Resident and Commuter Guide
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Equal Opportunity Policy

It is the policy of Drexel University to provide a working and learning environment in which employees and students are able to realize their full potential as productive members of the Drexel community. To this end, Drexel affirms its commitment to equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in employment and education for all qualified individuals regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, or applicable veteran status. Further, Drexel pledges to act affirmatively in providing access to employment, benefits, facilities, and other University-administered programs to qualified women and members of racial and ethnic minority groups in recognition of the many benefits that accrue to the University and the learning experience as a result of their diverse experiences, cultural heritage, and perspectives. Every member of Drexel — employee, administrator, faculty, staff, and student — is expected to cooperate fully in meeting these legal and ethical obligations. Inquiries regarding this policy may be directed to the Office of Equal Opportunity, Drexel University, 3225 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Disclaimer

All policy changes adopted following the printing of this document supersede all statements made in this document.
Welcome to Drexel!

Whether you will be a resident or commuter at Drexel, we are excited to welcome you to campus. There are many on-campus resources to help you get involved and ensure you are enjoying your time as a new Dragon. Residents can look forward to support from Housing and Residence Life, along with our team of Assistant Director/Resident Directors, Residential Desk Coordinators, and Resident Assistants. Commuters will enjoy the benefits of Commuter Student Resources, including a special lounge for connecting with fellow commuters, and helpful tips about parking and transportation.
Our Mission
The mission of Housing and Residence Life is to create residential communities that facilitate engaged learning for all students while providing an efficient, customer-oriented, and cost-effective housing operation through appropriate technology, timely communication, and established partnerships. The core values that shape the residential experience are community, learning, citizenship, and inclusion.

- **Promoting Learning Communities:** Learning communities strive to help you connect classroom activities with residence hall experiences, enhance your self-understanding, and develop the skills necessary to build productive, enriching relationships. Our communities are built on residents’ respect for each other’s rights, respect of the facilities, and the recognition that living on campus is a privilege that can truly maximize one’s development. The staff, residents, and programs must work together toward this goal.

- **Fostering Respect:** Residents have community and professional responsibilities within the residential living partnership. Community responsibilities challenge residents to learn how to respect others and live within a community along with ethical responsibilities that require residents to work continuously to define, develop, and act upon their personal values and belief systems. Professional responsibilities motivate residents to develop skills that make them academically successful while also developing a keen awareness of the world. The residence halls offer a unique experience that enables our students to meet, live, and grow with people of different backgrounds, interests, ideas, and goals. Learning from roommates and others in your residence hall provides academic and personal growth opportunities that complement the classroom experience shared by all Drexel students.

- **Forming Partnerships:** The success of Housing and Residence Life depends on the partnerships developed among students, faculty, and professional staff. Our trained staff works closely with students to cultivate an environment that strives to embrace everyone, enhance academic success, encourage responsibility, and — above all — promote community involvement.

Getting to Know Us
The full-time professional staff oversee the operations of the entire residence hall experience. They are responsible for the management and operation of our residential program. This staff includes:

- **Assistant Director/Resident Directors (AD/RDs)** are master’s-level professionals who live in the residence halls and are responsible for maintaining a positive social and academic environment. AD/RDs supervise the professional and student staff in each building and work to facilitate community.

- **Resident Assistants (RAs)** are specially trained upperclass students who live in each residence hall, provide residents with educational programs and social activities, maintain community standards, and serve as mentors to the residents.

- **Residential Desk Coordinators (RDCs)** are professionals who staff the front desks of each hall. They maintain the safety and security of the building and encourage community by getting to know residents on a personal level.

The entire Housing and Residence Life staff welcomes you to your new home. Living on campus adds an extra dimension to your college experience. It provides an opportunity to develop closer relationships, meet a diverse group of people, and learn more about yourself.

As an on-campus resident, you (along with the other 3,400 or so residents living on campus) will enjoy many residence hall activities, socializing in the dining hall, and participating fully in University events, clubs, and organizations. This guide will tell you more about the services we offer and the opportunities that await you here in the residence halls. For more detailed information, go to drexel.edu/housing.
Getting Involved

Students in each hall are involved in all levels of that hall’s governing process, as well as in the presentation of educational and social programs.

With the help of their RA, students can plan activities such as community dinners, TV socials, outings across the city, and educational programs on topics such as stress management, relationships, social justice, and safety and security.

In addition to activities planned within the residence halls, the Housing and Residence Life staff works closely with Student Life and student programming groups to provide residents with a variety of co-curricular activities that assist in their development and adjustment to campus life.

Living Learning Communities

In Living Learning Communities (LLCs), students live with other students from the same college or major, making it easier to form study groups or project teams. These communities can enhance your academic success by building connections between your experiences inside and outside the classroom, facilitating social and academic gatherings, and supplementing formal classroom learning with informal gatherings and ongoing lecture series.

