

Oberlin

Campus Safety

FIRE SAFETY

Annual Report

2026

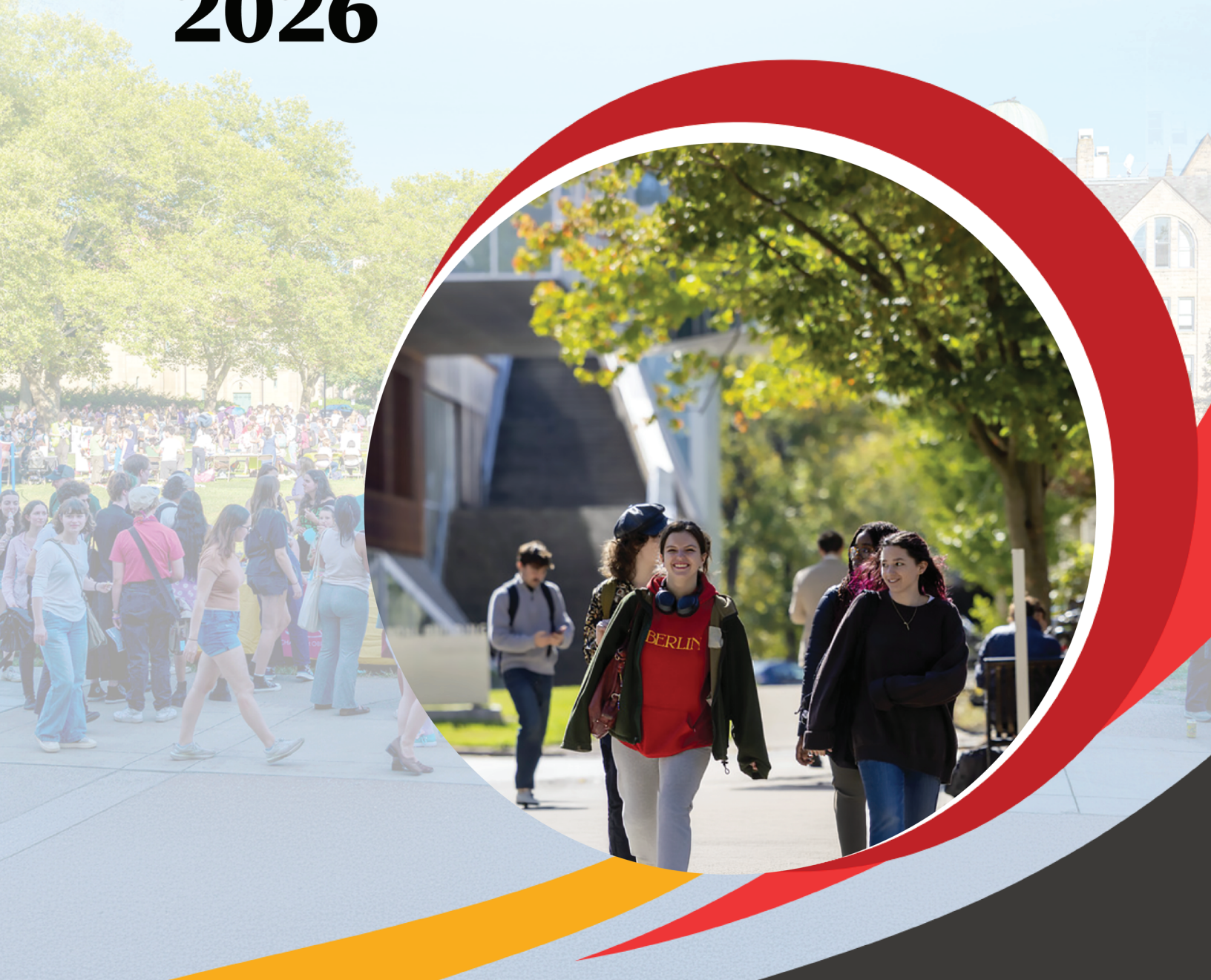


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Cover Image: Kohl building walkthrough – Photo by Bob Handelman

OBERLIN COLLEGE AND CONSERVATORY ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY

The information and statistics in this report are being presented to the Oberlin College and Conservatory community in compliance with Fire Safety Procedures, Statistics, Reports and Documentation requirements of The Higher Education Opportunity Act (Public Law 110-315) (HEOA), enacted August 14, 2008. It joins the Oberlin College and Conservatory Annual Security Report, complying with The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. Oberlin College publishes both reports on the web at <https://oberlin.edu/campus-safety> and in brochure format. Paper copies of each are available for individuals to pick up at the Office of Campus Safety, 140 West College Street, Suite C, Oberlin, OH 44074, or, to have a copy mailed to you, send a written request to the Office of Campus Safety by interoffice mail, or by email to campus.safety@oberlin.edu. You may also make the request by phone: **440 -775-8444**.

Oberlin College and Conservatory Office of Campus Safety

140 W. College St., Suite C
Oberlin, OH 44074

Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance): 911 (calls go directly to Lorain County
Emergency 911, but not through the Campus Safety dispatching center)

Emergency Line: 440-775-8911

Nonemergency Service Number: **440-775-8444 (College Extension: x58911)**



Campus view through arches – Photo by Bob Handelman

Procedures for Reporting Fires on Campus

Fire incidents, fires, fire alarms, suspected incidents that could turn into fires, and suspicious activities should be reported in a timely manner to the Office of Campus Safety, 140 W. College St., Suite C, in person or by telephone to 440-775-8911 or campus x58911. The Campus Safety office can be dialed from most telephones on campus and may be reached from campus emergency “blue light” phones by activating the call button.

Most campus buildings have fire alarm systems that activate upon detection of circumstances interpreted to be related to fire detection. If a fire alarm is not already sounding, occupants should activate the nearest fire alarm pull station, usually located adjacent to the exits.

Emergencies on campus may also be reported to the Lorain County Emergency 911 system by dialing 911 from a campus telephone. The countywide 911 service

will directly contact fire, law enforcement, or emergency medical services, who may request assistance from the Office of Campus Safety. This service is not available when using the campus emergency “blue light” telephone system, and there is no automatic notification to the Campus Safety office through the county 911 system. If 911 is called first, follow up with a call to the Campus Safety Office at 440-775-8911 when safe to do so.

For purposes of including all fires in the statistics in the Annual Fire Safety report, students and employees should report all fires—even those that have been extinguished or are being reported “after the fact”—to the Office of Campus Safety or to the director or assistant director of Campus Safety.

General Description of On-Campus Student Housing Facilities Fire Safety Systems, Monitoring, and Response

The Oberlin College and Conservatory fire alarm system for on-campus student residential halls complies with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72 National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code (Chapter 6) through a microprocessor-based fire alarm system. The system sounds an alarm at the protected premises due to the manual operation of a fire alarm box (pull station) or the operation of protection equipment or systems, such as water flowing in a sprinkler system, the detection of smoke, or the detection of heat. The activation of an alarm (change of status of the initiating device) is communicated in accordance with NFPA 72 (Chapter 8) via the public switched telephone network to a contracted central station monitoring service, whose servers and operators, upon receipt of the signal, take action as required by NFPA 72, including notification to the Lorain County Emergency 911 system, which in turn dispatches municipal fire department services (Oberlin Fire Department) to respond to the location of the alarm.

Oberlin College and Conservatory Campus Safety communication officers, located on campus at 140 W. College St., Suite C, receive notification at the Campus Safety office for residential hall fire alarms through a microprocessor-based portal and communicate a multiplex designated building zone or specific addressable alarm location to the Lorain County Emergency 911 system and to on-duty Campus Safety officers. Communication officers also dispatch Campus Safety officers in response to a notification from the monitoring service of alarms, trouble alarms, and supervisory

alarms affecting campus housing units on Union and Goldsmith streets (Union Street Housing), at 36 S. Pleasant St. (Firelands), and at 137 Elm St., or in response to community member reports of fire alarms or fire-related incidents. Campus Safety officers respond to the fire alarm or incident location to assist the Oberlin Fire Department in accessing buildings or locations and provide information as needed. Campus Safety officers confirm the evacuation of known persons affected by the alarm, communicate with and respond to the college community members affected by the fire alarm, and activate any on-call system notification within the college according to situational requirements.

