

First Year Housing Requirement

Summary

University policy on first year housing requirement, including Georgia and Alabama standards, exemptions, and cancellations.

Purpose

To provide guidance on first year housing requirement, including Georgia and Alabama standards, exemptions, and cancellations.

Policy

First Year Housing Requirement

Columbus State University is committed to ensuring the academic and personal success of our students. In order to best fulfill this commitment, the University requires first-year students to live in on-campus housing for the first two semesters. In addition, we encourage students to live in University Housing throughout their tenure at CSU.

First Year Automatic Exemption

First year students are automatically exempt (no action required) from the policy if they:

Georgia Residency Exemption

- Have a permanent address residing with a parent or legal guardian in the following Georgia Counties: Muscogee, Harris, Chattahoochee, Marion, Talbot

AND

- Graduate from a high school in any of the following Georgia Counties: Muscogee, Harris, Chattahoochee, Marion, Talbot
 - **Students that graduate from a high school outside of these areas must submit an exemption request with supporting documentation proving that the parents/guardians have permanently relocated for purposes of employment to one of the above counties. Home School students will not automatically be considered exempt from the requirement.**

Alabama Residency Exemption

- Have a permanent address residing with parent or legal guardian in any of the following Alabama Cities: Phenix City, Smiths Station, Ladonia, Seale, Ft. Mitchell

AND

- Graduate from a high school in any of the following Alabama Cities: Phenix City, Smiths Station, Ladonia, Seale, Ft. Mitchell
 - **Students that graduate from a high school outside of these areas must submit an exemption request with supporting documentation proving that the parents/guardians have permanently relocated for purposes of employment to one of the above cities. Home School students will not automatically be considered exempt from the requirement.**

Additional Exemptions

To be considered exempt first year students may also meet the following criteria:

- Are 21 years or older by the first day of classes for semester entering
- Are active military
- Are a transfer student with more than 30 transferable hours *completed after high school graduation*
- Are a current Columbus State University student who has resided on campus for two semesters, not including summer semester

Exemption Request Form

First year students who would like to request an exemption from the requirement for any of the following reasons must submit an [exemption request form](#). All requested documentation must be attached at the time of request. Additional documentation may be requested by the appeals committee.

- Are Legally Married
 - Must provide a copy of marriage certificate
- Have custody of dependent children
 - Must provide birth certificate
- Have an extenuating circumstance that prohibits them from complying with the live on requirement
 - Requires additional documentation based on the individual circumstances.
- Parent or legal guardian has relocated to an exempt county for purposes of profession
 - Must provide documentation from employer stating parent or legal guardian must relocate to one of the exempt counties for purposes of employment.
 - Copy of lease or deed for new residence
 - Copy of Drivers License or state issued ID showing new address

- Documentation proving parent or legal guardian has abandoned previous residence.

Cancellation of enrollment and revocation of student status at Columbus State University may take place as a result of failing to comply with the first year live on requirement policy. This may be a result of:

- Providing false or misleading information in connection with a request for exemption
- Failing to comply by not registering for housing and/or not assuming occupancy in a University Residence Hall
- Receiving a conduct sanction that requires removal from University Housing

Related USG Policy

9.8.2 Private Housing

Last Update

2/23/2017

Responsible Authority

ELT