Here are some important questions for students and parents to ask before moving into an off-campus apartment. This guide is brought to you by URI's Office of Student Life and Department of Public Safety.

**What to look for**

- Are there working smoke alarms in each bedroom, outside of sleeping areas, and on each level of the house?
- Are there working carbon monoxide alarms on each level of the house?
- Are there at least two ways out of each room and the house?
- Do the upper levels have at least two sets of stairs inside and/or a fire escape?
- Are there exit signs in the hallways to show the way out?
- Has the house’s heating system been inspected recently (in the last year)?
- Are there enough electrical outlets for all appliances, computers, printers, and electronics – without using extension cords?
- Are there fire extinguishers in place? Are they operable and do you know how to use them?

**Additional fire Safety tips**

- Limit extension cords. Ensure they are of proper sizes, not frayed or damaged, and not pinched behind furniture, doors or run under carpets.
- Use caution when smoking. Ensure smoking material is disposed of properly and extinguished if left unattended.
- Limit candle and incense use. Ensure they are completely extinguished before leaving the room.
- Use safe cooking practices. Limit combustibles around stove, never leave cooking unattended or cook when impaired by drugs or alcohol.
- Know at least two ways out of the house. Ensure your house has an escape plan. Know how to shelter in place if you cannot get out.
- Use space heaters with caution. Watch drapes and bedding around heat sources. Check for snow drifts that may block vents for heating appliances or clothes dryers.

**IN CASE OF FIRE, ALWAYS CALL 9-1-1**