When information is received that a stand-alone fire alarm was activated or fire-related incidents have occurred in any of the college's campus housing units, the Campus Safety communication officers notify the Lorain County Emergency 911 system. 911 operators dispatch the Oberlin Fire Department to the scene of the alarm or incident. Campus Safety officers are sent to the scene to assist as necessary. Residents of college campus housing may also call the Lorain County Emergency 911 system to report a fire or a fire alarm activation.

Emergencies on campus may also be reported directly to the Lorain County Emergency 911 system from any telephone.

TABLE 1.***Description of Fire Safety Systems for Each On-Campus Housing Facility***

R-2 Residential Halls	Fire Alarm Type	Audible/ Visual Alarm	Heat/Smoke	Manual Fire Alarm Pull Station	Sprinkler system	Cooking Hoods	# of Fire Drills Calendar Year 2025
Allencroft, 134 S. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	1	4
Asia House (Quadrangle), 40 W. Lorain St.	Multiplex Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	2	4
Bailey House, 208 N. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	1	4
Baldwin Cottage, 30 S. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	2	4
Barnard House, 148 N. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	1	4
Barrows Hall, 145 Woodland St.	Multiplex Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	3	4
Burton Hall, 194 N. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	2	4
Dascomb Hall, 140 W. College St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	2	4
East Hall, 176 N. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	1	4

Table 1. Description of Fire Safety Systems for Each On-Campus Housing Facility, continued.

R-2 Residential Halls	Fire Alarm Type	Audible/ Visual Alarm	Heat/Smoke	Manual Fire Alarm Pull Station	Sprinkler system	Cooking Hoods	# of Fire Drills Calendar Year 2025
Fairchild House, 93 Elm St. (offline for 2025)	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	2	4
Firelands, 136 S. Pleasant St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	67	4
Harkness House, 113 W. College St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	1	4
Harvey House, 96 S. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
Johnson House, 216 S. Professor St. (offline for 2025)	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
Kade (German House), 104 S. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
Kahn Hall, 169 N. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
Keep Cottage, 154 N. Main St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
Langston Hall, 95 Union St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	2	4

TABLE 1. Description of Fire Safety Systems for Each On-Campus Housing Facility, continued.

R-2 Residential Halls	Fire Alarm Type	Audible/ Visual Alarm	Heat/Smoke	Manual Fire Alarm Pull Station	Sprinkler system	Cooking Hoods	# of Fire Drills Calendar Year 2025
Lord – Saunders, 126 Forest St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	2	4
Noah Hall, 167 Woodland St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
Old Barrows, 207 S. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	1	4
Price, 100 Forest St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
South Hall, 121 Elm St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	3	4
Talcott Hall, 2 S. Professor St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	2	4
Tank Hall, 110 E. College St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1	4
Zechiel House, 207 Woodland St.	Addressable Panel	Both	Residential rooms, mechanical, and common areas	Yes	No	1	4

TABLE 2.**2025 Apartment Style Housing Units**

College Apartment- Style Housing	Fire Alarm Type	Audible/ Visual Alarm	Heat/smoke detection (HW=hard wired; B= battery operated)	Manual Fire Alarm (Pull Stations)	Sprinkler System	Cooking Hoods	Fire Extinguisher Provided
64 E. College St. # 1, 2	Standalone	Audible	HW-2, B-6	No	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
108 E. College St. #1,2,3	Standalone	Audible	HW-1, B-5	No	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
120 E. College St.	Standalone	Audible	B-12	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
20 E. Lorain St.	Standalone	Audible	HW-2, B-3	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
22 E. Lorain St.	Standalone	Audible	HW-2, B-3	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
55 E. Lorain St.	Standalone	Audible	B-5	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
61 E. Lorain St.	Standalone	Audible	B-5	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
63 E. Lorain St.	Standalone	Audible	B-5	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
37 Elmwood Place	Standalone	Audible	B-4	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
68 Elmwood Place	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
74 Elmwood Place	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
75 Elmwood Place #1, 2	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
83 Elmwood Place	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
84 Elmwood Place	Standalone	Audible	HW-1, B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
137 Elm St. 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	HW-36	Yes	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
148/150 Elm St. A, B, C, D	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	HW-25	4 PS	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
224 Goldsmith Lane Units A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
268 Goldsmith Lane Units A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
270 Goldsmith Lane Units A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)

