



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY®

HOUSTON

2022 Annual Fire Safety Report on Student Housing

Higher Education Campus Fire Safety Standards and Measures

This Annual Fire Safety Report on Student Housing (Annual Fire Safety Report) and the Texas A&M University Houston Annual Security Report are available at the following Texas A&M University Risk, Ethics, and Compliance websites.

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HoustonAnnualFireReport.pdf>

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HoustonAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Email vpfa-urc-clery@tamu.edu for assistance if any link does not function.

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Texas A&M University, Houston

Telephone Numbers and General Contact Information

Texas A&M University Houston Security

<https://health.tamu.edu/security/index.html>

Institute of Biosciences and Technology (IBT) Building
2121 West Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030
(713) 677-7700

School of Engineering Medicine Building
1020 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030
(713) 677-7777

Office of Environmental Health & Safety

Texas A&M University, 4472 TAMU

1111 Research Parkway

College Station, TX 77843-4472

(979) 845-2132

<https://ehs.tamu.edu/>

Life Tower

6919 Main St.

Houston, TX 77030

Property Management (713) 677-7500

Security – overnight patrol (512) 575-5449

After hours answering service (346) 547-8660

<https://lifeliftower.com/>

Policy for preparing the Annual Fire Safety Report

Life Tower, located at 6919 Main St. in Houston, TX, is the on-campus residential facility for the Texas A&M University Houston (TAMU Houston) campus. In accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), an institution is required to keep a fire log, publish an annual fire safety report containing fire safety information and fire statistics, and submit fire statistics to the Department of Education for their on-campus residential facilities. Disclosure of missing student procedures that pertain to the institution's students residing in the on-campus housing facility is also required and can be found in the Houston Annual Security Report at the following website:

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCHoustonAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>.

The TAMU Houston Security Department, within the Texas A&M University Health Science Center organization, compiles the TAMU Houston Annual Fire Safety Report and maintains a log of fire statistics with information and input from various sources such as contracted Life Tower personnel,

the Texas A&M University Office of Environmental Health and Safety, and the Texas A&M University Office of Risk, Ethics, and Compliance (OREC).

The Annual Fire Safety Report is published every year by October 1st and contains three years of selected fire statistics in accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA). Fire safety reports published in 2022 contain the statistics for calendar years 2019 through 2021. Life Tower, the on-campus residential facility for TAMU Houston, began occupancy in July 2022, therefore, statistics calendar years 2019 through 2021 are not available nor required to be disclosed in the 2022 Annual Fire Safety Report.

Annual Fire Safety Report and Related Information

The Annual Fire Safety Report is required by the HEOA for any Title IV institution that maintains an on-campus student housing facility. Per HEOA, an institution that maintains an on-campus student housing facility must collect fire statistics, publish an Annual Fire Safety Report, and keep a fire log. The information contained in this document relates to fire safety for on-campus student residential housing only. The Annual Security Report for TAMU Houston and Annual Security Reports for other Texas A&M University campuses can be found at the following website <https://orec.tamu.edu/clery/annual-security-report/>. Copies may be requested in person at the front desk of the IBT Building (2121 West Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX) or by calling (713) 677-7700.

Notifications

Each year, an e-mail notification which provides website access to this report is sent to all current Texas A&M University students, faculty, and staff. Upon request, prospective students and employees and others may obtain a written paper copy of the report from the front desk of the IBT Building, 2121 West Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX, by calling (713) 677-7700, or visiting the following website: <https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HoustonAnnualFireReport.pdf>.

Prospective employees are notified about the Annual Fire Safety Report through an email distributed when applying for a position. Website access to the Annual Fire Safety Report is provided by the Division of Human Resources and Organizational Effectiveness through a link called “Campus Security Policies and Crime Statistics (Clery Act)” located on the Prospective Employees webpage <https://employees.tamu.edu/talent-management/careers/index.html>. The Required Employee Notices & Important Reminders webpage (<https://employees.tamu.edu/employees/required-notices.html>) also links to the Annual Fire Safety Report under the “Safety and Security Notices” heading.

