**SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**FRESHMEN RESIDENCY PROGRAM**

**INFORMATION**

Southeastern Oklahoma State University believes that there are important educational & social, curricular and co-curricular, benefits to the living on-campus in the SE Residence Halls. Because of this conviction, Southeastern has developed a Freshmen Residency Requirement that mandates all single, full-time (12 hours or more per semester), first time freshmen who are under the age of 20 and have earned fewer than 30 college credit hours to reside in University Housing. College credit hours that have been earned while in high school do not count toward the 30 college credit hour limit.

**Southeastern is committed to providing resident students with the following:**

* a living experience that will enhance and compliment their collegiate experience
* the opportunity to develop the community-living skills, often with people of diverse cultures and/or backgrounds
* the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships
* an opportunity to create memories that students will cherish for a lifetime
* in a competitively priced on-campus housing program with a competitively priced meal plan program.

**Criteria for waiver from participating in the Freshmen Residency Program are:**

* Veteran
* Married student, living with a spouse
* Parent and primary caregiver of a child
* 20 years of age or older (as of the 1st day of class)
* Residing with Parent/Guardian in their permanent place of residence, within 60 miles of campus

**Residence Hall Accommodations:**

Students living in the Residence Halls will enjoy the convenience of easy access to Campus resources, including faculty, staff, library, and various student activities/organizations. Residence Halls provide lounges, vending machines and laundry facilities. A typical room includes desk, chair, bed, mattress, wardrobe and a dresser per student. All utilities (water, heat/air, electric, etc.) and high speed internet service (via SE University internet) are included with all rooms. Most rooms in Choctaw, Chickasaw and North Halls are traditional double occupancy with a shared bathroom (no more than 4 people share a bathroom). There are a limited number of private rooms in these halls. Shearer Hall rooms are all private rooms, in a 4BR with 2 bath or 2BR with 2 bath, apartment-style suite (no in-suite stove/oven). Students will be required to select one of the various meal plans offered through Dining Services.

**SE Housing & Residence Life Contact Information**

***SE Office for Housing & Residence Life,***

*Glen D. Johnson Student Union, Room 311*

*425 W. University Boulevard, Durant, OK  74701*

***@SOSUHRL on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram***

*Email:* *Housing@se.edu* *| Phone: 580-745-294 8| Webpage:* [*www.se.edu/HRL*](http://www.se.edu/HRL)

***Virtual Office Hours:***

***Regular Business Days: 9AM – 12PM; 1PM – 4pm:*** [***https://zoom.us/j/98429923478***](https://zoom.us/j/98429923478)

**TAKE THE NEXT STEP NOW…**

1. **TO APPLY TO LIVE ON CAMPUS**
	* **SIGN INTO THE SE HOUSING PORTAL** [**HERE**](https://se.starrezhousing.com/StarRezPortal)
		+ Click the log in button on the top left of the screen.
		+ Use your SE email address as the username, and your normal University password.
		+ You can now access all the options within the Portal.
	* After signing into the SE Housing Portal, select “Academic Year Housing Application” from the yellow toolbar at the top of the page.
	* This will bring you to the “Term Selector” page. Read the information and instructions, then select the Term that you are applying for. (During the Spring Semester, you will see an option for the current semester, and another option for the next Academic Year. If you are applying for housing for the upcoming/next Academic Year, select this option.)
	* Continue to follow directions.
	* Be aware…
		+ Individuals who are under 18 years of age will require a proxy signature from a parent/guardian.
		+ You will be asked to pay the $100 Room Reservation Fee as the last step in submitting your application/contract for Housing.
		+ Applying for Housing and Selecting your room/roommate is a 2-step process. More information on this is explained in the Housing Application process in the Housing Portal.
2. **TO REQUEST AN EXEMPTION FROM THE FRESHMAN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT**
	* **SIGN INTO THE SE HOUSING PORTAL** [**HERE**](https://se.starrezhousing.com/StarRezPortal)
		+ Click the log in button on the top left of the screen.
		+ Use your SE email address as the username, and your normal University password.
		+ You can now access all the options within the Portal.
	* Use the Menu 3-bar icon (‘hamburger’ icon) at the top left of the yellow toolbar to open the drop-down menu of options.
	* Select “Freshman Residency Exemption Request” option.
	* This will take you to the Exemption Term page. Select “Apply” for the term for which you are requesting an exemption from the on-campus Freshman Residency Requirement.

**Please contact Residence Life, SE Housing & Residence Life, for additional information about the Freshmen Residency Requirement.**

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**POLICY**

All unmarried, freshmen, under the age of 20 who have completed fewer than 30 semester hours of university work and are enrolled full-time (12 hours or more per semester) are required to reside in University Housing for one academic year (2 Academic Semesters) under a contractual room and board plan as long as space is available. College credit hours that have been earned while in high school (concurrent) do not count toward the 30 college credit hour limit.

Exceptions may be granted by the Office of Housing & Residence Life. Students requesting a release from the residency requirement **must apply for the release prior to June 1 for the Fall Semester and November 1 for the Spring Semester**. Requests received after June 1 will be reviewed on a time permitting schedule. (Students should anticipate a significant process time for requests and especially appeals that are received after these dates.)

**Exceptions** can be made for one of the following reasons:

* Student is 20 years of age or older on the 1st day of class
* Student is married before the 1st day of class
* Student is a veteran on the 1st day of class
* Student is a parent and/or primary caretaker/guardian of a child
* Student plans to live with parent/guardian, in their permanent place of residence, within 60 miles of campus.

**Required Documentation**

All release requests must be accompanied with appropriate documentation as outlined below. Waiver requests must be completed on a Request for Release from Freshmen Residency Requirement form and be submitted with sufficient complete documentation. Request without required documentation or with incomplete information will be denied.

 Veteran Status: Copy of Department of Defense form 214 (DD 214)

 Married: Copy of valid marriage certificate

 Parent: Copy of Child/Children’s birth certificate(s)

 Residing with Parent/Guardian: Completed Commuter Parent/Guardian Verification Statement.

(This form must be signed by the parent/guardian and the student and must be notarized.)

**Submitted Housing Contracts**

Submitted Housing Contracts will remain in effect until/unless a student is released from the Freshmen Residency Requirement, and Release from the Residency Requirement does not automatically cancel a submitted Housing contract. If a student submits a Housing Contract and is subsequently released from the Freshmen Residency Requirement, the student will need to cancel the contract *after* they have been released from the Freshmen Residency Requirement, and all Housing Contract Terms & Conditions cancelations will apply.

**Policy Violations**: FTF students who are in violation of this policy (who have not submitted a Housing Application/Contract to live on campus or been released from the Freshmen Residency Requirement) may be subject to sanctions, including a Violation of Freshmen Residency Requirement Fee for each semester that the student is in violation of the policy.