Every year our office receives many inquiries from students and parents regarding the option of living off-campus. When you agree to enroll at Gettysburg, you agree to a four-year residency requirement, which can be found in the Student Handbook. This means that you will live in Gettysburg College campus housing for the four years of your college experience. We do allow exceptions for a small number of students to be released from their four-year residency obligation. We use an application process to grant approval for those students to live in the Gettysburg community. Living in the community is both a privilege and a responsibility that provides you a unique opportunity to live more independently in the final year of college in preparation for life after Gettysburg.

Each February, the college evaluates enrollment needs and determines how many students may be released from their obligation to reside on campus. If the number of applicants exceeds the determined number, remaining students will be placed on a waitlist for future consideration and must participate in the on-campus housing lottery process in March. There are NO guarantees that all eligible applicants will receive final approval from the Office of Residential & First-Year Programs. For this reason you SHOULD NOT sign a lease for an off-campus accommodation until you receive approval (in writing) through the application process. If you do not have written permission to live off-campus, you are obligated to reside in, and pay for, college housing. This obligation is in support of Letter U in the Proscribed Code of Conduct. Violating this could result in disciplinary action. If you are approved, it is your responsibility to secure suitable accommodations.

In order to be eligible to live off-campus for the 2016-2017 academic year, each applicant must meet certain requirements:
- Attendance at one of four informational/educational sessions (see below for dates, times, and locations)
- Students must be current junior standing at the time of application (expected graduation date of December 2016 OR May 2017 OR August 2017)
- Cumulative GPA requirement of 2.5 at the time of the application
- Students must not be on conduct probation and have no more than 4 points. Each applicant’s overall conduct record, if applicable, will be reviewed.
- Completed application (available in late January)
- Students must submit a letter of intent to live in the community (in addition to the application)
- Note to fraternity members: Fraternity houses must be at capacity for the following semester before fraternity members will be approved, by the College, to live off-campus. The Office of Residential & First-Year Programs will work in coordination with the Office of Student Activities & Greek Life to ensure that this criteria is met.

More detailed information can be found on the Office Residential & First-Year Programs website. Please contact the Office of Residential & First-Year Programs via email at residencelife@gettysburg.edu or stop by CUB 250 if you have any questions about the process.

Important Dates to Remember for the Off-Campus Housing Application Process

Students must attend ONE of the following four informational/educational meetings. Applications to apply for off-campus living will be available after the first meeting in January.

- Wednesday, December 2, 2015 5:00pm, CUB 260 (this session is primarily for rising seniors who will be studying abroad or off-campus during the spring semester and wish to apply to live off-campus for 2016-2017 academic year)
- Wednesday, January 27, 2016 7:00pm, McCreary 115 (Bowen Auditorium)
- Thursday, January 28, 2016 7:00pm, McCreary 115 (Bowen Auditorium)
- Tuesday, February 2, 2016 12:30pm, CUB 260
- Friday, February 19, 2016 Applications for off-campus living due to Residential & First-Year Programs
- Friday, March 4, 2016 Notification of application status to students
- Wednesday, March 16, 2016 Student must confirm or relinquish off-campus offer