Living Learning Communities are not mandatory, and space is limited. Students participating in an LLC will only be eligible to live with other students participating within that LLC. Note that transfer students are not eligible. More detailed information is available at drexel.edu/housing. Past learning communities have included:

• Business
• Biomedical engineering
• Computing and Informatics
• Engineering
• Entrepreneurship
• First-Year Exploratory Studies
• Honors
• Media Arts and Design
• Nursing and Health Professions

Residence Hall Features

Reception Desk

• Reception desks are staffed around the clock and control access to residence halls.
• Desk staff monitor guest registration.
• The reception desks serve as information centers for residents, students, and visitors, and are the “hubs” of each residence hall community.
• Emergency assistance can be obtained quickly through the reception desk.

ResNet

ResNet provides each resident with the following electronic services for communication and entertainment:

• Network: Wireless networking is also available using DragonFly.
• Optional Telephone: Residents can have the telephone jack in their room activated, at no additional cost, by calling 215.895.2020. Residents receive incoming service through a shared phone number, individual voicemail, and free local calling. Residents must bring their own phone. ResNet recommends students use cell phones or calling cards for long-distance calls.
• Cable TV: XFINITY On Campus™ is a service from Comcast enabling students to watch and record live television or to watch on-demand content directly in a web browser or on a mobile device with the Xfinity Stream app. This service is provided for free as part of Drexel University Housing. A Roku device is required to stream on a television.

Mail

• Packages will not be accepted prior to a student’s arrival. Students are encouraged to share mailing address instructions, which can be found at drexel.edu/housing/services/mail, with their families.
• Each resident is assigned a mailbox.
• Mail is sorted five days a week during the term.
• Each hall has designated times for package or registered mail pick-up.
• All students leaving campus are expected to contact their creditors, family, and friends and supply a new address.
• Mail is not forwarded off campus.

Refrigerators and Microwaves

• Microfridges (a combination unit of a microwave and refrigerator) are available to students to rent or purchase.
• More information on microfridge rental through Campus Market is available at drexel.edu/housing/services.

Parking

• On-street parking in the residential campus area is limited.
• Garage and lot parking options are available through Drexel Parking Services. For more information, call 215.895.2813 or visit drexel.edu/parking.

Additional Residence Hall Features

• Bike storage
• Study lounges
## COMPARISON OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENT RESIDENCE HALLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Traditional</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Suite-Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building</strong></td>
<td><strong>Kelly</strong> 203 N. 34th Street</td>
<td><strong>Bentley</strong> 3301 Arch Street</td>
<td><strong>Van Rensselaer</strong> 3320 Powelton Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Myers</strong> 3301 Race Street</td>
<td><strong>Millennium</strong> 223 N. 34th Street</td>
<td><strong>Caneris</strong> 115 N. 32nd Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room Type</strong></td>
<td>Double</td>
<td>Double</td>
<td>Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room/Suite Capacity</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 or 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong># of Bedrooms</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 or 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bathrooms</strong></td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kitchen Type</strong></td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong># of Floors</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elevator</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Floor Coverings</strong></td>
<td>Tile</td>
<td>Tile</td>
<td>Carpet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Washers/Dryers</strong></td>
<td>Basement</td>
<td>Basement</td>
<td>Basement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Features</strong></td>
<td>Game room and study lounges</td>
<td>Living Learning Communities and Tutor Lounge</td>
<td>Collaborative Technology Lab, eco-friendly, open-space design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Large on-floor lounges</td>
<td>Smart technology study lounge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Great view of Center City from lounge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Large group study areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading rooms on each floor with views of Center City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Building designations are subject to change.
2-Year Residency Program

To facilitate this experience, incoming full-time first-year undergraduate students whose permanent address, as stated in their official University Record, is approximately outside of a 10-mile radius of the University City Campus are required to live in a Drexel Residence Hall for their first year and in a Drexel Residence Hall or University-Affiliated Housing for their second year. A full listing of ZIP codes approximately within a 10-mile radius is available at drexel.edu/housing/assignment-policies. Please note that incoming transfer students do not need to meet this mandatory residency requirement but are still welcome to apply for on-campus housing.

Housing Agreement

The Housing Agreement is the basic contract governing the relationship between a resident and Drexel that represents a binding two-way commitment. Residents agree to use facilities and services in a manner appropriate to Drexel’s purpose as a private institution of higher education. Residents must read the Housing Agreement in its entirety prior to signing the housing application found at drexel.edu/housing/forms.

