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# Residential Living Policy APM 4.06 (Revised 2/1/13)

The Residential Living program at Sul Ross State University is designed to be supportive of each student's educational experience. Besides providing convenient and cost effective housing arrangements, living on campus will give you a built-in opportunity to get acquainted with other students, be involved in campus life, participate in programs and activities, encounter challenging ideas, and develop new skills. Studies have shown that students living on campus are more likely to be successful in their college experience, advance more quickly, achieve a higher grade point average, participate in more social activities and have a more positive self-image than those living off campus.

### **General Housing Policy**

Single undergraduate students who are enrolled for 12 or more hours in the long semesters (fall and spring) and 6 or more credit hours in the summer semesters must reside in the residence halls for the first two full academic years of their education.

# **Exemptions to the policy may be made for student(s) who:**

- 1. Live at the established residence of their parent, grandparent or legal guardian within a 100-mile radius of the Sul Ross campus. Written proof of local residency must be provided. Documentation must be presented regarding legal guardianship.
- 2. Employer provides room and board. This must be verified in writing at once per semester by the employer.
- 3. Are married. Student must provide official, written proof of legal marriage recognized in the State of Texas.
- 4. Are veterans and have spent at least twenty-four months on active duty. Official documentation of military status must be provided.
- 5. Are at least 21 years of age before the first class day.
- 6. Have already lived 4 long semesters (2 spring and 2 fall terms) at Sul Ross State University.
- 7. Are single parent(s) with dependent(s) living with them full time during the academic year. Student must provide a copy of the official birth certificate of the child/children.
- 8. Medical reason. Official letter from a medical doctor (M.D.) licensed to practice medicine in the United States must be provided.
- 9. Part-time student. Class schedule is required for verification. Part time is defined as less than
  - 12 hours in the fall and spring semesters and less than 6 hours total for the summer semesters.

Request for exemptions from the housing policy must be submitted in writing along with all supporting documentation by the first class day of every semester except exemptions

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(4, 5, & 6). Off campus arrangements must not be made prior to receiving written notification from Residential Living that the appeal has been approved. The required forms to apply for exemptions may be obtained from the Office of Residential Living or online at the residential website. A student who gives false information concerning housing will be subject to disciplinary action. A student found to be living off campus without approval would be required to return to on- campus housing. The student will be held liable for the room and board charges.

Students residing in University housing are responsible for being aware of all policies and procedures as printed in the publication, The Residential Living Handbook, the Housing Contract Agreement, and all housing policies outlined in this publication. Sul Ross State University is not responsible for theft or damage to personal property.

## **Applying for Campus Housing**

In order to request on campus housing you will need to have a current housing application on file. To complete the application process, a **non-refundable** application fee of \$50 must be submitted. An additional \$200 housing deposit will be added to the student's account. The housing deposit must be paid before the first class day. If the student does not occupy their on-campus residence as reserved, then the housing deposit paid will be forfeited. All students must sign a Residential Living agreement for the entire academic year. Students entering in the spring will sign a Residential Living agreement for the spring semester only.

Students who move out of Residential Living before the contracted time has lapsed and withdraw from the university will forfeit the \$200 Housing Deposit and will be billed for any additional charges or damages costs to the room. Students, who move out of Residential Living without proper authorization and remain enrolled in the university, will not receive a refund of the deposit and all room, board and damage charges will remain on the student's account. Students who fulfill the yearlong contract may request a refund of the Housing Deposit, less deductions for unnecessary wear and damage, at the completion of the required occupancy.

## All On Campus Housing Facilities have the following amenities:

- Tobacco Free Environment
- Fully furnished bedrooms and living rooms
- Air conditioning and heating
- Free cable TV
- Free internet
- Free on-site laundry facility in every building
- 24/7 maintenance and police presence
- 24/7 on-site staff available

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#### **Residence Halls**

Residence hall rooms are rented by the academic year. A meal plan is required and is included as part of the package price. Campus food service is provided in the University Center

**Lobo Village 1 and 2** are suite style rooms, where twos students have a private bedroom and share a bathroom and a common area. Lobo Village 1 & 2 each house 242 students. **Mountainside and Fletcher Halls** are spacious suite style rooms which house four students each with conjoining bathroom facilities. These two facilities may be used for additional housing as needed.

# **Efficiency Apartments**

The Efficiency Apartments provide housing to single students who are 21 years of age or older and enrolled full time for each term. Students are subject to background check during the application process. Each apartment is fully furnished with a kitchen including a full size refrigerator/freezer, stove, oven and garbage disposal.

# **Family Housing Apartments**

The Family Housing apartments are available to married couples or single parents with children, who are enrolled full time each semester. These two-bedroom apartments are fully furnished with a kitchen including a full size refrigerator/freezer, stove, oven, garbage disposal, dishwasher, and a stackable washer/dryer unit. A telephone landline is not included in the rent. Apartment rent begins when the key is issued and continues until the student moves out and the key is returned. Rent is billed monthly. Rent charges for the full semester will be charged into the student account when the contract is signed. Financial aid will be applied to all charges, including rent, before any refund will be generated. Rent not covered by financial aid may be paid through the Controller's Office under an Installment Plan. If rent is not paid as scheduled, the resident will need to speak with the Director of Residential Living.

#### **Overnight Guest Housing**

Residence hall students may house same-sex non student guests in their rooms for limited periods (no more than three consecutive nights) at no additional cost. Residents may host one guest at a time and must be present during the time of the visit. The University reserves the right to withdraw guest privileges if a guest or host does not abide by University rules and regulations. *All guests must be at least 17 years of age or an immediate family member of the resident.* 

Students who commute or take weekend classes, or family members who are visiting students, may make reservations on a space available basis to spend the night in the vacant rooms in the residence halls. Cost for the new residence halls is \$30 per night. Payment is to be made at check-in time, using check or money order (no cash or credit cards). Linens, towels, soap, toiletries, etc. are not provided so plan ahead. Reservations can be made by contacting the Office of Residential Living (432) 837-8190.

#### **Visitation/Guest Policies**

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In order to provide an atmosphere conducive to study, the residence halls maintain visitation and guest policies. Visitation hours and regulations (for guests of both genders) are recommended by the Residence Hall Association to the Office of Residential Living for consideration. A guest is one who visits in a residence hall at the invitation of a specific resident. Each resident may have no more than two guests in his/her room at any time. This includes other residents currently living in the same residence hall. **All visitors must be escorted at all times by a resident of the building.** A resident will be held responsible for the conduct of his/her guest, for providing his/her escort in and out of the building, and for abiding promptly by the hours of visitation. A guest is never to be left in a student room without the host being present. If a guest fails to follow the rules and regulations, he/she may be asked to leave and both the guest and host may face disciplinary procedures. Violation of visitation hours will result in disciplinary action.

#### HOURS OF VISITATION

Lobo Village Residence Halls 1 & 2 10 a.m. until 1 a.m. Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m. until 2 a.m. Friday & Saturday Fletcher & Mountainside 10 a.m. until 1 a.m. Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m. until 2 a.m. Friday & Saturday