Prospective students are notified of the availability of the Annual Fire Safety Report through an email distributed when applying for admission. Website access to the Annual Security Report is provided by the Office of Admissions through a link titled “Campus Safety” located at the bottom of the Admissions webpage (<http://admissions.tamu.edu/>).

The Texas A&M University Environmental Health and Safety Department provides a fire log for all reported fires that occur in its on-campus student housing facilities. The fire log with information regarding the most recent 60-day period is open to public inspection and is available on-site at the TAMU Houston Security Desk upon request, during normal business hours at the IBT Building, 2121 West Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77030. Portions of the log older than 60 days can be requested

from Texas A&M University Environmental Health and Safety and will be available within 2 business days of a request for public inspection. A request can be made by phone at 713-677-7700 (TAMU Houston Security) or 979-845-2132, or written request may be sent to Environmental Health and Safety, 4472 TAMU, 1111 Research Parkway, College Station, TX 77843-4472.

Reporting Fires

Per federal law, Texas A&M University is required to annually disclose statistical data on all fires that occur in on-campus student housing facilities. TAMU Houston students, employees, and others reporting a fire on campus should call 911.

Below are the non-emergency phone numbers to call to report fires that have already been extinguished. These phone numbers are for fires that are no longer a danger and/or may not have already been reported to Houston Police/Houston Fire Departments. If students or employees find evidence of such a fire or if hear about such a fire, contact any of the following:

Life Tower Property Management (713) 677-7500
Life Tower Security overnight patrol (512) 575-5449
TAMU Houston Security (713) 677-7700
Texas A&M University Office of Environmental Health and Safety (979) 845-2132

Occupants and others may also activate a fire alarm pull station, located throughout the building near each exit, to begin immediate evacuation of the building and notify Houston Police and Fire of the fire.

For the purpose of including fires in the statistics of this annual fire safety report, individuals should also contact one of the above persons or departments. When calling, please provide as much information as possible about the location, date, time, and cause of the fire to aid in annual fire safety report statistical disclosures. Life Tower Property Management is responsible for reporting fires that occur at Life Tower to TAMU Houston Security for inclusion in the Annual Fire Safety Report statistics and fire log. For more fire safety information, call the Texas A&M University Environmental Health & Safety Office at (979) 845-2132 or visit:

<https://www.tamu.edu/emergency/procedures/fireProcedures.html>

Fire Safety Education, Training Programs, and Policies

Residents are not required to complete formal fire safety training at any time.

To provide for the safety of their residents, Life Tower has developed a set of guidelines and policies for their campus community. These community rules and regulations are provided to the tenants prior to occupancy in the community through their lease agreement. Examples are provided below for several prohibitions related to fire safety as defined in the community rules. Prohibited items and actions for Life Tower include:

- Fireworks and other similar combustibles,
- Smoking materials or smoking devices including E-cigarettes,
- Grills (gas, charcoal, electric) on balconies, inside units, and must be 15 feet from the building,
- Propane tanks,

- Portable electrical appliances within 5 feet of any body of water such as pool, hot tub, or bathtub,
- Tampering with any or intentionally activating any fire alarm, fire sprinkler, fire extinguisher, or similar fire safety system, and
- Storing of any flammable, hazardous, or explosive materials on the community grounds.

Life Tower policies do not restrict candles/open flames in places intended to contain burning.

Management and staff receive training on fire safety systems by the installing vendors. Management and staff also receive demonstrations regarding use of fire extinguishers and general response when a fire alarm goes off.

Additional information is available in the Texas A&M University Safety Manual, Chapter 8 - Fire and Life Safety, and each facility is required to develop an emergency evacuation plan. Guidelines are available on the Environmental Health and Safety website referenced below. These plans outline procedures for notification of emergency personnel as well as evacuation procedures for building occupants.

Texas A&M University Safety Manual Chapter 8 – Fire and Life Safety:
<https://ehs.tamu.edu/media/1164821/TAMU%20Safety%20Manual-%20Fire%20and%20Life%20Safety.pdf>

The following Texas A&M University Rules and SAPs have additional information.

- Fire and Life Safety Compliance
<https://rulesadmin.tamu.edu/rules/download/24.01.01.M7>
- Use of Pyrotechnics or Flame Effects
<https://rulesadmin.tamu.edu/rules/download/24.01.01.M7.01>
- Restrictions on Candles
<https://rulesadmin.tamu.edu/rules/download/24.01.01.M7.02>
- Safe Use of Outdoor Fires
<https://rulesadmin.tamu.edu/rules/download/24.01.01.M7.03>

Also, see <https://ehs.tamu.edu/home/training-opportunities/> or email Environmental Health and Safety at ehsd@tamu.edu to register for or request specific training courses, including fire extinguisher training, laboratory safety, automated external defibrillator (CPR) training, etc.

Residence Facility Evacuation and Emergency Procedures

The Houston Fire Department provides services to Life Tower and area residents for protection of life and property from fire and natural disasters. They maintain a standard of training which encompasses both a prompt response to emergencies and the safety of citizens.

Evacuation

Individuals are required to evacuate the building or area when instructed by a university authority, police, firefighter, Life Tower employee, or when a fire alarm sounds. When a fire alarm goes off, the fire department is dispatched immediately and applicable floors are cleared by staff. In accordance with City of Houston high-rise standards, the evacuation scheme is such that the floor of alarm, floor

above, and floor below are notified for evacuation in a fire incident. If fire spreads to other floors, then the evacuation notification expands as well. Emergency responders have the capability of evacuating additional floors manually.

Fire or Smoke Alarm

If you are in your unit when the smoke alarm or fire alarm sounds or you receive fire evacuation notice:

- Evacuate your apartment and use the exit stairs. Do not use the elevators.
- Use caution before opening any doors. Feel the door with the back of your hand. If the door is cool, stay low and open the door. If the door is hot, find an alternate escape route.
- Pull the nearest fire alarm if the building alarm has not sounded.
- Call 911 (Emergency Services) from a cell phone or emergency phone.
- Notify Life Tower Property Management immediately.
- Do not re-enter your apartment until the Fire Department has declared it safe to do so.

If you are trapped in your apartment:

- Keep the door closed and seal cracks with tape, clothes, sheets, etc.
- Call 911 to report that you are trapped and to report your location.
- Hang a light-colored piece of cloth out your window to signal firefighters.
- Stay low and stay calm as you wait for firefighters.

Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers can be found in wall-mounted cabinets in the hallways of the Life Tower facility.

Residence Facility Evacuation Drills (Fire Drills)

Life Tower began occupancy in July 2022, therefore, the number of evacuation drills for the previous calendar year of 2021 are not available nor required to be disclosed in the 2022 Annual Fire Safety Report. No evacuation drill program or drills are scheduled for Life Tower after occupancy.

Description of Residence Facility Fire Safety Systems

Sprinkler, fire alarm and smoke detection systems located in the residence facility are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by a central monitoring service that automatically contacts the City of Houston Dispatch Center that informs the Houston Fire Department and Houston Police Department.

Residential Facilities – Fire Detection and Suppression Systems							
Residence Facility	Sprinkler System	Fire Alarm System	Smoke Detection	Fire Extinguisher Device	Evacuation Plans ¹	Standpipe System ²	Number of Drills Per Year
Life Tower	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n/a

¹ Evacuation plans are posted on the back of each unit’s door.

² Standpipes are vertical water pipes within the building for fire department use.

Life Tower has two exit stair enclosures that are pressurized to inhibit migration of smoke to stairwells. Life Tower also has two elevators designated as “Fire Service Access Elevators” as required for high-rise buildings. These elevators remain active in emergency situations for fire department use. Each residential unit corridor door has self-closing and positive latching hardware. Fire inspections occurred pre-occupancy prior to July 2022 to certify occupancy readiness. Additional fire inspections occur at least annually and within local and state guidelines.

