

## Office of Residence Life Commuter Agreement & Policy

### Agreement

By “signing” this contract on the Nest I indicate I am a commuter based on the Commuter Definition below. My signature also indicates I understand and agree that as a student I am obligated to honor my commitments to Messiah’s community standards as outlined in the Community Covenant and current student handbook. In addition to these University standards, it is also expected that I abide by the local laws and ordinances of my off campus community. I will be a good ambassador of Christ and Messiah University.

I understand and agree that the use, possession, and/or distribution of alcohol is prohibited for Messiah University students living off campus while enrolled during the academic year (See Alcohol Policy).

I understand that official Messiah University communication will come through my MU email account and it is my responsibility to regularly check and respond to email sent to that account.

### Commuter Definition & Policy

#### Commuter Definition:

A commuter student is a student who is living locally (within a 50 mile distance) and at least one of following criteria applies:

1. The student is living locally with parents
2. The student is living locally with family members (i.e. grandparents, aunts/uncles)
3. The student is classified as having independent status by the Office of Financial Aid and is living locally.
4. Student is married
5. Student is 23 or older.

It is NOT permissible for a student to live off campus with other Messiah students (or non-students) unless granted permission explicitly by the Dean of Students. Students found to be living off campus without the approval of the Dean of Students who do not fall under one of the 5 categories above will be subject to:

- Possible disciplinary action
- Move either on-campus or to the family member’s house they should be living in
- Other sanctions as deemed necessary

#### Process:

If you meet any of the above criteria, your commuter status is valid for the academic year. You will need to notify the Office of Residence Life through the form in the Nest:

1. Your local address
2. The name and relationship of the person(s) with whom you are residing. A family member must be part of the immediate family to be considered for commuter purposes.

3. Your local address must match the address of your family member who you are residing with. If this changes, you may be required to meet the on-campus residency requirement.
4. The contact information for the family member you will live with.

If you do not meet the above criteria you will need to meet the on-campus residency requirement. Additionally, if your situation changes, you must notify the Office of Residence Life and may be subject to meet the on-campus residency requirement.

**Students who circumvent the Off-Campus Housing or Commuter Student process (e.g. living at an address different from what was submitted or approved) will be subject to student disciplinary action and will be subject to loss of status among other sanctions.**

If you should have questions please contact our office at 717-796-5239.