

# GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY RESIDENCES

2024 • 2025



MAKE WAVES.

# LIVING ON CAMPUS

Living on campus at Western helps you immerse yourself in the college experience, try new things and become part of a community!

## Safety, Convenience & Support

Western maintains over a million square feet of housing and dining space on its 215-acre campus. Sixteen residence halls and one apartment complex are home to over 4,000 students. Our buildings are fully supported by custodians, maintenance mechanics and live-in staff. Western's campus is only a 20-minute walk from end to end, so living on campus gives you easy access to your classes and professors, libraries, computer labs, the bookstore, the Viking Union, the Rec Center, student clubs, athletic events and performing arts!

Additionally, each community is guided by a full-time professional resident director who advises hall council, provides crisis response support and coordinates programs and activities that facilitate academic objectives. Resident advisors are active members of the residential community who serve as leaders, role models and designated points of contact. Inclusion Assistants are responsible for engaging residents on topics of identity and inclusion through community discussion and programming. All residential staff provide academic resources for residents to facilitate student success.

## Getting Involved & Leadership Roles

In addition to Western's 200+ student clubs and organizations, your residential community is rich with opportunities to connect. Residents get involved each year by organizing programs and events focused on social connection, personal wellness, career preparedness, and community service.

Student-run organizations help govern and support Western's residential communities by coordinating programs, activities and events that stimulate community, education, leadership and service. You can take a leadership role through your hall council, the Residence Hall Association (RHA), and the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH). More information:

[housing.wvu.edu/life-on-campus/student-leadership](https://housing.wvu.edu/life-on-campus/student-leadership)

## Sustainable Living

Western strives to be a national leader in sustainability values, practices and education. Our residential experience includes opportunities to learn about social, economic and scientific sustainability. More information:

[housing.wvu.edu/housing-sustainability](https://housing.wvu.edu/life-on-campus/housing-sustainability)

## Housing & Dining Rates

Following May 2024 approval of rates by the Board of Trustees, official rates for 2024-2025 are available. In the meantime, refer to the current housing and meal plan rates on the website and account for a slight increase. The sample below is the most common room size and meal plan cost for 2023-2024 using the three different tiers of room type:

125 Meal Plan				
Room - Tier	Fall	Winter	Spring	Yearly
Double Value	\$5,450	\$4,733	\$4,159	\$14,342
Double Standard	\$5,660	\$4,916	\$4,319	\$14,895
Double Premium	\$6,008	\$5,218	\$4,585	\$15,811

More information:

[housing.wvu.edu/get-started/financial-information](https://housing.wvu.edu/get-started/financial-information)

## What's in Your Room & Community

Regardless of room size (single, double, or triple), your room will come with:

- Twin XL bed/mattress
- Desk
- Chair
- Clothing storage
- Wireless internet
- Blinds or draperies
- Vinyl flooring or carpet
- Recycle bin
- Compost bucket
- Trash can

Every residential community is loaded with a full range of features including:

- Area front desk
- Laundry facilities
- Community kitchen or kitchenette
- Study areas
- Computer lab
- TV lounge
- Piano
- Game room
- Bike storage

More information:

[housing.wvu.edu/get-started/explore-the-buildings](https://housing.wvu.edu/get-started/explore-the-buildings)

## Transportation and Parking

Western recommends incoming students leave their vehicles at home. Located just minutes from great public transit, the heart of downtown and the arboretum, you will find cars aren't necessary in our bike-friendly community. Your student ID serves as a bus pass for unlimited rides on the Whatcom Transit Authority (WTA) system as well as a boarding pass to the Late Night Student Shuttle. More information: [transportation.wvu.edu](https://transportation.wvu.edu)



# HOUSING OPTIONS

Western offers 16 unique residence halls in a variety of sizes, architectural styles and community types.

## Residence Halls

**Hall Style:** Rooms typically share a central hallway and a community bathroom. Hall-style has a traditional feel and makes it easy to meet new people.

**Suite Style:** Two to five rooms are clustered around or linked to a shared bathroom. Suite-style promotes strong relationships between roommates and suitemates.

