



Policy Name:	University Housing and Meal Plan Requirement
Policy Number:	STUD-336
Revision Date:	February 2024
Policies Superseded:	None
Policy Management Area(s):	Auxiliary Enterprises

SUMMARY:

Coastal Carolina University is committed to providing its students with a comprehensive educational experience that includes a residential component. Therefore, all degree-seeking, full-time, first- and second-year students who graduated from high school within two calendar years prior to enrolling in Coastal Carolina University are required to live in residential communities operated by University Housing and to purchase a residential meal plan. Possible exemptions and the process for requesting exemptions are described in this policy. Being marked as exempt does not prevent a student from choosing to apply for housing and entering into the annual license agreement or from purchasing a meal plan.

POLICY:

I. DEFINITIONS

- A. Residential Communities – living spaces operated, or leased, by University Housing and Coastal Carolina University.
- B. University Housing – both a department name and physical bed spaces.
 - 1. University department that oversees and manages University residential communities.
 - 2. Residential communities operated, or leased, by Coastal Carolina University.
- C. Exemption Request – a form submitted to initiate the review process and consider a release from housing or meal plan requirement.

- D. Exemption – a University approved release from the housing or meal plan requirement.
- E. License Agreement – governs the terms and conditions for occupancy of residential space.
- F. Legal Guardian – a person who has been appointed by a court of law to have the legal authority and duty to care for the interests of a student who is legally a minor.
- G. Permanent Address – the physical street address and primary residence of a student’s parent or guardian.

II. HOUSING AND MEAL PLAN REQUIREMENT

- A. Degree-seeking, full-time students who graduated from high school within two calendar years prior to enrolling at Coastal Carolina University (CCU) are required to live in residential communities operated by CCU and purchase a residential meal plan. First- and second-year students who choose to live in residential communities operated by CCU despite a granted exemption must purchase a residential meal plan. All students who live in residential communities will be governed by the University Housing License Agreement, including those eligible for an exemption.
- B. First- or second-year status is not an academic qualification and is not governed by attempted, transferred, or completed credit hours. A reduction in credits does not release a resident from the financial or other obligations of this policy or the University Housing License Agreement.
- C. Registering for majority or all online classes does not release a resident from the financial or other obligations of this policy or the University Housing License Agreement.

III. EXEMPTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY HOUSING REQUIREMENT

- A. The following exemptions will be active on a student's record without action on the part of the student:
 - 1. Graduation from high school more than two calendar years prior to enrolling at Coastal Carolina University.
 - 2. The student’s permanent address on file with the Office of Admissions and

Merit Awards is within 50 miles of Coastal Carolina University and the student is living with a parent or court appointed legal guardian. B. The following exemptions may be approved if a student submits an exemption request by July 31 (fall semester requests) or by November 30 (spring semester requests):

- a. Student is married.
- b. Student has a dependent child or children.
- c. Student serves in the military or is a veteran.
- d. Student has a verifiable and documented extenuating, financial or personal circumstance that precludes the student from living successfully in CCU operated housing.

IV. EXEMPTIONS TO THE MEAL PLAN REQUIREMENT

A. The following exemptions will be active on a student's record without action on the part of the student:

1. Graduation from high school more than two calendar years prior to enrolling at Coastal Carolina University.
2. Student is living off-campus with an approved Housing exemption.

B. The following exemptions may be approved if a student submits an exemption request by July 31 (fall semester requests) or by November 30 (spring semester requests):

1. Student has a verifiable and documented extenuating, financial or personal circumstance that impedes the student from utilizing a meal plan.

V. REQUESTING AN EXEMPTION OR ACCOMMODATION TO THE UNIVERSITY HOUSING AND MEAL PLAN REQUIREMENT

A. Students who may qualify for an exemption, other than those listed above as "Exemptions to the University Housing Requirement," must complete University Housing Exemption Request and submit it to University Housing by July 31 (fall semester requests) or by November 30 (spring semester requests).

B. Students with a documented disability or chronic medical condition that substantially limits one or more major life activity, who may require accommodations to access University Housing or Dining Services should register with Accessibility and Disability Services (ADS). Registration with ADS does not guarantee the requested accommodation.

- C. Students not approved for an exemption or accommodation, as well as students who do not submit the housing application are not absolved of their responsibility to comply with this policy.
- D. Being marked as exempt does not prevent a student from choosing to apply for housing and entering into the annual license agreement or from purchasing a meal plan.
- E. Approved accommodation and exemption requests are not retroactive and will only apply to the student's account beginning the day the request is approved.
- F. Students who do not meet the exemption criteria or have not been approved by University Housing for an exemption will be assigned and billed for a space in University Housing and will be assigned and billed for a meal plan.
- G. University Housing and Meal Plan Requirement exemption requests will be administratively reviewed. Appeals to administrative decisions will be referred to the Auxiliary Enterprises Appeals Board. All decisions of the board are final.