

Residency Requirement

Rochester College recognizes the experience of living on campus as a valuable part of every students' college experience. The residential experience at Rochester College provides students with opportunities to grow and examine issues including value development, decision making, problem solving, leadership development, and personal faith commitment. All first and second year students are required to live on campus in the residence halls. Third-year, fourth-year students have the opportunity to live in on-campus or off-campus. **Please be aware that many scholarships are granted based on living on campus in the residence hall so check with Financial Services to ensure no loss of scholarship will occur if you choose to not reside on campus.**

The campus residency requirement is determined by the years out of high school, not the number of college credit hours earned. First-year students who have recently graduated from high school will live in residence halls designated first year students. Students completing their second year of post-secondary education will live in residence halls designated for upperclassmen. The exceptions to the residency requirement are as follows:

- **Local Residency:** students physically residing with parent(s) or legal guardian(s) (Please complete the commute from home application)
- **Age:** students 21 years of age or older by the first day of classes each semester
- **Family Status:** students who are currently married or custodial parents (please provide a copy of your marriage license or child's birth certificate)
- **HS Graduation Date:** A student has graduated from high school more than two years prior to the beginning of the fall semester. (Home schooled students and high school students enrolled in college classes earning dual credit are not exempt from the residency requirement.)
- **Minimal Hours:** students enrolled in fewer than twelve (12) credit hours
- **Military Service:** students who have served at least two years of continuous active military duty (please provide a copy of your DD-14 or discharge paperwork)
- **Medical/ADA concern:** A student has a documented medical/ADA concern submitted and verified through the Accommodations Officer.

****Students living off campus who are not eligible will be subject to disciplinary action for non-compliance with the Rochester College Residency Requirement and charged for the current value of two semesters of on-campus housing (example: for 2018-19 fine would equal \$3,595.04).****

Applying for Off Campus

If a student prefers to live off-campus and one of the above qualifications applies to his/her situation, the student would need to complete an Off-Campus Application form available in their Student Portal (myrc.edu). ****All students who live off campus are required to complete off campus information every year****

If a student feels he/she has extenuating circumstances which deserves consideration for off-campus residency, that student must complete the following steps prior to seeking accommodations off-campus:

1. Complete an Off-Campus Application form available in their Student Portal (myrc.edu).
2. Complete the questions in the Off-Campus Application addressing the student's reasoning for needing an exemption of the residency requirement.
3. Submit the Off-Campus application by the deadline to be reviewed by the Housing Appeals Committee.

After the Housing Appeals Committee has met, the student will be contacted by the Office of Residence Life regarding the request.

Please note that any student who moves off-campus without an exemption from the institution will be charged the equivalent of a double room each semester the student does not honor the residency requirement policy (example: for 2018-19 fine would equal \$3,595.04).

All residential students must remain registered as full-time students (at least 12 credit hours). If a student wishes to drop below 12 credit hours and desires to continue living on-campus, he/she must first complete a part-time agreement [\(add pdf link\)](#) form with the Office of Residence Life. If a student stops attending classes without completing a formal withdrawal through the academic center, that student will be asked to move out of the residence halls. For more information about Rochester College's housing policies, please refer to the Student Life Handbook and/or Residence Life website.

For further information regarding Residence Life at Rochester College, please call the Office of Residence Life at 248.218.2207, and we will be happy to assist you.