

Welcome to our June Newsletter!

Dr. Pamela Schipani, Executive Director of Residential Life

Now that the academic year has drawn to a close, we are looking ahead to the fall semester and thought you might like to learn a little bit about what we are planning. The University, including Residential Life staff, have been actively involved in conversations and meetings about how we expect the upcoming year to be different from this past year on campus, and WE ALL AGREE IT WILL BE DIFFERENT. As you probably know, 90% of classes will be in-person, the residence halls will be at 90% capacity, and the campus programmers (including clubs and organizations) are preparing for in-person events.

We are excited that the upcoming year will be filled with opportunities for students to engage in person, to have roommates, and experience true community living. So much of the past year was spent on making sure students knew how to keep safe and ensuring that they were safe, especially medically. Residential Life had strict rules about guests and visitors, as well as the universal precautions of mask wearing, physical distancing, and hand washing. Although some precautions will remain in place, we are very excited about the new vaccination requirement, which will allow us to have a more "open" atmosphere on campus. Students did a wonderful job keeping themselves and others safe during 2020-2021. We are hopeful that students will continue to show this concern by being vaccinated.

We realize that some students, due to medical reasons cannot receive the vaccine, and that others may request an exemption from the requirement, but we expect that most students will be fully vaccinated. For students who are fully vaccinated, there will be the opportunity to meet with others in groups, even indoors, there will be in-person dining, there will be clubs and athletic competitions, and there will not be regular mandatory surveillance testing, or strict quarantining periods. However, for students not fully vaccinated there will be restrictions, limitations, and the possibility of quarantine.

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We truly do not want these kinds of differences in opportunities and so we strongly encourage all students who are medically able to receive the vaccine, to do so.

As we plan and prepare for the residence hall opening, we are positive and excited to have students back on campus. Fall opening will be here before you know it – so enjoy time with your students in your home before they move into their campus homes in late August.





Students studying and socializing outside together during the spring semester

Ending Spring 2021 on a High Note!

Sheila Morgansmith, Associate Director of Residence Education

June is here and the Spring 2021 semester is behind us. As we gear up to plan and organize for the Fall, let's take a moment to look back on the semester that was.

We started off on the right foot with students scheduling times to pick up their keys and get COVID-19 tests in January. This process was new for UConn and our compliance was an important step in beginning a healthy and safe semester. We persisted through all of the distancing, hand sanitizing, and mask wearing. We lived together, attended classes, utilized campus dining, all while watching out for each other. The care and cooperation that the students showed during these months was the cornerstone in building successful systems for on-campus interactions. We cannot thank the students and families enough for their work in navigating this time with us. Job well done!

We not only successfully lived and worked together for months, but when the time came, students trusted the process and successfully moved out of their rooms. Most students moved out by April 11th at our delayed Spring Break. Thanks to the efforts of students following the contactless move-out procedures we were able to begin cleaning and preparations to our residence hall spaces in a safe and timely manner. This also allowed the graduating seniors a chance to stay until May and to participate in their commencement ceremonies. Again, without the willingness of our students to participate in campus testing and maintain health and safety guidelines, the in-person activities would not have been possible.

We look forward to a new year with even more opportunities to engage with each other and to build a strong UConn Husky community!

Summer Housing

Vince Walker, Assistant Director Housing Services and Jen O'Neill, Housing Assignment Specialist

While spring semester has come to a close and most students have left campus, our on-campus community is still active! Historically, we have been able to offer on-campus housing to students working on campus, doing internships on campus, and taking summer courses. Due to COVID-19, we have reduced our summer occupancy this year and are focusing on preparing the residence halls for the fall semester. We look forward to welcoming the UConn SSS and Bridge programs to on-campus housing later this summer and are hopeful that we will be able to offer more robust summer housing options in the years to come!

Two Room Change Processes this Summer!

The general summer room change process opened to current Storrs campus students on Friday, June 4th so that current residents can request to change their fall 2021 housing assignment. The deadline to apply for this process is Wednesday, June 30.