TABLE 2. 2025 Apartment Style Housing Units

College Apartment- Style Housing	Fire Alarm Type	Audible/ Visual Alarm	Heat/smoke detection (HW=hard wired; B= battery operated)	Manual Fire Alarm (Pull Stations)	Sprinkler System	Cooking Hoods	Fire Extinguisher Provided
272 Goldsmith Lane Units A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
276 Goldsmith Lane Units A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
290 Goldsmith Lane Units A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
29 N. Cedar St.	Standalone	Audible	HW-1, B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
35 N. Cedar St.	Standalone	Audible	B-10	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
39 N. Cedar St.	Standalone	Audible	B-10	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
45 N. Cedar St.	Standalone	Audible	B-10, B-8	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
69 N. Cedar St.	Standalone	Audible	B-6	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
140 N. Main St.	Standalone	Audible	B-6, B-2, B- 2	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
148 N. Main St.	Standalone	Audible	B-9	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
168 N. Main St. #1 & #2	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 in each (kitchen)
12 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
16 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
36 N. Pleasant St. Units 2, 4, 6, 8	Standalone	Audible	B-6	No	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
40 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-8	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
41 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-4	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
62 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-3	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
66 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-5	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
70 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-6, HW-2	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
76 N. Pleasant St.	Standalone	Audible	B-5	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
195 N. Professor St.	Integrated wired; stand-alone	Audible; strobe visual	HW-8	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
201 N. Professor St.	Standalone	Audible	HW-6, B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)

TABLE 2. 2025 Apartment Style Housing Units

College Apartment- Style Housing	Fire Alarm Type	Audible/ Visual Alarm	Heat/smoke detection (HW=hard wired; B= battery operated)	Manual Fire Alarm (Pull Stations)	Sprinkler System	Cooking Hoods	Fire Extinguisher Provided
258 N. Professor St.	Standalone	Audible	HW-4	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
270 N. Professor St.	Standalone	Audible	HW-6, B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
78 S. Professor St.	Integrated	Audible	6-HW, 2-B	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
96 Union St. A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
102 Union St. A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
110 Union St. A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
118 Union St. A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
126 Union St. A, B, C	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	Residential rooms, mechanical, common areas	Yes	Wet pipe water flow protection	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
129 W. College St.	Standalone	Audible	B-8	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
135 W. College St. Apt. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
143 W. College St. Unit 1, 2E, 2W	Standalone	Audible	HW-1, B-5	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
149 W. College St.	Standalone	Audible	B-7	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
190 W. College St. Unit 1, 2	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
152 W. Lorain St.	Standalone	Audible	B-9	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
153 W. Lorain St.	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	HW-25	4 PS	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
158 W. Lorain St.	Standalone	Audible	B-8	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
159 W. Lorain St.	Monitored addressable panel	Audible; strobe visual	HW-25	4 PS	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)

TABLE 2. 2025 Apartment Style Housing Units

College Apartment-Style Housing	Fire Alarm Type	Audible/Visual Alarm	Heat/smoke detection (HW=hard wired; B= battery operated)	Manual Fire Alarm (Pull Stations)	Sprinkler System	Cooking Hoods	Fire Extinguisher Provided
197 W. Lorain St. Apt. 1, 2E and 2W	Standalone	Audible	B-6	No	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
35 Willard Court Units 1, 3, 5, 7	Standalone	Audible	B-6	No	No	1 in each (kitchen)	1 in each (kitchen)
61 Willard Court	Standalone	Audible	B-5	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
108 Woodland St.	Standalone	Audible	HW-6	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
112 Woodland St.	Standalone	Audible	B-6	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)
176 Woodland St.	Standalone	Audible	B-1	No	No	1	1 (kitchen)

