

Housing Policy and Exemptions

All full-time undergraduate students (registered for 12 or more hours per semester) at Ashland University are required to live on campus for all 4 years unless one of the housing exemptions listed below applies. Students who started their undergraduate coursework at Ashland University in the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 academic years will have a 3-year live-on requirement. Ashland University will honor its commitment to allow these cohorts to live off campus, as was previously communicated in the previous housing policy. Students in these cohorts will be required to live on Ashland University's campus for a total of 6 Fall and Spring semesters or have 90 completed credit hours at an accredited college/university, as verified by the Ashland University Registrar. Students in these cohorts who are interested in living off campus after completing their third academic year will need to fill out the Off Campus Housing application with the Office of Residence Life and will need to have a verified address within 35 miles of Ashland University's campus, but are not required to live with a parent or guardian as stated in the list of exemptions. Students in these cohorts who are requesting to live off campus further than 35 miles away from campus need to request, in writing, to the Director of Residence Life with reasoning as to why it would benefit the student's overall success to live off campus.

Students who wish to live off campus will need to apply for off campus status through the Office of Residence Life. Non-traditional students who are under age 17 or older than 24 who wish to live in campus residence halls must request an exemption from the Director of Residence Life. Exemptions are not guaranteed, and requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Limited graduate student housing, typically located in Jacobs Hall, may be available on campus. The location and availability of graduate student housing is determined by the Director of Residence Life. Students living in University Residential Housing who complete their undergraduate coursework in December and then enroll in an AU graduate program beginning the following spring term may continue to reside in residence for the remainder of their housing contract (not to exceed one semester).

All approvals are granted on an annual basis. Students must complete the Off Campus Housing application each year while attending Ashland University. Falsification of any information in an attempt to receive an off-campus exemption will result in room and board charges applied to your student account, as well as being considered a violation of the Student Handbook. Violations of the student handbook will be adjudicated through our student conduct process.

Exceptions will be made for the following reasons:

1. While in attendance at AU, the student is living in the **permanent primary residence** of his/her parents or guardian and that residence is within 35 driving miles of AU's main campus (401 College Avenue, Ashland, Ohio 44805) or The Dwight Schar College of Nursing and Health Sciences (1020 S. Trimble Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44906).
 - a. Please note that the Office of Residence Life considers the permanent home address of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to be the address of record on file with federal, state, and/or local tax agencies and where a minimum of one of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) resides. Students will not be exempted from their residency requirement to live with other family members (e.g. grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, etc.) or friends.
 - i. The purchase of property and/or lease or sublease of rental property within 35 miles of the University does not constitute permanent primary residence and will not be considered for housing policy exception.
 - b. Documentation Required:**
 - i. A copy of the parent/legal guardian's driver's license or state-issued identification, showing a matching address.
 - ii. A copy of utility bills listing the permanent address for a minimum of six months before the application date. Legal parent/guardian's name must be on the utility bill.
2. The student is:
 - a. Married, divorced or widowed.
 - i. Documentation Required:**
 1. Marriage certificate, divorce paperwork or death certificate as appropriate.
 - b. 22 years of age or older prior to Oct. 1 of that academic year.

- i. No additional documentation required.
 - c. The parent or guardian of a dependent child.
 - i. Documentation Required:**
 - 1. Document showing guardianship of child or birth certificate with the student's name listed as a parent.
 - d. A new transfer student who has completed four semesters and earned a minimum of 45 credits from an accredited college/university and has not lived on Ashland University's campus.
 - i. Documentation Required:**
 - 1. A copy of the transcript showing completed credit hours.
- 3. The student has:
 - a. Served in the Armed Forces and received an honorable discharge.
 - i. Documentation Required:**
 - 1. Discharge paperwork.
 - b. Lived in campus housing for the equivalent of 8 fall and spring semesters at Ashland University while enrolled in academic coursework each semester.
 - i. No additional documentation required
 - c. Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college/university.
 - i. Documentation Required:**
 - 1. A copy of the transcript showing a completed degree.
 - d. An approved accommodation to live off campus through Student Accessibility Services.
 - i. Documentation Required:**
 - 1. Approved accommodation paperwork provided to the Office of Residence Life from Student Accessibility Services.

To learn more about housing exemptions and the approval process to live on campus, please visit this page: [Living Off Campus.](#)