

Student Housing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) 2021-2022

Applying for Housing

How do I apply for Housing?

MyHousing is the way to take care of your room arrangements – application, prepayment, contract, and much more, all online. To complete your application, you will need your BlazerID and a credit/debit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover) to pay the \$25 application fee and \$250 prepayment. All first-time freshmen starting in a fall term must pay the Freshmen Enrollment Deposit before applying for housing. For more information about applying for housing, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply.

Do I have to live on campus for my first year of college?

All first-time freshmen entering Fall 2021 who graduated high school the same year or the year before their first semester at UAB must live on campus for the entire academic year. Those students who feel that they have extenuating circumstances that might warrant an exemption should complete the Exemption Form. The form is located on the UAB Housing website. For more information about the Freshmen Live-On requirement and the exemption process, please visit www.uab.edu/housing.

How much is Housing per semester?

Housing rates for the 2021-2022 academic year have not been approved. Please continue to the Student Housing website for updates. For a look at the 2020-2021 room rates, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/residence-halls/rates.

If I completed my Housing application by March 1 (housing priority deadline), when can I choose my residence hall and room?

Freshmen who applied by March 1 will have the opportunity to choose their room online from a select number of rooms available in Blazer, Gold, and McMahon Halls. On June 11, those students will receive an email with step-by-step instructions and a log-in time. Those students can log in any time between their log-in time and the deadline on June 18 to select a room. Students will be allowed to pull in one (1) roommate if they have submitted a housing application and have a valid roommate group (indicates a mutual request).

Can I select my suitemates in Blazer Hall?

Because most freshmen select their own rooms, Student Housing does not have a formal suitemate selection process. Freshmen who applied by March 1 will have the opportunity to choose their room online from a select number of rooms available in Blazer, Gold, and McMahon Halls. Those students will be allowed to pull in one (1) roommate if they have submitted a housing application and have a valid roommate group (indicates a mutual request). If four (4) students decide that they want to share a suite in Blazer Hall, at least one (1) in each Roommate Group must have applied by March 1 to select their room online. Those two students will work together to find a room with four available spaces and pull in their mutually requested roommate(s).

When is the last day that I can cancel my housing application and still get my pre-payment (\$250) back?

June 1 is the last day to cancel your application and still get your prepayment back. You will not be refunded the \$25 application fee. To cancel, log in to MyHousing and complete the Application Cancellation Request form. Refund will be processed within 10-15 business days and placed back on the credit card used to pay it.

All Things Roommates

Can students request a roommate?

Beginning March 15 (for Fall 2021), freshmen request a roommate by creating a roommate group using the Freshmen Roommate Groups link in MyHousing. Only students with a completed housing application (including parental/guardian signature on the contract) may participate in the Roommate Group selection process. One student is the leader and creates the group and invites their roommate to join their group, sending the second

student an email. The second student logs into MyHousing, and either accepts or declines the invitation. If there is no response to the invitation, it is considered a declined request. The roommate request deadline is 5 pm CDT on June 4. For more information about applying for housing, the application process, and the assignments timeline, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply.

If I did not request a roommate, how will you match me with a roommate?

The Assignments Team will use the roommate matching questions on the housing application. These are the questions about quietness, cleanliness, etc. We do not use other students' majors/hometowns/etc. to determine roommates.

When was the last day to make my roommate request?

The last day to use RoomSync is June 3. The Roommate Groups link in MyHousing closes on June 4, 2021, at 5 pm CDT. There are no guarantees for roommate requests after June 4. All other students will be assigned based on roommate matching questions.

What if my roommate got to pick their room, and we decided to live together after?

You may submit a change request in MyHousing (available beginning July 3). Changes will be made based on the availability of space.

What if I do not like my roommate and we cannot live together?

All students will have a roommate contract to review and discuss with their roommate/suitemates. RA's will work with residents to fill out the agreements. A roommate agreement is a document used to guide and assist new and seasoned roommates by determining standards for the shared living space.

Room Change week takes place the second full week of class each semester. Students are required to attend a room change information meeting and submit a room change request form to participate in the room change process during that week. Room changes are granted based on the availability of space.

Living-Learning Communities

Are the Honors floors different from non-Honors floors?

Students in the Honors College have the option to live in the Honors Learning Community. Located in all three of our first-year residence halls (Blazer, Gold, and McMahon), students living in the community share the same residence hall and room amenities as students who do not reside in the community. The added benefit of living in the Honors Learning Community is the ability to:

- Create a "home away from home" with your fellow honors students
- Develop close relationships with students who share your commitment to education
- Integrate academic and co-curricular experiences
- Continue engagement with Honors SMART Leaders who help to ensure that you have the resources to find your place at UAB and in the Honors College

More information about the Honors Learning Community and other living-learning communities can be found at www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply/living-learning-communities.

What are living-learning communities?

Living Learning Communities (LLCs) are groups of students who share academic goals and interests. LLC members live in designated residence halls or apartments, enroll in community-specific courses and participate in group activities designed to enhance learning.

More information about living-learning communities can be found at www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply/living-learning-communities.

Safety and Security

What are the safety and security measures inside of the residence halls?