Fire Alarm Drills

Ohio Fire Administrative Code 1301:7-7-04 Emergency Planning and Preparedness requires fire drills for all occupants in college and university (residential hall) Group R-2 buildings, per Section 405. College residence halls fall within this requirement, and they, along with campus housing units at Firelands apartments, complete emergency evacuation drills:

- Campus Safety officers perform two fire and evacuation drills per semester during the fall and spring semesters. An additional summer drill may be performed when summer conference attendance warrants it, especially where children's camps are in residence.
- Drills are held at unexpected times and under varying conditions to simulate an emergency's unusual conditions.
- Campus Safety maintains records of required emergency evacuation drills; these records are made available to the fire department upon request.
- Records of fire drills include the following information:

- o Identity of the person conducting the drill
- o Date and time of the drill
- o Notification method used
- o Staff members on duty and participating in the drill
- o Number of occupants evacuated
- o Special conditions simulated
- o Problems encountered
- o Weather conditions when occupants were evacuated
- o Time required to accomplish the evacuation

- Emergency evacuation drills are initiated by activating the fire alarm system in the building involved.
- As building occupants arrive at the assembly point, Campus Safety officers make every effort to determine if all occupants have been evacuated or accounted for.

The first drill of the academic year usually occurs within 10 days following the start of the fall semester. An official of the Oberlin Fire Department is invited to participate in fire safety education and instruction at the scene of the fire drill evacuation.

Apartment-style campus housing does not fall within this requirement for fire alarm drills, and the nature of the required smoke detectors for apartment-style living

does not permit an unannounced fire evacuation drill. Instead, students are given information about fire safety and building evacuation practices during the fall semester.

Fire evacuation drills are completed two times per year in Firelands housing and at 137 Elm St. and twice a year in Union Street housing units.

Oberlin College and Conservatory Smoking Policy

Oberlin College is committed to maintaining a healthy, safe, and welcoming environment for students, faculty, staff, visitors, contractors, and vendors. To support this commitment, Oberlin College and Conservatory maintains a smoke-free campus policy, last updated in April 2025, that prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco and vaping products on property owned, leased, or operated by the college except in locations designated by the college, if applicable.

The policy applies at all times and to all individuals on college property—including residence halls, academic and administrative buildings, grounds, sidewalks, parking areas, athletic facilities, outdoor spaces, and vehicles owned or operated by the college—and on any other property under the control of Oberlin College.

Prohibited products and devices include but are not limited to:

- Cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, and pipes
- Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), vape pens, and other vaping devices

- Hookahs and water pipes
- Smokeless tobacco products, including chewing tobacco and snuff
- Other products or devices designed to simulate smoking or deliver nicotine, tobacco, cannabis-derived substances, or similar substances through inhalation or other means

Smoking and vaping are prohibited inside all college buildings and vehicles. Individuals who smoke or vape in permitted outdoor areas are expected to comply with all applicable college restrictions regarding designated locations.

Oberlin College communicates the smoke-free campus policy to students, faculty, staff, and visitors through appropriate signage, communications, educational materials, and other outreach efforts. The college periodically reviews the policy and related procedures to ensure they remain consistent with current health, safety, and regulatory requirements.

Residential Hall Fire Safety Policies and Rules

In addition to the college smoking policy, student conduct resources and campus policies are made available to first-year students at the beginning of the fall semester. These policies can be found on the college website at <https://www.oberlin.edu/dean-of-students/student-conduct/resources>. Additional information follows regarding fire safety and items not permitted in college housing.

Dangerous Weapons, Fireworks, and Explosives. Possession of dangerous weapons, fireworks, and explosives on college property is expressly forbidden. These items include but are not limited

to firearms (including BB guns and air- or spring-powered weapons), knives, firecrackers, sparklers, gunpowder, dangerous instruments (including lock-picking devices), and unstable and/or hazardous chemicals except those stored and used in appropriate laboratory facilities.

Fire Escapes. The fire escapes on any college building are for emergency purposes only. Any nonemergency use is forbidden and will be considered an act of trespass.