## Single, Double & Triple Rooms

Double occupancy rooms are the campus standard, but some residence halls offer triples and a few singles. Less than five percent of on campus rooms are singles. The demand always exceeds the supply. Housing tier rates are based upon a room's capacity along with amenity-based or value added. Example: a triple room in a hall-style will cost less than a double in a suite with a kitchen.

## Substance-Free Areas

Substance-free areas are for students who want a living environment that supports a substance-free lifestyle. Residents sign a contract agreeing to support and maintain a substance-free lifestyle. Several substance-free areas are available across campus.

## All-Gender Housing

All-Gender Housing is for students wanting a room that is not based on gender. Selecting this option on the application will allow you to room with other students who selected All-Gender and may have a different housing gender from you. This option is not programmatic; it is considered a room type choice, and is available in several areas across campus. More information on room gender options: [housing.wvu.edu/get-started/housingtype](https://housing.wvu.edu/get-started/housingtype)

## Disability Accommodation

University Residences works in partnership with the Disability Access Center. Students requesting accommodation must complete both a Housing application by the priority deadline and a Disability Access Center Need Assessment by June 15. For complete information: [housing.wvu.edu/get-started/disability-accommodation](https://housing.wvu.edu/get-started/disability-accommodation)

**Assistance Animals:** Pets are not allowed in University Residences, however assistance animals are permitted in compliance with the Fair Housing Act. Before bringing an assistance animal into a residential building, students must follow standard procedure for requesting reasonable accommodation.

## Pride Housing Community

Pride Housing provides a home for students who are particularly seeking a LGBTQ+ affirming and gender inclusive living experience. Unlike All-Gender Housing, Pride Housing provides a programmatic element for a living-learning experience where students benefit from living among others through a shared experience.

## Honors Program Community

University Residences and the Honors Program collaboratively offer a living-learning experience. Students benefit from living among a group that shares academic goals and interests and where residential programs and activities complement the classroom.

## Black Affinity Community

Black Affinity Housing centers the identity of Black students by providing space for students to connect through shared experience. All Western students residing in the program help foster a warm and vibrant community supporting inclusive community building, personal wellness, and career preparedness.

## La Comunidad Community

La Comunidad is a new living option designed to center the Latine student experience on Western's campus. La Comunidad provides space to connect with others through shared experience. Community highlights include connections to faculty and staff, peer to peer learning, cultural exploration, and co-curricular opportunities. All residents of La Comunidad share a common interest in Latine culture, both past and present.

## Viking Launch Community

Viking Launch is an early-start program offered to incoming freshmen and transfers for fall. Students enroll in short study courses, earning credit the week before the academic year.

## Japanese Roommate Experience

Hall residents can experience Japanese culture by being roommates with a student attending Western through the Asia University America Program (AUAP), an English language and cultural orientation program for students enrolled at Asia University in Tokyo, Japan. The AUAP invites American roommates to get involved in its cultural programs and activities.

# APPLY FOR HOUSING

New students who meet the housing deadlines are guaranteed housing their first academic year at Western, or remainder thereof if admitted mid-year.

## Housing Timeline

### 1. Apply for housing at [housing.wvu.edu](https://housing.wvu.edu).

Once the housing application opens, you can apply for housing even if you haven't confirmed your admission yet. Late applications may be subject to temporary assignment or space availability. Priority application periods:

- Fall Quarter: February 1 - May 1
- Winter Quarter: October 15 - November 30
- Spring Quarter: January 15 - March 1

### 2. Check MyHousing for notice of deposit due.

Housing applicants who have confirmed admission will be prompted to pay the \$200 housing deposit. Notification begins:

- Fall Quarter: Mid February
- Winter Quarter: Early December
- Spring Quarter: Early March

### 3. Pay your deposit online in MyHousing or through the mail.

If you have not paid your deposit by the deadline, your housing application will be cancelled. Deposit deadlines:

- Fall Quarter: June 15
- Winter Quarter: December 15
- Spring Quarter: March 15

### 4. Find a roommate through Roommate Manager.

Create a roommate group with someone you know, or search for compatible roommates in **MyHousing**.

- Roommate request period: March 10 - June 15

### 5. Check MyHousing for Room Selection/Assignment.

Your room selection time will be posted in **MyHousing**. If you do not select a room by the room selection deadline, your room will be assigned. Room Selection is only available for residents moving in for Fall Quarter.

