

University of North Dakota Housing & Dining Services

First-year Campus Living Requirement

Beginning fall semester 2015, all first-year students are required to live in a residence hall on campus for their first, full academic year.

First-year students are defined as undergraduate students who:

- Have less than 24 transferable post-secondary semester credit hours
- Enroll full-time at UND within one year of their high school graduation or equivalent

Note: Transferable credits earned while still in high school, including dual credit, AP, etc. will not be counted toward the total.

Transfer students may be exempted if they met comparable requirements at their previous institution and will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Exemption to the live-on requirement may be considered for the following reasons:

- Residing with parent(s) or guardian(s) at their primary, local residence within a 35 mile radius of campus
- Enrolling at less than full-time status
- Married students or students with dependents
- Age 20+ prior to the start of classes for the semester in which they are enrolling
- Financial, medical or personal hardship

Full Policy Statement

Undergraduate students who have less than twenty-four (24) transferable post-secondary credit hours, and who enroll full-time at UND within one year of their high school graduation or equivalent, are required to live on campus in university operated residence halls for the first, full academic year.

Note: Transferable credits earned while still in high school, including dual credit, AP, etc. will not be counted toward the total. Traditional first-year students entering with credit hours earned while in high school are still considered first-year students and are subject to the live on policy.

Transfer students may be exempted if they met comparable requirements at their previous institution. Verification will be requested. Requests to live off campus from transfer students will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Students are encouraged to apply for housing immediately after being admitted to UND. A UND student ID number will be required to apply for housing. Students will not be eligible to participate in the room assignment process until they have been officially admitted to UND.

Exemption

Exemption to the live-on requirement may be considered for the following reasons:

1. Residing with parent(s) or guardian(s) at their primary, local residence

Undergraduate students who enroll at UND within one year of their high school graduation (or equivalent) and who will continue to live at the primary residence of their parent/guardian within a 35 mile radius of the UND campus may be exempted from the live-on requirement by submitting a request for exemption and upon address verification. The parental/guardian address listed on the application for admission to UND will be considered the primary address. Exemptions will not be granted to live with other relatives (siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.) unless the non-parent relative has established legal guardianship of the student. Proof of guardianship will be required. Allowances may be made for military or employment transfer with appropriate documentation.

2. Enrolling at less than full-time status

Students who enroll at less than full-time status may be exempt from the live-on requirement. Enrollment verification is required and will be monitored. Students exempted under these criteria initially, but who later enroll/add classes thereby becoming full-time students will be expected to move on campus. Students who drop below full-time status while living on campus will not be released from their Room and Meal Plan contract.

3. Married students or students with dependents

Students will be asked to submit appropriate documentation i.e. marriage certificate,

dependent birth certificate or custody agreement.

4. Age 20+ prior to the start of classes for the semester in which they are enrolling

5. Financial hardship

Students seeking exemption under these criteria must have completed the Financial Aid application process and may be asked to provide additional documentation. The availability of less expensive housing options or living situations off campus alone is not a valid demonstration of financial hardship.

6. Medical condition or hardship which cannot be accommodated in available on-campus housing options

Students seeking exemption under these criteria will be asked to submit documentation describing the medical condition, treatment, and demonstrate that appropriate accommodation is not available on campus.

7. Special circumstance

Extraordinary situation or circumstance that does not fall under other exemption criteria. Documentation will be required detailing the special circumstances and/or how the issue cannot be resolved through any other option than exemption to the live-on requirement.

Requests for exemption to the first-year campus living requirement policy should be submitted to the Housing Office in accordance with established deadlines. Exemption requests will be reviewed by the Associate Director, Housing Operations. Students will be notified in writing via official university email (if a current UND student) or by email address supplied on the exemption request if a UND email account is not available. Students, whose request for exemption is denied, will have the opportunity to appeal the decision to the Exemption Application Review Board. The Executive Director of Housing & Dining Services or designee will serve as ex officio chair of the Review Board.

Providing false or misleading information in connection with a request for exemption will be grounds for disciplinary action under the Code of Student Life, Section 2-B-2. Failure to comply with the live on requirement or engaging in behaviors that would result in removal from campus housing will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension from the university.

Students are cautioned not to make other living arrangements until they are officially exempted from the first-year campus living requirement. Having signed an off campus lease, rental agreement or having purchased a home will not qualify the student for exemption from the first-year campus living requirement.

Rationale Supporting Our Policy

The mission of the Housing and Dining Services Department is to enhance the university experience by providing exceptional housing and dining services and programs. As a campus community, we believe these programs set the foundation for student success at UND. By living on campus, students learn and reinforce skills which foster citizenship, generate a sense of belonging, and build community.

Achieve Academic Success

Being a successful student takes time and dedication. When students live with others who are focused on attending class and studying, they are more likely to understand the effort it takes to get good grades. Student support services such as study halls and tutoring sessions also take place in the residence halls. UND research shows that residents have higher grade point averages (GPAs) from freshman through senior years.

UND Fall 2013 GPAs

	On Campus	Off Campus
Freshman	2.87	2.58
Sophomore	3.20	2.95
Junior	3.32	3.08
Senior	3.22	3.18

Realize Learning Outcomes

There is so much more to residence life than academics. It's the "learning beyond the classroom" that teaches students the value of volunteering, supporting a worthy cause, or collaborating in a global society. In recent surveys, students tell us what they have learned while living in the UND residence halls.

When answering the question, "Living on campus has enhanced my ability to...", students say:

- Live cooperatively (95.1%)
- Improve communication skills (94%)
- Solve my own problems (93.1%)
- Respect other races and ethnicities (92.5%)
- Meet other people (92.5%)

Live with People Who Care

The transition to college life can be challenging. Navigating the academic world is a new experience for first-year students. Residence hall staff members know the resources students need to be successful and how to connect with residents on a personal and academic level.

The live-in hall staff team consists of 90 Resident Assistants (RAs) and 12 Residence Hall Directors (RHDs) and Assistant Hall Directors (ARHDs). This team builds communities, role-models appropriate behaviors, encourages faculty and staff interactions, mediates conflict, and encourages positive relationships.

Experience our Facilities

Plans are underway to make our student spaces bigger and better than ever. UND has always invested in student housing and dining services, and continues to do so through various upgrades.

Wilkerson Hall Remodeling and Addition

The current Wilkerson Hall renovation and addition is scheduled to be complete in the fall semester of 2015. A few of the major improvements include:

- Upgrade the food service production facility
- Improve the students' dining experience
- Provide more individual and group study spaces and social gathering areas

Completion of room furniture replacement

Desks, desk chairs, and bed frames in all 13 halls have been replaced with quality, oak furniture. All bed frames loft or bunk for easy room arrangement by the student.

Continually invest in wireless access

Students continue to bring more devices that demand wireless access.

Enjoy Amenities

The residence hall room and meal plan rate includes many extras and students only need to pay one bill at the beginning of the semester. High-speed internet, cable television with movie channels, laundry, and unlimited access to the dining centers are all included. Dining centers are centrally located and accessible by tunnels or skyways. Unlimited access meal plans mean students can enter a dining center for a full meal, snack or beverage any time the dining center is open.

On-campus students enjoy campus life experience all within walking distance – academic buildings, Wellness Center, sports arenas, theatres, and fine art venues.