Fire Safety Policy for On-Campus Houses and Apartments

All on-campus residents must abide by state, local, and college regulations regarding fire safety. Failure to comply with these regulations may result in fines, judicial action, and/or eviction.

- Residents may not limit access to or block fire escapes, room windows, doors, or other exits with furniture or other obstacles/objects.
- Excessive wall coverings, including but not limited to posters, tapestries, flags, and pictures, are not permitted; no more than 20% of any wall surface may be covered.
- Basement and attic access is prohibited, regardless of whether the college has locked the spaces.
- The ovens and stovetops must be kept clean of grease buildup.
- Smoke detectors, which are located in each apartment and/or house, may not be

tampered with or covered.

- Porches and yards, especially in the front of the house/apartment, must remain free of trash, interior furnishings, and generalized clutter.

Please see the student conduct resources and campus policies at <https://www.oberlin.edu/dean-of-students/student-conduct/resources>. The handbook for people living in Oberlin College houses and apartments may be found at <https://www.oberlin.edu/housing/options/houses-and-apartments>.

Residential Life Safety Policy. Residents agree to abide by state, local, and college regulations regarding fire, safety, and sanitation as stated within the below regulations. Failure to comply may result in judicial action and/or fines.

- **Equipment.** Tampering with, misuse of, or vandalism of life safety equipment



Bibbens Hall. Photo by Bob Handelman.

in any college building is a violation of state law. Equipment includes but is not limited to fire extinguishers, heat sensors, pull station boxes, fire doors, exit signs, smoke detectors, door closers, fire escapes, and fire hoses. Causing a false fire alarm to sound may result in disciplinary action. Evacuation from the building by all residents is required when a fire alarm sounds. Tampering with life safety equipment can result in fines up to \$300 and probation through judicial sanction, plus the cost of repair or replacement. These consequences are in addition to criminal and civil penalties.

- **Egress from rooms.** Fire escapes, room windows, fire escapes, and other means of egress may not be blocked by furniture or other obstacles.
- **Door closers, smoke detectors, and evacuation signs.** Removing, covering, or tampering with these is prohibited.
- **Housekeeping.** Excessive accumulation of paper and/or clothing on floors may constitute a fire hazard and/or pest concern. If the state of a student's room is determined to be a hazard or concerning, they will be given a notice to correct the situation. Failure to do so within 24 hours may result in judicial action.
- Prohibited and regulated items:
 - **Electrical appliances.** Air conditioners (unless provided by the college) and cooking appliances, including microwave ovens, immersion heaters, popcorn poppers, hot plates, and water heaters are prohibited from use in students' residence hall rooms. Electrical appliances permitted in all college housing include TVs, radios, stereos, telephones, fans, personal computers, hair dryers, curling and clothing irons with automatic shut-off, and coffee

makers/pots with automatic shut-off features.

- **Wall hangings.** No more than 20% of any wall surface may be covered. Canopy arrangements and hangings from ceilings are prohibited.
- **Refrigerators.** Only one refrigerator per room is allowed in college housing. Divided doubles are considered one room. The capacity of refrigerators may not exceed 5 cubic feet except for refrigerators provided by the college in on-campus houses and apartments.
- **Grounded extension cords.** Extension cords must be grounded and should be protected with fuse devices (surge protectors) throughout college housing.
- **Combustible materials.** Combustible materials, including but not limited to gasoline, kerosene, paints, and thinners, are prohibited in college housing, as are fireworks, explosives, and poisonous or hazardous chemicals.
- **Electric blankets.** Electric mattress pad covers and electric blankets are prohibited in college housing.
- **High-wattage lamps.** The use of halogen lamps or light bulbs of higher wattage than the specified ratings in light fixtures is prohibited throughout college housing.
- **Portable heaters.** Unless provided by the college, electric space heaters are prohibited in college housing, as are kerosene space heaters and other types.
- **Nonflammable waste containers.** Only flame-retardant wastebaskets are permitted in college housing.

- o **Furnishings.** Waterbeds and other pieces of water-filled furniture are not permitted in college housing. In addition, wooden structures including lofts and room dividers are prohibited. Curtains, blinds, and/or window treatments other than those provided by the college are prohibited.
- o **Bicycles.** Bicycles may be stored in individual student rooms in college housing if they do not block egress. Motorized bicycles and motorcycles may not be stored in any facility. Motorcycles and motorized bicycles found in college housing or other facilities will be removed at owner expense.
- o **Decorations.** The use of candles, incense, or anything with an open flame, even for religious purposes, is not allowed in college housing.

In addition, live or cut trees, live wreaths, and/or artificial trees over 4 feet tall are prohibited in college housing.

Housing and dining regulation violations are heard by the residential education deans and area coordinators. Penalties may be educational; can include fines up to \$300 and probation, plus repair or replacement costs; and can result in dismissal from college housing in cases of cumulative disciplinary history or damage to college housing or property or in response to facility emergencies resulting from fire, water, or weather damage. Students may be required to vacate college housing until a hearing on the matter occurs, consistent with student conduct resources and campus policies. City of Oberlin ordinances also permit the city to impose fines for repeated responses to nuisance fire alarms.

Fire Evacuation Procedures

Students and employees should be familiar with fire evacuation plans and familiarize themselves with two evacuation routes from their rooms and common spaces within their residence halls. General recommendations for responding to a fire emergency include:

- Activate the nearest fire alarm pull station if the fire alarm is not already sounding.
- Call 911, then Campus Safety at 440-775-8911 or x58911.
- Notify occupants and help those needing assistance in the immediate area.
- Confine the fire by closing doors as you exit.
- Evacuate the building at the nearest exit and account for others you know.
- Do not reenter the building until emergency personnel give authorization.
- When a resident hears the building's fire alarm, they are expected to:
 - o Immediately exit the building, closing the room door. Evacuation is mandatory.
 - o Use stairs; do not use elevators.
 - o Take personal belongings (ID, keys, purse, and wallet) and dress appropriately for the weather.
 - o If the door handle is warm to touch, or if there is smoke in the hallway, stay in the room with the door closed, call 911, and attract attention at a window.

- o If smoke is present, an alternative is to crawl along the floor or stairs where the air is fresher.
- o Move all personnel to a safe area, away from the building in danger, and report what you know about the presence of others still in the building.

Students who live in on-campus houses and apartments with stand-alone fire alarm systems (systems that do not automatically notify a monitoring agency to report a fire) should report any fire incident by calling

911. Notify Campus Safety of the incident at 440-775-8911 when it is safe to do so.

- Know in advance at least two avenues of exit from your room.
- Notify other occupants there is a fire as you exit.
- Confine the fire by closing doors as you exit.
- Evacuate the building at the nearest exit and account for others you know.
- Do not reenter the building until emergency personnel give authorization.

Fire Safety Education

Fire safety evacuation procedures are presented during the first fire evacuation drill of the academic year, presented during the first 10 days of class by Campus Safety supervisors and officers. Information is also distributed in passive education through instructions for evacuation in the student conduct resources and campus policies, in handbooks for on-campus houses and apartments and off-campus housing, and through literature distributed during orientation and at other times.

In-hall Residence Life programming includes presentations by the Oberlin Fire Department and educational programs targeting life skills such as cooking safety.

Residence Life and other student employers, such as the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement, invite presentations by the Oberlin Fire Department in fire safety, evacuation procedures, and use of fire extinguishers during annual training preceding fall semester. The environmental health and safety manager sponsors training for Facilities Operations staff. The fire alarm contractors—Johnson Controls and Siemens—present training and information

relating to the operation and maintenance of the fire alarm systems on campus to Campus Safety staff and to college electricians. Residence Life staff conduct life safety inspections and present materials outlining safe practices and prohibited items. Judicial review and sanctions for fire safety violations involve fire safety education, including fire safety films from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and assignment of research papers; fines may also be included.

Students who apply to live in on-campus houses and apartments or ask to live off-campus attend a seminar or orientation session that conveys pertinent information on fire safety, e.g., how fire alarm devices operate; fire evacuations for on-campus houses and apartments; and general fire safety information for off-campus apartments.

Any member of the Oberlin College and Conservatory community may request fire safety information and programming by contacting the Office of Campus Safety.