Safety is a top priority at UAB, which is the basis for policies regulating access into the residence halls. Residents are required to carry their UAB ONE Card with them at all times. They must surrender their UAB ONE Card at the request of a University official, Student Housing staff member, and/or desk assistant for identification purposes at any time. For more information about residence hall safety and security, please visit the following websites:

www.uab.edu/students/housing/current-residents/safety-security

www.uab.edu/students/housing/current-residents/policies-procedures

Do the front desks in the residence halls ever close?

All residence halls are locked 24 hours a day and require a UAB ONE Card for entry. Lobby desks are operated 24 hours a day, Monday through Sunday. Entrance through doors marked Exit Only is not permitted. Propping or otherwise obstructing exterior doors is prohibited. Residence Hall Staff monitors the access to the halls and enforces the visitation policy.

Residence Hall Rooms, Layout, and Amenities

What is the difference between Blazer, Gold, and McMahon Halls?

Each residence hall room comes with standard amenities: an extra-long twin bed, a desk and chair, a dresser, and a closet. In addition to the standard amenities, each student has access to the following additional amenities: free governed laundry services, print stations, and residence hall WIFI (RESNET). All residence hall room doors can be locked. Students will receive room keys during move-in in August.

Gold and McMahon Hall are both traditional-style residence halls with a bathroom in each two-person room. Each room comes equipped with a microwave and a micro-fridge.

Blazer Hall, a suite-style residence hall, contains two and three-bedroom suites with a bathroom in each two-person room. Each suite in Blazer Hall comes equipped with a standard size refrigerator for all students living in the suite to share. For more information about each residence hall, including room dimensions, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/residence-halls.

Are there kitchens on each floor?

Except for McMahon Hall, there are no community kitchens on the residential floors and any of our residence halls. McMahon hall has a community kitchen on the first floor for all McMahon Hall residents to utilize.

Are there places to eat in McMahon hall?

McMahon Hall has three dining concepts for students to enjoy, Moe's Southwest Grill, Slice of Life, and Einstein Bros. Bagels. Dining is available to all UAB students.

Can students have a wireless printer?

Yes. Wireless printers are permitted in UAB residence halls. Students are prohibited from bringing their own wireless router. For more information about RESNET, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/current-residents/wi-fi-ethernet.

Are there study areas in the residence hall?

Each residence hall has dedicated study spaces and lounges for you and your friends to enjoy.

Can we bring an air fryer?

Air fryers are permitted inside the residence halls. Electrical appliances (toaster ovens and deep fryers) with exposed heating elements are prohibited. All appliances must be UL-approved. For more information on residence hall policies and procedures, including prohibited items, please review the Residence Life Handbook.

www.uab.edu/students/housing/current-residents/policies-procedures.

Are guests permitted inside the residence hall?

Residence Hall visitation for the 2021-2022 academic year is currently suspended due to the COVID pandemic. The policy change will be reviewed in consultation with members of the UAB administration and medical professionals. For information on residence hall visitation, please review the Residence Life Handbook.

www.uab.edu/students/housing/current-residents/policies-procedures

Can beds be lofted inside of the residence hall room?

Lofting of beds is permitted in all residence halls. Only free-standing lofts leased directly from Collegiate Bed Loft Company (www.cblorder.com) are permitted. Under no circumstances are residents allowed to construct their own lofts. The Office of Student Housing and Residence Life assumes no liability for injury or damages due to lofts. For information on furniture and bed lofts, please review the Residence Life Handbook.

www.uab.edu/students/housing/current-residents/policies-procedures

Are pets permitted in the residence halls?

For health and sanitary reasons, pets (including fish) are not permitted in the residence halls, with the exception of service animals, pre-approved assistance animals, and service animals in training. For more information about service and assistance animals, please review the Residence Life Handbook.

www.uab.edu/students/housing/current-residents/policies-procedures

What items do you suggest that we bring for our residence hall room?

An essential packing list can be found on the Housing website at www.uab.edu/housing. This is not an exhaustive list but serves to assist students moving into the residence halls. The packing list can also be found in the UAB Housing Move-In Guide. The 2021-2022 move-in guide will be available in June.

Miscellaneous Questions

What days can I move into my residence hall?

UAB student move-in is August 18-22. To ensure an effective and efficient move-in process, we ask that students adhere to the following guidelines:

- All students will be required to sign-up for a move-in time before arriving to campus. Students who fail to sign up will not be permitted to move into their assigned residence hall until Sunday, August 22, 2021. Sign-up is based on a first-come, first-serve basis; thus, it's essential that you continue to check your UAB email for updates from Student Housing. Move-in sign-up information will be sent in early August.
- All students will be required to complete the Student Housing educational module before moving into their residence hall. You must complete all sections of the course with a score of 100%.
- All sections include:
 - Viewing the Student Housing module video
 - Successful completion the module quiz with no score less than 100%. You may retake the quiz as many times as necessary to achieve the required score of 100%.
 - Signing the attestation as a part of the course.

Failure to achieve a score of 100% on each section will result in the course not being completed. Information about how to access the educational module will be sent in early August.

Can freshmen students have a car on campus?

Yes. Freshmen students are permitted to bring a car to campus. If you plan to bring a car to campus, you may want to consider pre-ordering your parking permit. Information about on-campus parking, including all associated fees, can be found at www.uab.edu/transportation/parking.