ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

Steps for Requesting Housing Accommodations

Purpose and Scope

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibit discrimination based on disability and establish that housing adjustments or exemptions may be appropriate on a case-by-case basis as a reasonable accommodation for qualified students with disabilities.

Residential living is a cornerstone of the University of Oklahoma experience. Standard housing can meet the needs of most students, and accommodations are available for those with medical or psychological conditions that create barriers to accessing housing.

A medical or psychological diagnosis alone does not guarantee housing accommodations. Recommendations from healthcare providers are considered but do not determine eligibility.

Housing accommodations address ***significant barriers preventing a student from accessing housing equitably***. Not all conditions qualify for a housing accommodation.

Single Rooms:

- Single rooms are provided as a *disability accommodation* only when professional documentation demonstrates a significant access barrier requiring a private space. For example, medical equipment or conditions requiring specialized living arrangements may qualify.

Common Requests

1. **Needing Quiet Study Space:** Residence halls are designed as living spaces, not study areas. Quiet study locations are available throughout the OU campus, including the library and other academic facilities.
2. **Requiring Space for Decompression**: Anxiety or depression generally does not warrant a private room as an accommodation. The OU campus offers a variety of locations where students have the opportunity to decompress.

Initial Housing Accommodation Request:

1. Apply for housing through the StarRez Portal.
2. Apply for housing accommodations through the Accessibility and Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

   Registration Process

   - Fill out our Application for **Housing Access Application** and submit documentation to the Accessibility and Disability Resource Center. Information regarding the documentation can be found in our **Documentation Guidelines**. The ADRC requires that the information includes how the disability impacts the student's ability to live on campus
   - Once your documentation and Housing Access Application have been received, it will be reviewed within *3-5 university business days*. Please check your **OU email** account regularly because this is how we will contact you once your documentation has been reviewed.
   - **The ADRC reserves the right to request updated or additional documentation as needed to determine appropriate accommodations.**
   - When you receive an email from ADRC, please follow the instructions in the email.
   - During the registration appointment, you and an ADRC Team member will discuss appropriate accommodations to provide equal housing opportunities.
3. If you are requesting an Emotional Support Animal at OU, please review OU **Assistance Animal Policy**.
4. Contact ADRC at **adrc@ou.edu** with any questions.

ADRC PROCESS:

- Once provided with appropriate information for an OU campus housing accommodation request, the ADRC Team will process and review the request. ADRC will inform the student of the outcome of their housing accommodation request(s) through their OU e-mail.
- Housing accommodations are granted by the ADRC for an academic year.

Please note, we are unable to accommodate specific dorm or roommate requests.

SUMMER HOUSING ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS:

If a student has not previously lived on-campus with ADRC approved housing accommodations or is requesting a change to previously eligible housing accommodations, then the above steps for requesting an ADRC housing accommodation must be followed.

IF YOU ARE A RETURNING OU STUDENT LIVING ON-CAMPUS:

All students with currently approved housing accommodations through ADRC will receive an email from OU Housing with deadline information for the upcoming academic year. Students choosing to live on campus again must request their housing accommodation according to the identified deadline.

Students requesting the same housing accommodations as previously approved by ADRC must do so through ADRC and may need to submit updated documentation of disability, including current functional limitations.

Continuously enrolled students who miss the established OU Housing deadlines for requesting on-campus housing will lose their priority selection status and be placed on a housing waitlist. This includes returning students who are registered for services with ADRC who are requesting housing accommodations for the upcoming academic year. It's important to get the housing application and housing accommodation request submitted by the deadline.

Housing accommodations are only considered for students who are under contract for the upcoming academic year and are contingent upon receiving a contract.

DEADLINES:

Priority deadlines are as follows:

Entering the Fall Semester: May 1

Entering the Spring Semester: November 1