The Oberlin Fire Department offers information on fire safety and emergency preparedness as well. The Oberlin Fire Department, 430 S. Main St., may be contacted during administrative hours at 440-774-3211.

On-Campus Fire Statistics, 2023–2025

Oberlin College and Conservatory maintains on-campus student housing and publishes fire statistics in an annual fire safety report. The statistics in this report are for the calendar years 2023, 2024, and 2025.

For purposes of fire safety reporting, a fire is “any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.”
The term “injuries” in the chart below is defined as “the number of persons who received fire-related injuries that resulted in treatment at a medical facility including at an on-campus health center.”

Fires fall within the following cause categories:

Unintentional Fire

- Cooking
- Heating equipment
- Other
- Smoking materials
- Hazardous products

- Open flames
- Machinery/industrial
- Electrical
- Natural

Intentional Fire

Undetermined Fire

TABLE 3.
Fire Statistics for Campus Housing Facilities

Name of Facility	2023			2024			2025		
	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths
Allencroft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asia House (Quadrangle)	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Bailey House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baldwin Cottage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barnard House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barrows Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burton Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dascomb Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairchild House	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Firelands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harkness House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harvey House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson House	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kade House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kahn Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Keep Cottage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Langston Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lord-Saunders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Noah Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old Barrows	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Price House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Talcott Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zechiel House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
64 E. College # 1, 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
108 E. College #1, 2, 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLE 3. Statistics for Campus Housing Facilities, Continued.

Name of Facility	2023			2024			2025		
	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths
120 E. College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 E. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22 E. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 E. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
61 E. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
63 E. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37 Elmwood Place	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
68 Elmwood Place	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
74 Elmwood Place	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75 Elmwood Place #1, 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
83 Elmwood Place	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
84 Elmwood Place	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
137 Elm 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
148/150 Elm Units A, B, C, D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
268 Goldsmith Lane A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
270 Goldsmith Lane A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
272 Goldsmith Lane A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
276 Goldsmith Lane A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
284 Goldsmith Lane A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
290 Goldsmith Lane A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 N. Cedar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
39 N. Cedar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 N. Cedar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
140 N. Main	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
148 N. Main	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLE 3. Statistics for Campus Housing Facilities, Continued.

	2023			2024			2025		
Name of Facility	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths
168 N. Main #1 ,2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36 N. Pleasant Units 2, 4, 6, 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
62 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
70 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
76 N. Pleasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
195 N. Professor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
201 N. Professor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
258 N. Professor*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
270 N. Professor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
78 S. Professor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
96 Union A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
102 Union A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
110 Union A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
118 Union A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
126 Union A, B, C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
129 W. College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
135 W. College Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
143 W. College #1, 2E, 2W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
149 W. College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
190 W. College # 1, 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
152 W. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
153 W. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
158 W. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Name of Facility	2023			2024			2025		
	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths	Fires	Injuries	Deaths
159 W. Lorain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
197 W. Lorain*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 Willard Court Units 1, 3, 5, 7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
61 Willard Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
108 Woodland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
112 Woodland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
176 Woodland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

Note: Three buildings that were used as student housing in 2023 and 2024 were taken offline or were used for non-residential purposes in 2025. These buildings include Fairchild House, Johnson House, and Old Barrows. The use of “N/A” means “Not Applicable” because these buildings were not used as student residences. To the extent that these buildings need to be included in the 2025 statistics, there were no fires, injuries, or deaths in these buildings during that calendar year.

Fires: On-Campus Student Housing

Below is the required data for each fire in any on-campus student housing facility:
Report #24-0618 10/10/2024 at 3:07 p.m.
Asia House flash fire in oven in kitchen.

The student was burned on the neck, face, and arm and was transported to hospital by ambulance.

Log of Residential Housing Fire Reports

Campus Safety maintains a log of residential housing fires, recording the date of the report, the nature of the fire, the date and time of day the fire occurred, and the general location of the fire. The log is available for review at the Campus Safety office, 140 W. College St., Suite C, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday,

excluding holidays. The information in the fire log covers the most recent 60 days of residential fire reports and fulfills the public fire log requirement of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008.



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