Canceling the Housing Agreement

These pre-approved reasons for release from the Housing Agreement are honored, provided a Request for Release is received within five business days of the event:

• Withdrawal from the University.
• Acceptance of a co-op position outside a 10-mile radius of University City Campus.
• Acceptance of a study abroad assignment.
• Not attending Drexel University.
• Not taking classes during a specific time.

Please review the Housing Agreement form for more details.

Rates

Rates are published in March. Please visit drexel.edu/housing/residence-halls for more information, including rates for the current academic year.

Housing Deposit

A housing deposit is required each year when the student applies for housing and is automatically credited to the resident’s account at the end of their last term in housing, provided all contractual agreements are fulfilled. Visit drexel.edu/housing for more information.

Room Assignments

• Priority will be given to completed applications received by May 15. A completed application includes the $200 housing deposit.
• Housing for transfer students is available on a space-available basis.
• If a student wants a specific roommate, both students must indicate this in the appropriate section of the housing application (although it is not guaranteed).
• Incoming first-year students who complete their housing application prior to May 15 will have the opportunity to select their own residence hall and room online in a process called self-selection.

Personal Property Insurance

• Drexel is not responsible for personal property.
• Residents are strongly advised to secure personal property insurance, renter’s insurance, or homeowner’s insurance to cover their personal items while living in the residence halls.

DragonCard

The DragonCard is the official Drexel University ID card. Residents gain access to residence halls with this card, which is scanned by staff members at the reception desk. Students may also use their DragonCard to:

• Make purchases at campus stores as well as many local restaurants and retailers using Dragon Dollars.
• Enter campus facilities such as the Daskalakis Athletic Center and the libraries.
• Gain access to dining services.

Visit drexel.edu/dragoncard to submit your photo online.
Disability Resources

All requests for reasonable accommodations in the residence halls due to a disability need to be made to Disability Resources (DR) by May 15. DR can be reached at 215.895.1401 (V), 215.895.2299 (TTY), or at disability@drexel.edu.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for housing?

Housing applications will open mid-March and online room selection is in July.

Visit drexel.edu/housing for instructions on how to submit your housing deposit and application. Applications and housing deposits must be received by May 15 for priority room assignment consideration. Resident students will receive move-in information in August.

How can I find my room assignment and roommate?

New first-year student room assignments, roommate names, and contact information are available in the Housing and Dining portal, which is accessible via DrexelOne.

Can I change my room assignment or roommate?

Yes, but only after the first two weeks of the term. Changes are not made until this time so that Housing and Residence Life can verify the occupancy status of all residents. Students requesting a room change should work with their Resident Assistant to see if a change is in the best interest of all students involved. Staff members work with students to provide a safe and enjoyable “home away from home.”

What if I do not get along with my roommate?

Housing and Residence Life staff are trained to assist students if there are roommate conflicts. We recommend that both roommates talk about their problems and concerns and determine what, if any, compromises are needed. Effective communication between roommates is critical. Living with someone new and different from yourself can be a wonderfully rewarding and challenging learning experience.

What if my roommate does not arrive?

If a new student does not arrive for the first term, Housing and Residence Life will contact that student to confirm whether they intend to attend Drexel. If the answer is no, a new roommate may be assigned to the room.

When can I move in?

Detailed check-in information, including dates and times, will be sent to your Drexel email in mid-August.

How do I obtain housing after my first year?

Drexel University’s 2-Year Residency Program requires full-time undergraduate students whose permanent address, as stated in their official University Record, is approximately outside of a 10-mile radius of the University City Campus to live in a Drexel Residence Hall for their first year and in a Drexel Residence Hall or University-Affiliated Housing for their second year. A full listing of ZIP codes approximately within a 10-mile radius is available at drexel.edu/housing/assignment-policies under the programs and policies section. Second-year students may also live in a Drexel fraternity or sorority house with an invitation from the organization.

What is a Living Learning Community?

Living Learning Communities are available to first-year students who are enrolled in certain colleges, schools, and programs and offer the opportunity to live with other students from the same program, making it easier to form study groups or project teams. Each community is assigned to a specific area in the residence hall with a central common area, and they organize their own social and academic activities, from informal gatherings to ongoing lecture series.
Drexel University believes that dining on campus plays an important role in fostering a sense of community. Drexel Campus Dining developed a dining program that reflects the diversity and spirit of our students. As first-year students living in University housing, Drexel wants to make your transition to college life a smooth and rewarding experience. The University requires all resident first-year students to select one of three first-year dining plans. There are additional flexible and convenient dining plans to choose from, available for transfer, commuter, and continuing students.

**Registration**

All first-year residential students will select a dining plan via the Housing and Dining portal through DrexelOne.

