

Housing and Dining Regulations

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A. Terms and Conditions

The college's Housing and Dining Program is an integral and required component of an Oberlin education. In choosing this residential college, students agree to accept the following principles, terms, and conditions, and to be responsible for all associated fees.

B. Principles

Tuition charges provide for the college's academic program; room and board fees provide a residential setting for that program. Tuition fees pay the salaries and benefits of faculty and staff, and provide for a wide range of facilities and programs—libraries, laboratories, an art museum, a music conservatory, athletic facilities and a student union—all of which create the context for a liberal arts education. As a result, tuition and fees do not vary by student although individual students may use particular programs or facilities differently.

Room and board fees pay for the staff, programs, and facilities that sustain a comprehensive living environment for a residential college with a geographically diverse student population as well as college overhead costs. Because a college of Oberlin's size and scope could not exist without a complete housing and dining structure, residential fees are comprehensive for all students regardless of how individual services may or may not be used. Therefore, subject to the exemptions noted below, all students enrolled in Oberlin College are generally required to pay the room and board fees and to live and take meals in college housing and dining halls.

The principle of the Housing and Dining Agreement is that the products of both tuition and room and board fees are essential elements for the establishment of an undergraduate, residential, liberal arts college. Therefore, those fees are comprehensive in scope and required equally of all students. Unless a student has an exemption or receives off-campus status these charges may only be reduced through a financial aid grant administered by the Office of Financial Aid.

The following terms and conditions summarize the Agreement between Oberlin College and an enrolled student for a housing and dining. In addition, all enrolled students must abide by all policies and procedures as established by the appropriate Oberlin College committees and offices.

1. PAYMENT OF FEES

Fees are set each year by the college and approved by the Board of Trustees and are payable at the start of each semester; they are included in the statement sent by the Office of Student Accounts. Charges for students who leave the housing and/or dining program are billed at the rate of 10 percent of the semester charge

for each week or a fraction thereof in residence. There is no refund after the ninth week of the semester. Any student who remains enrolled in the college, but leaves college housing and/or dining during the academic year without official notice and approval, continues to be liable for all tuition and room and board fees for the full academic year.

2. HOUSING AND DINING EXEMPTIONS

All students are expected to live and take meals on campus unless the Student receives a written notice of off-campus status or exemption from the Office of Residential Education and Dining Services.

a. Exemptions

Students in the following categories may be exempted from the oncampus Housing and/or Dining requirement, if requested by the student within the college's established deadlines in advance for the academic year:

- (1) Married students who submit a copy of their marriage license and domestic partners who submit the approved Affidavit Concerning Relationship and supporting documentation.
- (2) Students who live with their parents and commute from their parents' home within a 50 mile radius of Oberlin and have a minimum of six months established residency. Proof of residency is required by the publicized deadline.
- (3) Students who are enrolled for five credits hour or less.
- (4) Students who have underage dependent children.
- (5) Housing Only: Students (approximately ten (10%) of the undergraduate population) who have at least six semesters of residency oncampus and have requested and have been formally granted off campus status. If the number of requests exceeds the number of students able to live off campus, a lottery system will be implemented. The lottery is based on the number of semesters in residence and a computer generated random number. Lottery numbers will be assigned to each person or group who registers for off-campus status within each semester of residence category. Students who have been on an approved Academic Leave of Absence (ALOA) or have lived off campus with official notification will receive residency credit. Students who have been on a Personal Leave of Absence (PLOA or Medical Leave of Absence (MLOA)) will not receive residency credit for those semesters away. Transfer students can receive up to four (4) semesters of residency credit by sending a copy of the transcript(s) to the Office of Residential Education. Any student enrolled for the fall semester who wishes to live off campus during the spring semester based upon time in residency