

## ICC COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

The ICC, as a student housing cooperative organization, abides by the following principles of cooperation modeled after those established by the Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers:

1. **Open Membership.** Membership in a co-op shall be voluntary and non-discriminatory. All who can use its services and agree to share in the responsibilities required to run the co-op shall be eligible to join, regardless of race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or political beliefs.
2. **Democratic Participation.** Each member has exactly one vote regardless of the amount of his/her investment; all members together control the organization.
3. **Neutrality.** Cooperatives remain neutral in questions of partisanship and religion.
4. **Limited Interest on Invested Capital.** Share capital invested by members shall receive a strictly limited rate of interest.
5. **Distribution of Economic Result.** The year-end savings of member co-ops may be distributed as a patronage refund to the members.
6. **Education.** Cooperatives shall constantly educate their members, employees, and the public in the principles and practices of cooperation, both economic and democratic.
7. **Mutual Cooperation.** All cooperative organizations shall actively cooperate on practical matters with other cooperatives at local, national, and international levels, to further serve their members and their communities.
8. **Continuous Expansion.** Our cooperatives shall support the continuous expansion of the ICC and the cooperative movement, in order to best serve the community.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE (ICA) CO-OP PRINCIPLES

The ICC also operates according to this set of cooperative principles, which are used by co-ops around the world:

1. **Voluntary and Open Membership** — Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political, or religious discrimination.
2. **Democratic Member Control** — Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.
3. **Members' Economic Participation** — Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.
4. **Autonomy and Independence** — Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.
5. **Education, Training, and Information** — Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.
6. **Cooperation Among Cooperatives** — Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional, and international structures.
7. **Concern for Community** — While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.