**Dining Plans**

Each plan consists of meals and dining dollars. Meals, called “meal swipes,” may be enjoyed “all-you-care-to-eat” at the Handschumacher Dining Center or at the Urban Eatery, with both featuring seven unique dining options. Dining dollars can be used at all Drexel Campus Dining locations, including Northside Dining Terrace (featuring Chick-fil-A, Subway, and The Market), Starbucks (at Gerri C. LeBow Hall), and The Cafe at PCJL (at the Raymond G. Perelman Center for Jewish Life).

For more information about dining plans, including rate information and locations, visit [drexel.edu/dining](http://drexel.edu/dining).

**Special Dietary Requests**

Drexel Campus Dining provides an array of food options to accommodate a variety of lifestyles, dietary needs, and restrictions, including vegan/vegetarian, kosher, and gluten-free. Students who require a special diet are encouraged to speak with the Office of Equality and Diversity at 215.895.1401. The Campus Dining Dietician is available at drexeldrd@drexel.edu to assist with any diet-related inquiries or nutritional concerns.

**DragonCard**

The DragonCard is the official ID card of Drexel University. In addition to gaining access to buildings on campus, you will use your card to access your Drexel dining plan. Simply present your DragonCard to the cashier for payment at Drexel Campus Dining locations and specify if you wish to use a meal swipe or dining dollars. An updated balance is provided each time a purchase is made. Learn more at [drexel.edu/dragoncard](http://drexel.edu/dragoncard).

**DragonDollars**

Your DragonCard also functions as a declining-balance prepaid card when you load DragonDollars. DragonDollars can be used to make purchases at Drexel Campus Dining locations, as well as at other participating merchants such as the University Bookstore.

For more information, including a list of participating merchants, visit [drexel.edu/dragoncard](http://drexel.edu/dragoncard).

**For More Information**

**DragonCard Office**

215.895.6095  
Fax: 215.895.1567  
dragoncard@drexel.edu  
drexel.edu/dragoncard

**Drexel Campus Dining**

215.895.6095  
Fax: 215.895.1567  
campusdining@drexel.edu  
drexel.edu/dining
Drexel's Philadelphia location allows transfer commuter students to live as far away as New Jersey or Delaware and still make it to class on time. First-year students can live up to 10 miles from campus and commute from home. Drexel values the commuter experience and has many resources, services, and programs to help make your transition easier.

**Commuter Student Resources**

Student Life provides information and resources regarding commuting, living off campus, and getting involved on campus, along with answering questions about Drexel services. To learn more, visit [drexel.edu/studentlife/commuters](http://drexel.edu/studentlife/commuters).

**Charlotte Alletag Commuter Lounge**

The Commuter Lounge, located in the lower level of Creese Student Center, is a place for commuters to gather between classes. The Commuter Lounge has two big screen televisions, a microwave, and a refrigerator, in addition to sofas and tables for socializing with friends or studying.

**Lockers**

Lockers are available for commuter students throughout Drexel’s campus. Visit [dragonlink.drexel.edu](http://dragonlink.drexel.edu) for more information.

**Drexel Campus Dining**

Drexel Campus Dining offers dining plans with great food at affordable prices. Learn more at [drexel.edu/dining](http://drexel.edu/dining).

**Parking**

There are approximately 1,750 off-street parking spaces provided by Drexel Parking Services. Visit [drexel.edu/parking](http://drexel.edu/parking) for more information.

**Handicapped Parking**

Individuals using handicapped parking spaces must have either HP or DV license plates or an official placard issued by the licensing state. In addition, a Drexel University Disabled Parking Permit must be obtained. Disabled parking permits are available at Drexel Parking Services. For more information, contact Drexel Parking Services at 215.895.2813.

**Public Transportation**

**SEPTA**

Drexel is within walking distance of Amtrak’s 30th Street Station and has a number of bus stops on campus. Visit [septa.org](http://septa.org) or call 215.580.7800 for subway, bus, trolley and regional rail route information.

**New Jersey Transit**

Drexel, in partnership with New Jersey Transit, offers a 25 percent discount on monthly passes for train, bus, and light rail service for all full-time students. For more information on the discount program, please visit [drexel.edu/studentlife/commuters](http://drexel.edu/studentlife/commuters) for more information.

**PATCO Speedline (New Jersey)**

PATCO connects southern New Jersey with Philadelphia. Visit [ridepatco.org](http://ridepatco.org) or call 1.856.772.6900 for routes.

**Amtrak**

Amtrak connects Philadelphia with hundreds of cities across the nation and in Canada. To plan your route, visit Amtrak’s website at [amtrak.com](http://amtrak.com) or call 1.800.USA.RAIL (1.800.872.7245). Student discounts are available through the Amtrak Student Discount.
Check out some current student stories about being involved at Drexel at paperclip.drexel.edu.