Students can request to either move as a group or participate in the online room change process to see all available spaces and select a room on their own. The online selection will be available to students from Wednesday, July 7th until midnight on Sunday, July 11th.

Students can also request to do a Trading Spaces move from June 4 until July 30, which involves swapping places with another student.

Additional information regarding the Summer Room Change Process is available at: https://reslife.uconn.edu/summer-room-change-process-storrs-campus/.

New for this year, we are working on a special room change opportunity for students who have more than 53 earned credits (juniors and seniors). During the April housing selection process, some rooms in the apartment and suite style buildings were unavailable. These rooms are currently on hold for the fall semester as quarantine and isolation spaces. However, Residential Life believes that during the summer the

University will release some of these spaces and make them available as student housing for the fall.

In the event that the University is able to adjust their quarantine/isolation plans and return some of these spaces to Residential Life, we would like to offer students who would typically have the ability to select into these areas an opportunity to room change before the start of the fall semester. This will allow students who are juniors and seniors to have the ability to potentially room change into apartment or suite spaces (pending availability).

More information abut the Junior and Senior Student Room Change Process will be available to eligible students in early July, and some general information is available at: https://reslife.uconn.edu/summer-room-change-juniors-seniors/

Important Summer Dates

June 1: New Student Roommate Requests Begin

June 4: Summer Room Change Application

Available

June 30: Summer Room Change Application

Deadline

Early July: Update about Junior/Senior Room

Change Process

July 7 - 11: Summer Room Change Process in

MyHousing

July 30: Final Day for Trading Spaces Requests

July 31: Last Day to cancel Fall 2021 Housing

without cancellation fees*

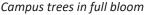
*students who are part of the Residency Requirement are not eligible to cancel housing

Housing Cancellation Policy Reminder

Students who are not part of the <u>Residency Requirement</u> have the ability to cancel without financial penalty by July 31 in their MyHousing accounts. Starting August 1, a \$500 cancellation fee will be in effect for any cancellations and as we approach the start of the semester the fee will adjust to 100% of the Fall Room Rate.

Please visit the Cancellation Information website for specific details: https://reslife.uconn.edu/residential-life-cancellation-policy/







Wilbur Cross



UConn Blooms storefront on a sunny day

Waiting List FAQs

Students on the waiting list for housing typically are aware that they are part of this group and did not participate in the room selection process in April/May 2021.

If your student is unsure of their housing status, please encourage them contact us at livingoncampus@uconn.edu.

A new website was created to help answer some of the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that we receive from students on the waiting list. Please encourage your student to review this information if they have questions about their housing prior to contacting our office.

Storrs Waiting List Frequently Asked Questions
Summer 2021

Living with a New Student

Current UConn students have the ability to request a newly admitted freshmen or transfer student as their roommate for fall 2021.

Starting June 1, 2021, both students need to email livingoncampus@uconn.edu with the following information:

- 1. Your student's name
- 2. Your student's ID number
- 3. Their preferred roommate's name
- 4. Their preferred roommate's ID number
- The current resident must include a statement in their email that they are willing to be relocated in order to live with their preferred roommate.

Our staff will work to ensure that the roommate request is mutual and do our best to assign both students together. Both students will be able to see their updated assignments in early August.

Residential Life Staff Office Hours

In order to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 (coronavirus), professional Residential Life staff are working standard hours on a hybrid schedule rotating between the office and telecommuting. Voicemail boxes will be checked regularly while staff work remotely or telecommute, but we strongly encourage sharing any questions for staff either at their UConn emails or to submit general questions to livingoncampus@uconn.edu.



Sunset on Mirror Lake

Have a great June!

We are here for you and your students if you have any questions!



Contact Information

Department of Residential Life
Whitney Hall, ground floor
(860) 486-2926
livingoncampus@uconn.edu

https://reslife.uconn.edu





Find us on Social Media!

www.facebook.com/UConnResLife

@UConnResLife on Twitter and Instagram

We encourage all residents to use #LiveonandLearn to showcase the benefits of living on campus!

