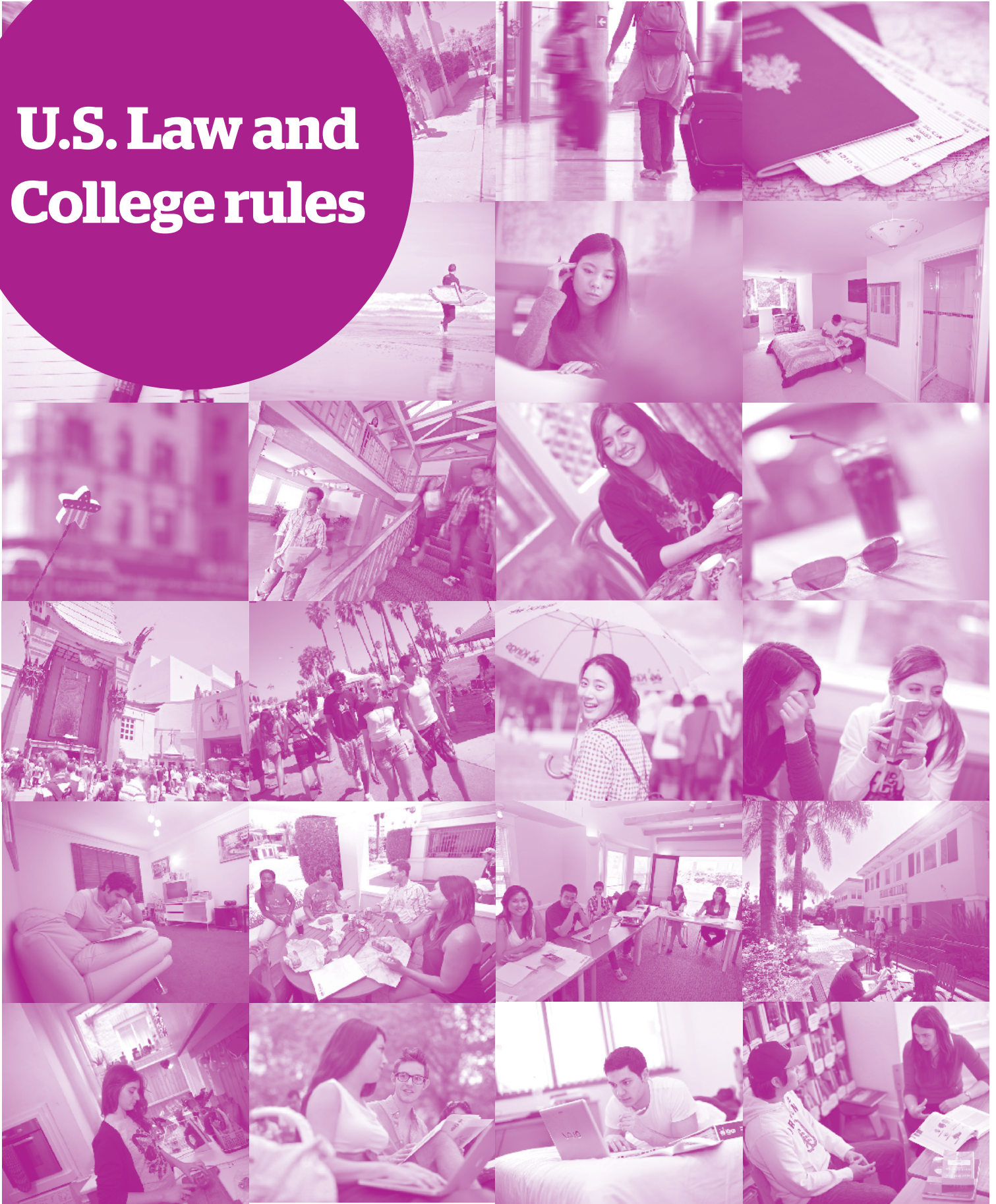


U.S. Law and College rules



9. U.S. Law and College rules

Obeying the law

It is important to obey the laws of any country you visit. For example, it is against the law in the U.S. to drive a car without insurance and a driver's license. It is also illegal to offer money to a police officer.

It is also against the law to rent an apartment and leave before the date agreed in the contract. If you are not sure how long you will stay, talk to the landlord before you sign a contract. You can also look for apartments advertised as "month-to-month," meaning you can leave with a month's previous notice at any time or stay indefinitely.

Remember that the Housing Manager at Kings is ready to help if you need advice about signing legal documents. If in doubt, ask before you sign.

It is also illegal to carry concealed weapons in most states in the U.S, especially as a foreign visitor. Weapons will not be allowed to be brought into the U.S. If you attempt to do so, your weapon will be confiscated and you will be detained by the customs inspector.

Important!

You must be at least 18 years old to sign a contract in the USA. If you are not 18 you should ask staff at college or your host family to help you.

Alcohol and drugs

The laws in the U.S. may be different from those in your own country.

It is illegal to buy alcohol if you are under 21 years old and cigarettes if you are under 18 years old. If you buy alcohol or cigarettes for people under age, you may be arrested. Bars do not welcome people under 21; if it is a bar and restaurant, you may be allowed in.

All non-prescription drugs are illegal. Drug use can result in prosecution and being sent back to your country.

General college rules

Attendance rules

You must attend at least 90% of your course. If your attendance is less than 90% when you leave, you will not get a certificate.

Attendance will be checked every day.

If you are going to be absent for any reason, you must inform us. If you are sick, please phone the college, or ask your host family to call us.

If we do not know where you are, we will phone you or your host family.

If you have a good reason - such as sickness or attending an interview - please tell us (and bring proof if possible) and we will add a note to your record to explain why you were absent (but you will still be marked absent)

If your overall attendance falls below 90%, we will warn you (by speaking to you and then writing to you) that this is unacceptable. If your attendance does not improve, your booking will be terminated and you will be told to leave the college. If you are a visa holder, this will affect your right to remain in the U.S.

In class

Please speak ONLY ENGLISH in class. Remember that you are here to learn and practise your English. If you speak your own language in class, you cannot learn - and you are stopping your classmates from learning. Making friends with other nationalities will help you.

Mobile phones

Please switch your mobile phone OFF or to SILENT before you come into class. You must not make or receive calls in class, and you must not send text messages. If you do not obey this rule, your teacher may take your phone away or ask you to leave the class. If you are expecting an important phone call, please talk to your teacher.

Punctuality

Please be on time for your lessons. If you are late, you may not be allowed to enter the class and you will be marked absent.

Food and drink

You may have a bottle of water to drink from in class, but please do not bring any other drinks or food into your classroom. Chewing gum is not allowed anywhere in the college.

Respect

At Kings we have students from all over the world. Each nationality has their own beliefs and customs; please show respect for them. You should also try and learn about and adapt to American customs while you are here.

