

OFFICE OF CAMPUS LIVING LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Over the past several years, these questions have been asked repeatedly by new students. We hope the answers are helpful to you. Of course, if you need additional assistance, please feel free to contact us or check us out on the web at <http://www.lclark.edu/dept/reslife/>. You may reach us by telephone at 503-768-7123, or email living@lclark.edu.

What amenities are available in the residence halls?

Each residence hall has common study space, kitchen and/or kitchenettes, card access laundry facilities, recreational equipment and coin operated snack machines. Each room is equipped with voice mail and all residence halls have direct network access. This summer we plan to expand our wireless access to every residence hall. The halls feature a convenience store, coffee shop, recreation/exercise rooms, and a Student Art Center that includes a dark room, ceramics studio, areas for painting/drawing and adequate practice or performance space for dance and music.

How much "stuff" can I bring to campus?

Keep in mind the living space of a typical residence hall double is only about 10' x 12' which you'll share with another student, so you should limit your packing to the most important personal belongings. In Copeland and Forest Halls, there is a very good likelihood that you will be assigned to a "quad" and share common space with three other new students. Sleeping rooms in the quads are separate and allow for added privacy and quiet. In addition, common space is more generous than in a double room but you should still limit your packing to the essentials. Storage space in the room is also limited. Each student has their own bureau with three drawers and hanging space equal to approximately 30". Most closets have a shelf above for storage of smaller items.

All furniture and fixtures are provided so you should leave your favorite easy chair at home. You and your roommate/s will be able to decide on the particular décor of your room, if you're into that sort of thing, and which one of you should bring the stereo, (please include headphones)! If you plan to bring a bicycle to campus please purchase a good quality U-lock for increased security. There are bike racks in each residence hall for storage during the academic year. Bikes cannot be stored on campus during the summer.

When can I move into my room?

The residence halls open on Wednesday, August 26 at 8am for New Student Orientation. Early arrivals are not possible unless you are a member of an intercollegiate athletic team and have the express permission of the coach to arrive early for pre-competition practice or you are arriving on Monday, August 24 for International Student Orientation. You must confirm your participation with the International Students & Scholars Office to participate. If you plan to participate in a New Student Trip through College Outdoors, your belongings will be stored for you through College Outdoors. You will not be able to access your room prior to August 26, even to drop off some of your belongings.

For quick reference, please adhere to the following dates:

August 15-24, 2009	Halls open for <i>approved</i> early arrivals (intercollegiate athletes and international students only)
August 26, 2009	Halls open for all new students at 8am
December 17, 2009	Halls close after Fall semester at 3pm
January 17, 2010	Halls open for Spring semester at 9am
May 7, 2010	Halls close for Spring semester at 3pm

Is storage available centrally in the residence hall?

Storage is available in each hall on an extremely limited basis. When you return home for vacations, we suggest you remove your valuables from your room and store them in our locked storage areas or, better yet, take them home with you. If you have a contract to return to the residence halls the following September, you may leave a maximum of three boxes (of a size you can easily carry by yourself) in residence hall storage rooms during the summer. However, should you choose to leave your things on campus, you do so at your own risk. Please remember that bikes cannot be stored on campus over the summer.

Can I get a single room?

Unfortunately, only a small percentage of our residence hall rooms are single occupancy. Since priority for single rooms goes to continuing upper division students, it is quite unlikely that a new student would be assigned to a single room. Of course, we hold some single rooms for new students with demonstrated special needs and for upper division transfer students who may choose to live on campus.

What size bedding should I bring?

The beds provided in all residence halls can be lofted or bunked; your choice. Loft kits are available from your Resident Advisor (a student staff member). The mattresses are extra long twins (39" x 80") so please note that standard twin bed linen will not fit.

When will I get the name/s of my roommate/s?

Once we receive the majority of the completed housing contracts in May, we then begin the arduous task of hand matching students based on the information you give us on the Room Placement Questionnaire. This personal attention insures the highest success rate for roommate matches. In **late July** you will receive by mail the name/s, address/es, e-mail and telephone number/s of your roommate/s. At that time you will also receive instructions about how to send your belongings to the College. Transfer students who are not required to live on campus will be housed on a space available basis and will be notified as soon after August 1 as possible.

Can I change rooms after I get to campus?

Generally, once you arrive and move into your room it's yours through the semester. Should you experience difficulty with your roommate, your Resident Advisor will work with you to find a reasonable resolution. We hold a housing lottery in November for those who wish to move to a different residence hall for Spring semester.

Do the halls remain open during vacation periods?

Residence halls remain open during Thanksgiving and Spring break, however meal service is not provided. During winter break (December 17 - January 17), arrangements can be made to accommodate extraordinary need to stay on campus, but additional rent is assessed and you could be required to move to a central hall location.

Do I have to have a meal plan?

Yes, a meal plan is obligatory when you live on campus. Our food service provider, Bon Appétit, has an eighteen-year history of working cooperatively with students and staff to offer excellent quality, variety, and presentation of food service on our campus. Bon Appétit is committed to social responsibility by supporting sustainable food suppliers and local producers. They are open to suggestions and eager to meet the needs of Lewis & Clark students. If you have a medically prescribed diet that our food service cannot provide for you, an exemption to the meal plan may be possible. Complete procedure guidelines for exemption requests are available from Campus Living.

Can I bring my car?

There is a significant lack of parking on the campus. Therefore, first year students are not permitted to have cars unless you have employment off campus or regularly scheduled appointments with a physician. Exceptions must be requested in writing and approved by the Office of Transportation & Parking. Transfer students may bring cars to campus. All vehicles parked on campus must display a valid parking permit available from the Office of Transportation & Parking. The current parking fee for residential students is \$330/year.

I've heard the College has gender-neutral housing. Is that true?

Yes, a gender-neutral housing option is available. The basic premise of neutral housing is to provide a living option for students of alternative sexuality or gender identity (including, but not limited to, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, androgynous, and asexual) as well as their allies, who would feel most comfortable and safe in a living environment not tied to the traditional roommate pairings of female with female and male with male. Gender-neutral housing is not intended for co-habitation (romantic involvement) or for friends (1 male and 1 female) who simply want to live together. For more information and the special application procedures, please visit our website.