2	4	4
Pressley	4	4	4
Robinson	4	4	4
Women's Seminary House	2	2	2

The following regulations and procedures for fire or fire drills can found in The Pilot, the student handbook.

### a. Regulations

1. No student shall activate the fire alarm system as a prank, turn in a false alarm, or discharge a fire extinguisher without due cause (\$50 fine). Any student found guilty of such offense by Judicial Council will be given 25 work hours for the first offense in addition to any other actions of Judicial Council. Each violation thereafter will be referred to the College Committee on Discipline and Appeals.
2. There will be one announced mandatory fire drill each semester. All students are required to be present and participate. Any guests present during these fire drills must participate also.
3. There will be one unannounced fire drill each semester. All students and guests present in the residence hall at that time will be required to participate.
4. All students and guests present in the residence hall at any time a fire alarm is sounded must vacate the building according to fire drill procedures.
5. Violators of the above regulation will be subject to disciplinary actions before Judicial Council.

b. Procedure

1. In the event of a fire alarm, students are asked to observe the following procedures:

- Keep quiet except to awaken others.
- Put on shoes and coat and carry a towel.
- Close all windows and raise the shades.
- Turn on the lights if fire occurs in the evening.
- Close the doors to your room as you leave.

2. Use the nearest exit or assigned exit.

3. Students having an assigned destination outside the residence hall are to remain there until released by an RA or RD.

4. In the event of a fire or an emergency during the day or night

- In the event of a fire, pull the closest fire alarm
- Call 911 (9911 on-campus system) to alert the appropriate authorities
- Call the Dean for Student Services or the Director of Residence Life and Housing:

Wendi Santee: (864) 379-8701

Samuel Barrick: (864) 379-8820

- Call the Resident Director of your residence hall or the residence hall with the present fire

c. RAs will serve as fire captains.

d. The students are not to open the doors to fire exits except during a fire or fire drill. Any student caught opening these doors at an inappropriate time will be subject to disciplinary action by Judicial Council.

Evacuation Procedures:

Evacuation plans/placards are posted in all common areas/hallways of each on-campus housing facility (posting is in progress for the Infirmary, McQuiston, and the Women's Seminary House).

Additional information on emergency response and evacuation procedures can be found at:

<http://www.erskine.edu/erskine/campus-police/emergency-procedures/>

## Fire Safety Education and Training Programs:

Students are made aware of fire safety policies in The Pilot, the student handbook. Fire safety training is provided to all Resident Directors and Student Life Assistants during the mandatory orientation program conducted in August. This training includes responsibilities during a fire alarm, fire procedures for the residence halls, and proper use of a fire extinguisher. Resident students also attend dorm meetings where fire safety and evacuation procedures are reviewed.

Erskine College and Seminary employees are reminded about fire safety in the Safety Section of the Employee Resource Handbook. All employees are required to sign an acknowledgement form stating that they are aware of the policies and expected to adhere to them. Emails and other correspondence are sent to employees during Fire Safety Prevention Week (October of each year) to remind employees to be safe at the workplace and at home.