



Housing Accommodation Request, Policy and Procedure

The Student Accessibility Center works in collaboration with the Student Health Center, Counseling Services and Residence Life to meet the needs of students requesting a Housing Accommodation.

Requests for Housing Accommodations can only be made by submitting the following documents, and it is the responsibility of the student to initiate all requests, complete the indicated form, and ensure that a licensed healthcare professional submit the documentation in a timely manner.

PLEASE NOTE: This policy and procedure does not supersede other housing policies or procedures or guarantee a student housing. All criteria for housing must be met as outlined in the Student Handbook and the annual room lottery and selection process.

FORMS TO BE SUBMITTED:

FORM 1: The completed Housing Accommodation Request (student completes this)

SECTION 2: The completed Housing Accommodation Verification (healthcare provider completes this)

PROCEDURES:

1. The student will submit the completed Housing Accommodation Request (Form 1) to the Student Accessibility Center and request supporting documentation from their licensed healthcare provider (Housing Accommodation Verification).
2. The Student Accessibility Center will notify the student of the receipt of the forms and let the student know if any additional information or documentation is needed.
3. Upon receipt of all the necessary documentation, the Housing Accommodation Review Team (Residence Life Director, Director of Counseling/Health Center, and the Student Accessibility Center) will determine whether appropriate reasonable accommodations can be made based on the submitted information. The team will review submitted applications on a regular basis.
4. The Office of Residence Life will notify the student in writing whether or not the accommodation can reasonably be made. This notification will be sent to the student's university email address.
5. Students who need **additional accommodations** or advocacy, should register with the Student Accessibility Center. Please contact: Julie Donatini, Director, Student Accessibility Center at: jdonatin@ashland.edu, or call 419-289-5904.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

The Student Accessibility Center understands the nature of medical confidentiality and privacy laws, if a request for a housing accommodation is to be given full and appropriate consideration, then the above documentation is vital and the ability to contact the verifying professional may be essential. It is the responsibility of the student to notify their professional healthcare provider's office of the need for the above information and to provide that office with any required privacy release documentation. The Student Accessibility Center guarantees that a student's confidentiality will be upheld, and information shared as needed with the Housing Accommodation Review Team members. Documentation provided by the student as part of the Housing Accommodations Review process will be maintained in a confidential manner by the Student Accessibility Center. If a student chooses not to provide an item listed above or to provide no documentation, then the Student Accessibility Center may not be able to proceed with a review of the Housing Accommodation Request.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS:

- Students have the right to request a housing accommodation.
- Students have the right to have their request evaluated on a case-by-case basis and have their confidentiality upheld.
- Students are responsible for providing documentation in a timely manner as requested.
- Students requesting accommodations based on a mental health diagnosis will contact the University Counseling Center and follow through with any recommendations.
- Students requesting accommodations based on a medical diagnosis, or mobility issue will notify the University Health Center and Safety Services to ensure a continuum of care, and attention during emergencies or routine safety alerts.
- Students experiencing any temporary disability due to accident or injury should notify Safety Services to ensure care and attention during emergencies or routine safety alerts.

Students will, at times, need to choose between an available reasonable housing accommodation and their social life, such as not being able to live with their class cohort, their friends, or in a desired residential building on campus.

SINGLE ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS:

Single room accommodations will be considered when accompanied by appropriate third-party documentation supporting the accommodation. The University reserves the right to make final decisions regarding all single room requests for accommodation purposes and to request additional information when a request is insubstantially supported.

In general, the following diagnoses *may* be cause for single room housing accommodation:

- Disorders Involving Muscular Degeneration
- Immunodeficiency Disorders (or need for chronic medication which significantly impacts immune function)
- Sleep Disorders (a full sleep assessment *including* a sleep disorder lab study will be required)

In general, the following *are not typical* reasons to provide single room housing accommodations and will require specific and thorough third-party documentation:

ADD/ADHD	Allergies
Arthritis	Asthma
Mental Health Disorders	Eating Disorders
Irritable Bowel Disease	Migraine Headaches
Traumatic Brain Injury	Diabetes

ANNUAL SUBMISSION AND REVIEW OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS

The Housing Accommodation Request must be submitted on an annual basis, or if there is a change in the accommodation requirement, unless otherwise determined by the Student Accessibility Center. Due to the limited number of residential facilities on campus, we cannot guarantee housing accommodations for requests to be in specific locations or buildings.

To ensure the best opportunity for priority consideration, it is imperative that students submit the application and all requested documentation by the deadlines indicated below:

Returning Students: January 31st for the upcoming academic year.

New Students & Transfers: One month prior to the first day of Fall or Spring classes depending on the semester the student begins.