

HOUSING AND UTILITY DECLARATION

I, _____,
a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant at the school _____
_____, in the city of _____

understand that I am responsible for leaving the apartment provided for me free-of-charge by my host school clean and in the same condition as I received it. I understand that if I fail to return the apartment in a clean condition or if there are any damages beyond normal wear-and-tear, the costs for cleaning and repair will be withheld from my final grant payment (any disputes about what constitutes normal wear-and-tear will be arbitrated by Bulgarian Fulbright Commission staff). If there are any pre-existing damages, I understand that I must document them in the Online Checklist; in the case of major issues, I will document them with photos and send them to the Fulbright Commission within one week of moving in.

All problems with school-sponsored apartments should be immediately communicated to the host school and the Fulbright Commission. If I would like to make any repairs or major changes to the apartment for any reason (painting, changing wall covering, flooring, removing furniture, etc), I understand that I must receive my mentor teacher's permission in writing (for example, an email to the Fulbright Commission including the ETA, mentor teacher and program officer detailing which repairs/changes have been approved). I also understand that even when undertaking approved repairs/changes, I am responsible for carrying out such repairs as carefully as possible (i.e using tape edging, plastic tarps to protect floor and furniture from paint, etc) and that I will be held responsible for any damage incurred from careless repairs, even if they were approved by the school (any disputes about what constitutes "careless repair" will be arbitrated by the Fulbright Commission).

I understand that I am not allowed to have any animals/pets in the school-provided apartment. In the event that the school and/or Fulbright finds that an animal has been allowed inside the apartment, I understand that I will be held responsible for any damages incurred and for the cost of a deep cleaning of the entire apartment and furnishings to remove any possible allergens or dander.

I understand that while the host school covers all expenses related to rent, I am responsible for paying all utility bills (including but not limited to electricity, water, heating, Internet, mobile phone, entry-way cleaning fees, etc.). Before leaving Bulgaria, I will arrange with my host school and/or mentor teacher for payment of bills from the last month of my stay that come due after my departure, using the previous month's bills as a basis for estimating the amount owed. For services such as Internet or mobile phone service which require a one-year contract at minimum, I understand that I am responsible for paying the remaining two months of service on the contract, even if I only use the service for the ten-month duration of my grant. I understand that if I fail to arrange for payment of my utility bills, the outstanding amount will be withheld from my final grant payment.

I understand that the free housing provided by my host school is a privilege, not a right, and that if I am found in violation of the housing or utility policy described above, I may be asked to vacate the apartment during the school year or be asked to pay rent on the school-secured apartment at local market rates if alternate housing cannot be secured.

Date:

Signature: