

INDOOR AIR QUALITY AT ROLLINS COLLEGE

The State of Florida is located in a sub-tropical zone; therefore, we experience excessive heat and humidity throughout the year. Every building on the Rollins campus is air-conditioned. Occasionally these systems do not function as designed and the indoor air quality is affected. Indoor air quality may also be compromised by poor housekeeping, indoor plants, laundry, etc. When the air quality is affected, mold or allergens may be a by-product.

At this time, standards, or Threshold Limit Values (TLVs) for airborne concentrations of mold, or mold spores, have not been set by the Federal government. Currently, there are no EPA regulations or standards for airborne mold contaminants.

The key to mold control is *moisture control* and *good housekeeping practices*.

- It is important to dry out water damaged areas and items within 24-48 hours to prevent mold growth. Do not pile wet clothing up – hang it or dry it in a clothes dryer.
- If mold is a problem in your room, clean up the mold and get rid of the excess water or moisture.
- Keep food sealed in a bag or container.
- Do not attempt to make the thermostat do something that it is not designed to do.

If you suspect mold in your living or working space:

In a Residential Hall: Contact Residential Life & Explorations either by phone at 407-646-2649 or by email at rle@rollins.edu.

In a non-residential building: Contact Facilities Services either by phone at 407-691-1000 or via email at facilities@rollins.edu. If you are able to do so, you may place a work order through their Maintenance Connection portal.

Rollins College follows analytical methods recommended by the [American Industrial Hygiene Association \(AIHA\)](#), the [American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists \(ACGIH\)](#), and other professional organizations.

In general, testing occurs when:

- Visible “staining” is present. *We never call stains “mold” until we receive laboratory reports.*
- A building occupant has chronic or unexplained respiratory issues.
- Water has been present, or leaks have occurred over a few weeks.

Typically, when an air quality test is requested, a member of the Residential Life & Explorations staff escorts a member of the Campus Safety staff to the room in question to complete the test. We test inside the room, in the hallway, and outside the hall to compare results. Test results are usually available with a day or two. When test results are received, we share them via email with residents along with an explanation and are always available to discuss our findings if there are questions.