One part of the mission of LSMSA is providing a positive living and learning experience. Having a roommate is a vital part of that experience, even when it requires adjustments and conflict resolution. Ordinarily, it is the expectation that each students will have roommates throughout their tenure at LSMSA.

THE ROOMMATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Each new student completes and submits a roommate questionnaire before arriving on campus to help the coordinator of residence life in the selection of a compatible roommate. Roommates are paired based on their personal preferences and interests, not on personal characteristics or demographic information (except gender). LSMSA does not discriminate in the assignment of roommates. Students will be given an opportunity to select a roommate at New Student Orientation and whenever practicable the school will honor these requests. The coordinator of residence life makes the final decision on roommates.

ROOMMATE CHANGE PROCEDURE

Room changes are allowed at the discretion of the coordinator of residence life. Typically, these changes will be considered one month after the start of school and at each grading period.

Students should not expect to be allowed to move prior to the first scheduled room change or between scheduled room change periods. If a room assignment proves unsatisfactory, the student(s) should first discuss the problem with his/her student life advisor and work to find resolution. Students will not be allowed to change rooms until after completing all conflict resolution requirements as determined and prescribed by the residential life program.

If a reasonable effort has been made and the prescribed mediation measures have failed to resolve the difficulty and the student still wishes to change rooms, he/she must submit a request to the coordinator of residence life. The final decision regarding room changes rests with the coordinator of residence life.

Students will be permitted to move only after completing the official room change procedure and receiving approval from the coordinator of residence life.

ROOM CONSOLIDATION

At times, a student may temporarily have a private room, due to a roommate withdrawing from the school or changing rooms. In keeping with the school's living-learning missions, residence life staff may consolidate students who are in need of roommates. This process usually takes place at the next room change period after a student's roommate has left, although consolidation may occur at any time. Generally, students will not be required to move to another hall as part of the consolidation process.

Students who do not have a roommate generally have the following choices: 1) select a new roommate to move into their current room; 2) move into another available space of his/her choosing; 3) consolidate with another student on the same hall who does not have a roommate. When two students on the same hall elect consolidation, one will be required to move into the other's room. If the students cannot agree upon which room they will occupy, the matter will be settled by the coordinator of residence life.

REQUEST FOR PRIVATE ROOM

As stated above, students are expected to live with roommates. A request for a private room in the residence hall will be considered only if the student has a valid medical reason for the request, and only as space allows. No other student will be displaced for a current room in order to accommodate such a request. Students requesting a private room must submit a letter from their physician. These requests will be evaluated by the residence life and counseling staff, and private room assignments are granted with the understanding that such accommodations are part of an ongoing treatment plan. Private room assignments will be reviewed by the residence life and counseling staff at each nine-week grading period.