



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State places a priority on ensuring a quality experience and safe environment for higher education students and every year when parents send their children off to college or university, they rightfully expect that all precautions will be taken to safeguard young adults from the dangers of fires on school campuses and other types of student housing; and

Whereas, September marks Campus Fire Safety Month across the nation, raising awareness among parents, students, administrators, faculty, college and university cities and towns, the statewide firefighting community, fire safety organizations, local representatives, and other public officials about the importance of fire safety; and

Whereas, campus-related housing fires have tragically cut short the lives of young students across the nation, including in New York State where, since January 2000, at least 175 individuals have died in campus-related fires; and

Whereas, a majority of college students in the United States live in off-campus housing, and approximately 87 percent of campus-related fire deaths occurred in off-campus housing; and

Whereas, automatic fire alarm systems and smoke alarms provide early warning of a fire that is necessary for occupants of a building and the fire department to take appropriate action, and an automatic fire sprinkler system is a highly effective method of controlling or extinguishing a fire in its early stages, protecting the lives of building occupants; and

Whereas, fire safety education is also an effective method of reducing the incidence of fires and the resulting injuries, loss of life, and property damage; and

Whereas, New York State is a national leader in school campus safety and maintains a rigorous fire inspection schedule of all statewide private and public colleges and universities, further strengthening and supporting student housing safety through the training of thousands of students and residence hall personnel; and

Whereas, to help ensure campus safety, each year the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control conducts fire inspections at colleges and universities across the state, fire safety education programs for students, residence assistants and residence life directors, institution leaders and campus fire safety awareness days at statewide private and public colleges and universities; and

Whereas, educating young individuals in the United States about the importance of fire safety is vital to help ensure that young individuals engage in fire-safe behavior during college and after college and to develop a generation of adults who practice fire safety may significantly reduce future loss of life;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as

CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany on this first day
of September in the year two thousand twenty-one.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

[Signature]

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh