



# GIVEN

## Conference Housing Policy

As Christians, we live in two kingdoms, and while attending a conference we are able to glimpse at the Heavenly kingdom through worship, study, and fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. The following policy is necessary while living and operating within the earthly kingdom. For the protection of the youth attendees, chaperones, and the Higher Things organization, the following policies will be observed and govern how participants are assigned housing during a conference.

1. There must be at least one (1) male chaperone for every seven (7) boys in your group, and at least one (1) female chaperone for every seven (7) girls in your group. Chaperones must be at least 21 years old at the time of Registration, and approved by the group's pastor for the role.
2. Participants will be housed in gender-specific units. A unit may be defined as a single room, block of rooms, wing, floor, or entire building, depending upon the facilities available for conference attendees, and will be determined by that conference's Housing Coordinator.
3. Spouses may NOT be housed together. Each adult will be housed in gender-distinctive units near the youth in their charge.
4. Adults may not be housed in the same room with any youth unless there is an *immediate familial relationship* between the youth and adult AND both persons are of the same gender. *Immediate familial relationship* is defined as a parent or legal guardian and their child(ren). When apartment-style facilities are utilized, adults may be assigned to the same apartment unit as their group's youth (same gender only), but it is expected that adults will not share a bedroom with youth unless there is an immediate familial relationship (as defined above).
5. Conference attendees should expect to be housed with at least one roommate unless a private room is requested and appropriate fees are paid at the time of Registration. Every effort will be made to house conference attendees with their roommate preference, however this cannot be guaranteed.
6. All rooms must be fully occupied. Because the number of participants in a group may not exactly correspond to the capacity of a given room, it may be necessary to assign attendees from different groups (always from the same gender and age categories) in a single room. Those requesting private rooms will be charged additional fees of \$25/room/night.
7. For housing assignment purposes, ONLY substitutions of registrants from the same gender and age category (i.e., male youth for male youth, adult female for adult female etc.) may be made within 60 days of the first day of the conference. After this date, substitutions which differ in gender or category (youth/adult) cannot be accepted nor can refunds be issued. Any changes/substitutions made within 30 days of the conference will also be charged a fee of \$20 per change.
8. Charges incurred by Higher Things due to the conduct of an individual registrant or group at a conference will be billed to the congregation represented by said individual or group. Such expenses may include but are not limited to: replacement of lost keys, replacement of lost meal cards, vandalism, damages, and reset of a fire/emergency alarm.
9. Quiet and visitation hours as posted by building management and/or Higher Things must be enforced by the chaperones and/or group leaders.
10. Higher Things cannot have adequate knowledge of each congregation's child protection policies. As a result Higher Things accepts no responsibility for the enforcement of individual congregational child protection policies. It is the responsibility of the chaperone/group leader to enforce their specific congregational child protection policies if there are additional restrictions not addressed by the Higher Things housing policy.

**Questions?** Email [conferences@higherthings.org](mailto:conferences@higherthings.org) or [housing@higherthings.org](mailto:housing@higherthings.org) or call 1-888-482-6630.