

Residential Services

Accommodation Policies

Southwestern University will accommodate special housing needs as appropriate. The University is not responsible for providing personal or medical assistants. Students who cannot fulfill their personal/medical needs may need to consider hiring an assistant.

Wheelchair/scooter accessibility: Southwestern University will provide accessible space for students who need them on a first come first served basis.

Medical Single Unit: Housing accommodations are based on medical need and are limited in availability; therefore, priority will be placed on situations that are life-threatening and/or would result in permanent, negative medical impact if the request is not met. If the University is unable to meet the need desire for a medical single, the student has the option to request to live off campus.

Documentation of the diagnosis, a description or report of any tests run to determine the diagnosis, impact on life function, and any medical recommendations must be provided to the Center for Academic Success (CAS) in a timely manner to allow for housing placements to be made. In addition, the "Housing Accommodation Supplemental Form" must be completed by the student's health care provider and turned in to CAS. The deadline for turning in materials needed is the first day of room sign ups, by 5pm. Students not meeting the deadline will automatically be placed on a wait list.

Meal Plans: The student must provide documentation of medical conditions, any testing done to determine the medical condition, statement of functional impact of the condition and any recommendations from their provider to the Center for Academic Success. Before requesting a meal plan accommodation, students are required to meet with the Operations Manager of Sodexo to ensure that Sodexo is not able to meet their needs. If it is determined that their needs cannot be met, the student may EITHER 1) be given an accommodation to reduce the meal plan to the smallest number allowed for their residence (5). OR 2) request to live in a residence that has a kitchen. *NOTE: there may be a wait-time pending availability. OR 3) If a student lives in a residence that does not require a meal plan, they may be relieved of their meal plan. Students may also be approved to live off campus if the University does not have availability in a residence with a kitchen. Students who anticipate having dietary issues that will impact their housing request should act in a timely manner to ensure they can be accommodated within a reasonable timeframe.

Accommodations are not made for roommate preference, residence hall preference, lifestyle preference (e.g. vegan, vegetarianism or paleo preferences), nor will requests for housing or meal plan alterations be considered for financial purposes. There must be a medical condition that qualifies as a disability under the ADA (as amended) present for accommodations to be considered reasonable.