- Fall Quarter: July 15 - August 15 (Room Selection), August 16 - 31 (Assignments made)
- Winter Quarter: Rooms assigned late December
- Spring Quarter: Rooms assigned late March

More information: [housing.wvu.edu/housingtimeline](https://housing.wvu.edu/housingtimeline) and [housing.wvu.edu/roomselection](https://housing.wvu.edu/roomselection)

## Housing Priority Date

Your Housing Priority Date is the date you apply for admission to Western, not the date you apply for housing. Students who meet all housing deadlines and with earlier priority dates have a greater chance of finding a room in one of their housing preferences.

## Housing Preferences

In your housing application, you will select three housing preferences. Your preferences are only used if you do not select a room. Most students will select their room during Room Selection.

## Roommate Options

The residential experience is designed to help you learn about yourself and how to live and work with others. Whether you know your roommate before coming to Western or not, your roommate experience will teach you something about yourself, and even more about others, relationships and community.

**Option 1:** Search for a compatible roommate and create a group using our roommate tool to find someone with similar characteristics to your own.

**Option 2:** Create a roommate group by requesting someone you already know using our roommate tool.

**Option 3:** Search for a compatible roommate during Room Selection by viewing roommate profiles of students already in rooms.

Things to know:

- You must pay the Housing Deposit before June 15 to secure your roommate choice.
- Room Selection priority is given to residents who meet all the housing deadlines and create roommate groups.

More information: [housing.wvu.edu/roommateoptions](https://housing.wvu.edu/roommateoptions)

Track your status in MyHousing:  
[housing.wvu.edu/myhousing](https://housing.wvu.edu/myhousing)



# UNIVERSITY DINING

Dining at Western is a campus-wide experience supporting active healthy lifestyles, sustainability, social responsibility and community development.

## Residential Dining Commons

Our three dining halls are open 7 days a week and serve all-you-care-to-eat meals for breakfast, lunch, light lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Our services and offerings give you maximum flexibility within your busy schedules. Brunch is always served on the weekend, so you know you can sleep late without missing breakfast or lunch. Enjoy your buffet-style dining with Wi-Fi, comfortable seating and lots of natural light, and make sure to check our pages to see what fun events we'll be hosting that day!

## Campus Cafés & Markets

Choose from a full range of retail locations that satisfy any craving from sandwiches and salads to smoothies and bagels. You'll find a variety of wholesome, delicious fare made in-house by local providers or by familiar and nationally recognized brands. We also offer vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free options. All cafés and markets accept Dining Dollars, Viking Dollars and credit cards.

## Residential Meal Plans

Meal plans are required for students living in residence halls. Each meal plan comes with a quarterly allowance of meals and Dining Dollars. Just a swipe of your student ID card deducts a meal from your balance, and unused meals expire at the end of the quarter. Dining Dollars may be spent in any campus cafés and markets, or used to buy additional meals in our dining commons. Dining Dollars carry over from one quarter to the next and expire on the last day of Spring quarter. You can monitor your meal plan balance online or via the **Transact eAccounts** app.

## Students with Food Allergies

Dining at WWU is committed to providing you with the tools you need to have the safest and most comfortable dining experience. Most students with moderate to severe allergies successfully navigate campus living and dining by working with our registered dietitian, speaking with our executive chefs, and staying informed about food options available and requesting alternatives as necessary. Our dining team is always readily available to meet with you.

## Student Employment

Dining at WWU employs more than 500 students in locations across campus. Positions include cashier, barista, dishwasher, custodian, food server, food production, cook and more. We also employ student interns and develop them towards their career paths so they can be prepared for a successful future after graduation. Job openings are non-work study and posted at: [dineoncampus.com/WWU](http://dineoncampus.com/WWU)

## Our Commitment to Sustainability

Dining at WWU is committed to zero-waste initiatives in all its locations and supports the Real Food Challenge national campaign for healthy, fair, green food systems on college campuses. We source food from 43 regional partners and local farmers. Trayless dining and food composting help to significantly reduce the waste stream and our exclusive blue cleaning technology sanitizes surfaces with ionized water rather than harsh chemicals.

