

# Residence Life



Welcome to the Southwestern University community! We are a residential campus, which means learning while living together is an integral part of the Southwestern Experience. We believe, and research has shown, that students who live on campus enjoy greater academic success. On-campus living empowers our students to engage in learning experiences not only in the classroom but also in the residence halls and through social life on campus.

## MAKING SU HOME: CHOOSE YOUR RESIDENCE HALL AND ROOMMATE

First-year students live in designated suite-style halls, including the new Jesse Daniel Ames Hall, opening in Spring 2026. You can learn more about all Southwestern residence halls at [southwestern.edu/reslife](https://southwestern.edu/reslife). Halls eligible for first-year students are clearly indicated on each hall's page.

Signing up to live on campus is a three-step process. Each step will be completed in our digital platform, The Housing Director (THD).

- **STEP ONE:** Complete your housing application.
- **STEP TWO (OPTIONAL):** Roommate matching. You can use THD to find compatible roommates by personal characteristics, or match with a specific person if you already know who you want as a roommate.
- **STEP THREE:** Room Selection. You will select the residence hall and room you'd like to live in. **Specific room assignments may change before move-in day**, but we will keep you in the residence hall you select. Room Selection (step three) takes place online during the month of June. Your selection date and time are driven by your housing application completion date.

### Two important notes:

- Your Room Selection day/time slot is determined by the date you and your preferred roommate complete your housing application, so the earlier you complete that step, the better!
- You will not be able to participate in room selection if your health records have not been turned in! Matched roommates/suitemates select their rooms together rather than individually, so if your intended roommate has not turned in their health records on time or completed their housing application, they will not be able to sign up with you.

Around August 1, you'll receive email communications from Residence Life confirming your housing assignment, roommate pairing, and meal plan assignment.

## THREE YEAR ON-CAMPUS RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

Students who have had fewer than six full-time semesters or less than 72 combined hours in college are required to live on campus. Many students choose to continue living on-campus throughout their entire Southwestern experience, and our residency requirement provides support and countless developmental opportunities that may make all the difference to a student's path toward success, both on our campus and beyond. Incoming students must be at least 17 years of age at the time of initial occupancy to live in University housing. Military veterans and students who are 22 years of age or older, married, or have children are exempt from the residency requirement.