

Off-Campus Housing Contract & Policy

Contract

My signature indicates that I understand and agree that as a student who has been extended the privilege of living off campus, I will remain a member of the Messiah College community. I am obligated to honor my commitments to Messiah's community standards as outlined in the Community Covenant, Code of Conduct and current student handbook. In addition to these College 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 College. I agree to be a good neighbor, respectful and considerate of the rights and needs of those who live around me, being mindful of issues regarding noise, parking, guests, upkeep of dwelling, etc. With regard to these and other "courtesy issues," it is expected that I will defer to the needs of my neighbors in addition to parameters outlined by local township ordinances.

I understand and agree that the use, possession, and/or distribution of alcohol is prohibited for Messiah College students living off campus while enrolled during the academic year (See Alcohol Policy). I also understand and agree that I am responsible for the behavior of my guests and will adhere to the visitation standards outlined for students living in on campus apartments. (See visitation policy).

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

I understand that I am responsible to fulfill the chapel requirements if I have a class before or after chapel. If I do not have chapel then it is my responsibility to contact the College Ministries Office. If I find myself on chapel probation I understand that I may be required to move back to campus.

I understand and agree that if I violate College standards and/or federal, state, or local laws, that I will have the privilege of living off campus revoked. This will result in my mandatory return to on-campus housing.

Policy

Messiah College is primarily a residential campus. All single, full-time students under the age of 23 are required to live on campus. Exceptions are granted to students with non-traditional status (those 23 and over, students with families, and married students living locally). Junior and senior students may also be granted an exception to this residency requirement. Exceptions are very limited and are generally granted when living on-campus is prohibitive to a student's enrollment. Some examples of reasons include: financial hardship as verified by the financial aid office, medical reasons, special diet, etc. In order to qualify for this exception, junior and senior students must complete the following process:

Procedure

1. Meet the minimum credit hour requirement (57 credits not including AP or CLEP by the end of your 4th semester) prior to deadline/application
2. Attend an off-campus housing orientation. Dates will be emailed to students by the Director of Housing.
3. Submit a completed off-campus housing application to the Residence Life Office.
4. Provide a letter of support from parent or guardian (*unless classified as and independent student by the Office of Financial Aid*).
5. Maintain good standing with the College. Good standing is defined as not being on academic, chapel, probation or on disciplinary probation within the six months prior to application. In addition, previous alcohol or drug violations may prevent a student from being approved to live off-campus.
6. Confirm with the Financial Aid Office that aid package is not affected by living off campus.
7. Sign off-campus housing agreement.
8. Students should NOT enter into a lease or rental agreement until they have received official approval from the Office of Residence Life. Signing a lease or rental agreement without having received approval, may result in being liable to the landlord for rent even while being required to live on campus.

Late Application Procedure

If a deadline is set for applications, applications may still be approved, but a \$200 fee will be assessed.