## Meal Plan Options

### Campus Unlimited

Unlimited meals per quarter. Designed for students who dine three or more times per day. \*

### Campus 125

125 meals per quarter. Designed for students who dine once or twice a day, seven days a week. \*

### Campus 100

100 meals per quarter. Designed for students who dine once or twice a day, five days a week. \*

### Campus 80

80 meals per quarter. Designed for students who dine once a day, seven days a week. \*

### Campus BT 45

45 meals per quarter. Designed for Buchanan Towers residents with kitchens in their rooms.\*

### Optional Meal Plans

Designed for Birnam Wood and off-campus students, see website for details.

*\*includes Dining Dollars (see website for details)*

For campus dietitian, health and wellness,  
dining menus, venues, and app download:  
[dineoncampus.com/WWU](http://dineoncampus.com/WWU)

# COMPARE THE HALLS

## NORTH CAMPUS



### EDENS HALL\*

**158 residents • 3 floors**

Double & triple rooms  
Suite-style bathrooms  
All-Gender available  
Elevator access throughout  
Indoor bike storage  
Priority given to Honors Students



### EDENS NORTH

**117 residents • 4 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Elevator access to most floors  
Indoor bike storage  
Priority given to Honors Students



### HIGGINSON HALL\*

**222 residents • 5 floors**

Double rooms  
Suite-style bathrooms  
All-Gender available  
Elevator access to most floors  
Covered bike storage



### MATHES HALL

**300 residents • 9 floors**

Double rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Elevator access to most floors  
Covered bike storage



### NASH HALL\*

**340 residents • 7 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Elevator access to most floors  
Covered bike storage

## SOUTH CAMPUS



### BUCHANAN TOWERS

**495 residents • 8 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Suite-style bathrooms  
All-Gender available  
Kitchenette in every suite  
Elevator access throughout  
Indoor bike storage



### BUCHANAN TOWERS EAST

**98 residents • 5 floors**

Single & double rooms  
Suite-style bathrooms  
Kitchenettes in every suite  
Elevator access throughout  
Indoor bike storage



### FAIRHAVEN COMPLEX

**650 residents • 4 floors**

Single & double rooms  
Suite-style bathrooms  
All-Gender available  
Some elevator access  
Outdoor bike storage  
Priority given to Viking  
Launch students

#### \*Showroom available during campus tours:

- Fall Preview Days
- Discovery Days
- Admitted Student Days

More information: [admissions.wvu.edu/visit/campus-tours](https://admissions.wvu.edu/visit/campus-tours)



## RIDGEWAY



### ALMA CLARK-GLASS\*

**410 residents • 7 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community, suite and in-room  
bathrooms  
All-Gender available  
Covered bike storage  
Priority given to Black Affinity and  
Pride students



### GAMMA

**226 residents • 4 floors**

Double rooms  
Suite-style bathrooms  
All-Gender available  
Indoor bike storage



### ALPHA

**110 residents • 3 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Substance-free throughout  
Covered bike storage



### KAPPA

**243 residents • 4 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Outdoor bike storage  
Priority given to Viking Launch  
students



### BETA\*

**207 residents • 4 floors**

Double rooms  
Suite-style bathrooms  
All-Gender available  
Indoor bike storage



### OMEGA

**110 residents • 3 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Outdoor bike storage



### DELTA

**115 residents • 4 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Covered bike storage  
Substance-free areas



### SIGMA

**110 residents • 5 floors**

Single, double & triple rooms  
Community bathrooms  
Covered bike storage

Every residence hall is open to students of all ages and class standings. Double occupancy rooms are the campus standard, but some halls also offer triples and a few singles. Each community has a front desk, laundry facilities, community kitchens, study areas, computer lab, TV lounge, piano, game room, bike storage and limited permit parking.

More information: [housing.wvu.edu/get-started/explore-the-buildings](https://housing.wvu.edu/get-started/explore-the-buildings)



# WELCOME TO WESTERN!

**“96% of students  
feel safe living  
on campus”**

– University Residences  
Quality of Life  
Survey Report

**“The furniture is  
comfortable and  
there is always  
a place to study.  
The computer lab  
was a lifesaver.”**

**“This is a once in a  
lifetime experience  
all freshmen  
should have.”**