Living on Campus
at the center of it all.

Housing and Food Services
1406 Asp Ave., Room 126
Norman, OK 73019
Phone: 405-325-1284
E-Mail: housinginfo@ou.edu
Web: housing.ou.edu
Dear Student:

The University of Oklahoma has worked hard to make the freshman year experience the best in the nation because it is clear that living on campus contributes greatly to the personal growth and development of our students. Most of the highest ranked universities in the nation require virtually 100% of their freshmen to live on campus.

Under the leadership of President David L. Boren, we have made great strides. Faculty families live in apartments in every residence hall. They serve as mentors and friends to our students. They often host faculty colleagues for informal conversations with students and open their doors for dinners, which they cook with students sharing their kitchens. Students who live on campus have easy access to the learning and tutoring centers located in the residence halls. They also have resident advisers on every community to provide advice and guidance.

Our housing centers participate in the President's Trophy competition, which recognizes them for performing thousands of hours of community volunteer and charity each year.

Students living in residence halls also have easy access to one of the finest health centers in the nation. The Huston Huffman Fitness Center is right across the street from the housing centers. Our food service is one of the best in the nation with more than 90% approval in student satisfaction surveys. Meetings over food often become important social and educational opportunities. Our residence halls are also very safe and, in fact, provide the safest environment in the area. Blue phones for emergencies are found throughout the area. We have regular security patrols and Safe Walk programs for students returning to the residence halls at late hours.

Finally, the benefits of on-campus living during the freshman year speak for themselves. Students who live on campus do better academically than those who live off campus. Over a recent six year period, the graduation rate for freshmen who lived on campus was almost 15 percent better than those who lived off campus. We hope that the enclosed information will be of assistance to you, and that you will consider being at the center of it all by living on campus! Please contact a member of our staff to take a tour of a showroom, or visit more about the on-campus housing options that might be right you. If you do decide that living on campus is not right for you, an exemption form is attached to this booklet.

Sincerely,

David L. Annis
Director
did you know

Most of the highest ranked universities in the nation require virtually 100% of their freshmen to live on campus. Are you curious why that is? Research in higher education has shown that students who live on campus:

- generally get better grades,
- make friends more quickly,
- are more likely to graduate
- are more likely to pursue graduate studies,
- get more involved in campus life,
- gain leadership experience,
- manage time better,
- tend to have higher self-esteem,
- and go on to have good careers.

In addition to those things, at OU:

- you meet more people of diverse backgrounds from different parts of the world
- you are very close to campus recreation facilities
- you do not have to find a parking space before class,
- there are great opportunities on campus which are quick and easy to get to and will work around your class schedule,
- living on campus gives you access to programs like our Room and Board Work Program

the policy

Certain students are required to live in University housing. All single freshmen students under 20 years of age must live in a University residence hall for the academic year except for those who have earned 24 or more hours of college credit in residence or have already lived in University residence halls for two academic semesters, specifically, the spring and fall semesters. CLEP, AP, or hours earned through concurrent enrollment or similar opportunities are not applicable. Exemption from this policy is by special permission only, granted in writing by the Vice President for Student Affairs, or his/her delegates (s).

fact

Students who live on campus have a 10 to 15 percent better chance of doing well in college than students living off-campus
Application for Exemption from Housing and Food Services

Full Name________________________________________ I.D.# __________________________

(Last)                                       (First)                                             (Middle)

Permanent Address
______________________________________________________________________________

(Street)                                                                                     (City, State, Zip)

Day Phone (_____)___________________ Date of Birth ____/_____/_____

Number of Credit Hours Completed prior to attending OU ____________

If this exemption is approved, I plan to live with (name and address):________________________

I am applying for exemption from Housing and Food Services because:

_____ I have lived in a university residence hall for two semesters. Attach copy of residence hall contract.

_____ I plan to live at home with my parents within a 50-mile radius of the OU Norman campus.

_____ I am an incoming freshman 20 years of age or older.

_____ I am married or have a child. Attach copy of marriage or birth certificate.

_____ I have completed 24 semester hours of college credit in residence. (Hours earned through concurrent enrollment, advanced standing or CLEP examination do not count for this 24 hour requirement.) Attach copy of transcript if coming in with 24 hours college hours in residence.

_____ Other, please explain:

________________________________________________________________________

I wish to be exempted during the following semesters (check those which apply)

_____ Summer 20____               _____ Fall 20____                  _____ Spring 20____

I hereby declare that the information contained in this application and any supporting statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I understand that falsification of this official record may result in immediate withdrawal from the University.

Signature of Student_______________________________________ Date__________________

Parents' Declaration (Complete only if student is a minor – Under 18 years of age, or if the student is planning to live at home with parents. Parent’s declaration must be notarized). Both parents must sign if living with both.

We declare that the information provided in this application and any supporting statements are true and correct to the best of our knowledge, and we understand that falsification of this official record may jeopardize the enrollment eligibility of the above-named student.

Mother’s Signature___________________________________ Date________________________________

Father’s Signature____________________________________ Date________________________________

Subscribed and sworn before me this ____________ day of ______________________________________
supplemental exemption information

The following is a list of additional information which must be provided along with the housing exemption application forms. The original exemption request is required. Original form is required.

1. **Special Circumstances**: Whatever circumstances you feel warrant an exemption must be verified. Exceptions to the University of Oklahoma Regents’ residency requirement are granted on a limited basis. The following exemption categories do not require supplemental documentation:

   - A student who plans to live at home with parents within a 50-mile radius of campus—parent’s notarized signature required
   - A student who is 20-years or older

Other conditions that may allow for an exemption include medical conditions or financial difficulty. If you are making a medical or financial claim to live off campus, documentation must be provided. For medical exemption requests, complete the medical form available online at [www.housing.ou.edu](http://www.housing.ou.edu), or at the Housing and Food Services office. For financial exemption requests, please provide a brief summary of your financial hardship. If requesting to live with someone other than parents for financial reasons a notarized letter from the parents supporting your request would be required.

2. Please call Housing and Food Services at (405) 325-1284 to obtain clarification regarding appropriate documentation needed for your circumstance.

Freshmen students will not be approved to be exempt from the Regents’ requirement to live in a fraternity or sorority house.

Approval or denial of an exemption may be delayed until verification of credit hours has been received.
Housing and Food Services is an equal opportunity employer in the Division of Student Affairs. This publication was printed at no expense to the taxpayers of Oklahoma

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