

Erskine College and Theological Seminary
Campus Fire Safety Report
October 1, 2025

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 the 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	2024			
		Number of Fires	Number of Injuries	Number of Deaths	Value of Property Damage
Bonner Hall	3 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
Carnegie Hall	4 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
Grier Hall	213 S. Main St.	0	0	0	\$0
Infirmery	5 Bonner Circle				
Kennedy Hall	2 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
McQuiston Hall	212 S. Main St.	0	0	0	\$0
Pressley Hall	211 S. Main St.	0	0	0	\$0
Robinson Hall	6 Bonner Circle	0	0	0	\$0
Women's Seminary House	7 E. Cleveland St.	0	0	0	\$0
Edwards House	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 Hall	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Carnegie Hall	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Grier Hall	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Infirmary						
Kennedy Hall	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
McQuiston Hall	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pressley Hall	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Robinson Hall	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Women's Seminary House	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Mill Street Apts.	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Villages	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Smoke Detection 2 is defined as battery-operated smoke detectors or heat sensors (local alarm only) 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 only to smoke outside and away from the 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 2021-2022	Number of evacuation (fire) drills performed SY 2022-2023	Number of evacuation (fire) drills performed SY 2023-2024
Bonner Hall	4	4	4
Carnegie Hall	4	4	4
Grier Hall	4	4	4
Infirmary			
Kennedy Hall	4	4	4
McQuiston Hall	2	4	4
Pressley Hall	4	4	4
Robinson Hall	4	4	4
Women's Seminary House	4	4	4
Edwards House	2	2	2
Mill Street Apts.	2	2	2
Villages	2	2	2

The Pilot, the student handbook, contains the following regulations and procedures for fire or fire drills.

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 the Judicial Council will be given 25 work hours for the first offense in addition to any other actions of the 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 also participate.
3. Each semester, there will be one unannounced fire drill. All students and guests present in the residence hall at that time must 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 the Judicial Council.

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 a 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 Those caught opening these doors at an inappropriate time will be subject to disciplinary action by the 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 fire extinguisher use. Resident students also attend dorm meetings where fire safety and evacuation procedures are reviewed.

The Safety Section of the Employee Resource Handbook reminds Erskine College and Seminary employees about fire safety. All employees must 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.