Fire Safety Definitions (Department of Education)

On-campus Student Housing Facility: Any student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution, or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution, and is within the reasonably contiguous geographic area that makes up the campus is considered an on-campus student housing facility.

Cause of fire: The factor or factors that give rise to a fire. The causal factor may be, but is not limited to, the result of an intentional or unintentional action, mechanical failure, or act of nature.

Fire: Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Fire drill: A supervised practice of a mandatory evacuation of a building for a fire.

Fire-related injury: Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause, while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of the fire. The term “person” may include students, employees, visitors, firefighters, or any other individuals.

Fire-related death: Any instance in which a person—

- (1) Is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire; or
- (2) Dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of the fire.

Fire safety system: Any mechanism or system related to the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire, or the control of a fire. This may include sprinkler systems or other fire extinguishing systems, fire detection devices, stand-alone smoke alarms, devices that alert one to the presence of a fire, such as horns, bells, or strobe lights; smoke-control and reduction mechanisms; and fire doors and walls that reduce the spread of a fire.

Value of property damage: The estimated value of the loss of the structure and contents, in terms of the cost of replacement in like kind and quantity. This estimate should include contents damaged by fire, and related damages caused by smoke, water, and overhaul; however, it does not include indirect loss, such as business interruption.

On-Campus Housing Initiatives

No future improvements in fire safety are planned at the time of this report.

2019 On-Campus Housing Facility Fire Statistics

Facility Name	Building Address	Total Fires in Each Facility	Fire Number	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Life Tower	6919 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

2020 On-Campus Housing Facility Fire Statistics

Facility Name	Building Address	Total Fires in Each Facility	Fire Number	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Life Tower	6919 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

2021 On-Campus Housing Facility Fire Statistics

Facility Name	Building Address	Total Fires in Each Facility	Fire Number	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Life Tower	6919 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: Life Tower, the on-campus residential facility for TAMU Houston, began occupancy in July 2022, therefore, statistics for calendar years 2019 through 2021 are not available nor required to be disclosed in the 2022 Annual Fire Safety Report.

Other Annual Fire Safety Reports and Annual Security Reports

Annual Security Reports and Annual Fire Safety Reports for other Texas A&M University locations are as follows and are available at the following Texas A&M University Office of Risk, Ethics, and Compliance website: <https://orec.tamu.edu/clery/annual-security-report/>.

Other Texas A&M University Annual Fire Safety Reports

Texas A&M University at College Station

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/CSAnnualFireReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University at Galveston

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/GalvestonAnnualFireReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University at Galveston, TS General Rudder

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/TAMUGGeneralRudderAnnualFireReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Maritime Academy Summer Sea Term

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/TAMUMaritimeAcademyAnnualFireReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center Kingsville

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/KingsvilleAnnualFireReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Veterinary Education, Research, and Outreach

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/VEROAnnualFireReport.pdf>

Other Texas A&M University Annual Security Reports

Texas A&M University College Station

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/CSAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University O.D. Butler, Jr. Animal Science Complex and University Farm

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/UnivFarmAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University at Galveston

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/GalvestonAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University RELIS Campus

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/RELISAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University at Qatar

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/QatarAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Mays Business School at CityCentre

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/MaysAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University School of Law

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/LawAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center Bryan

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCBryanAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center Cooper Clinic, Dallas

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCCooperClinicAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center Dallas

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCDallasAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Houston

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HoustonAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center Kingsville

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCKingsvilleAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center McAllen

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCMcAllenAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center Round Rock

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCRRAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Health Science Center Temple

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HSCTempleAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Higher Education Center at McAllen

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/HECMcAllenAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University at Galveston, TS General Rudder

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/TAMUGGeneralRudderAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Maritime Academy Summer Sea Term

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/TAMUMaritimeAcademyAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Bush School of Government & Public Service Washington, DC Teaching Site

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/DCAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>

Texas A&M University Veterinary Education, Research, and Outreach

<https://orec.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/VEROAnnualSecurityReport.pdf>