

# LIVING ON CAMPUS

THE PARENT & FAMILY CONNECTION TO UCONN'S  
ON-CAMPUS RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY

FALL 2022

Contact Us!  
Department of Residential Life  
Whitney Hall, ground floor

(860) 486-2926  
[livingoncampus@uconn.edu](mailto:livingoncampus@uconn.edu)  
<http://reslife.uconn.edu>



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**Find us on Social Media!**

[www.facebook.com/UConnResLife](http://www.facebook.com/UConnResLife)



or @UConnResLife on  
Twitter and Instagram

Join us on "Instagram Live" the first Friday  
of each month from 3-3:30 pm or catch our  
replay at your convenience!

We'll be answering student and family  
questions about anything related to living  
on campus!



# HAPPY NOVEMBER, PARENTS & FAMILIES!

A message from the Director of Residence Education

Amy Crim, Director of Residence Education

We hope this newsletter finds you well as our semester continues to fly by here at UConn! It seems like just yesterday that your students were moving into the residence halls and we are now into November and the tail-end of the semester! As folks gather together for Thanksgiving, we thought we would help you understand some of the typical changes you may see in your student.

Your student has almost completed their fall semester and may come home very tired. Students finished midterms a few weeks ago and are still struggling with sleep and managing their academics. Give them some time to recuperate and understand that coming home is a transition. Also, talk with them about school. Ask them about classes, their residence hall experiences, and any clubs and organizations they have joined.

Your student has left home and may return home more independent. Expectations of what that means for both the student and the parents or families may need to be communicated when they come home.

Although you are so excited to have your student home for the holidays, they may spend more time sleeping and hanging out with local friends than spending time at home with the family. This is typical for college students and you may need to set a schedule of expectations for each time they return so that there is a balance that meets your needs.

## **Some things to keep in mind when students return to UConn from Fall Break:**

- Prepare them to bring warm coats, gloves, sweaters, and blankets. The weather in Storrs, CT is typically colder than the rest of CT and very windy.
- Remind your student if they get sick, they should go to Student Health and Wellness or see their primary care physician.
- If they get sick and they need to miss classes for extended periods of time, please have them contact our Dean of Students Office who will communicate with their faculty (860-486-3426).
- Finals are around the corner, have them start preparing for this now so that they are not studying last minute.

We are excited to have your student back with us and we hope that you have a Happy Thanksgiving!

# TERRIFIC LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

Beth Helinski, Assistant Director of Residential  
Student Staff Engagement

Every academic year, the Department of Residential Life employs over 300 Resident Assistants (RA) at both the Storrs and Stamford campuses. The RA is a peer educator who facilitates the personal, interpersonal, and intellectual growth of students. The RA plays a key role in developing an inclusive living community that fosters diverse learning. Under the leadership of the Residence Hall Director staff, RAs assist with the day-to-day operation of their assigned community. These tasks can include checking in/out a resident, facilitating one on one and community conversations, mediating roommate conflicts and monitoring and documenting safety concerns, and other assigned responsibilities.

**Applications are available now at <https://uconn.erezlife.com> and are due no later than Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 11:59 pm.**

## **Qualified applicants are screened on the following criteria:**

- All candidates must have lived on campus for 1 or more semesters at either the Storrs or Stamford campus by the end of the fall 2022 semester.
- Candidates must submit their on-campus housing application for 2023-2024 by February 10, 2023. If you have not applied for housing or are currently on the waiting list, you will not be considered eligible to be an RA for 2023-2024. You **MUST** be guaranteed housing for fall 2023.
- Earn at least sophomore status by the time of employment (fall 2023) and be a full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate student enrolled at the Storrs or Stamford campus for the entire employment period.
- Maintain at least a 2.50 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) at the time of application, and throughout the process. Students on Scholastic Probation/Subject to Dismissal will be ineligible to continue in the process.
- Uphold the University's Responsibilities of Community Life: The Student Code and the On-Campus Housing Contract. All students with a student conduct history will be subject to review. Students who are on University Probation during the semesters of application review or interviews are not eligible to interview. Students who were found responsible for any incidents in the current academic year or during the application and interviewing process will not be eligible to interview or continue in the process.

# TERRIFIC LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

(CONTINUED)

Beth Helinski, Assistant Director of Residential  
Student Staff Engagement

## **RA Position Benefits: (These are only some of the benefits!)**

- Multi-faceted leadership skills
- Experience working with people from differing backgrounds; understanding the need to be open to those whose identities may be different than one's own
- Critical thinking skills
- Strong time management skills
- Written and oral communication skills
- Honesty and integrity
- Crisis management experience
- Understanding the nature of working in/on teams
- Relationship-building skills, as well as helping others build relationships

## **RA Position Compensation:**

- RAs will receive a housing waiver for their RA room
- RAs will also receive a cash stipend of \$5,600 for the 2023-2024 academic year. The stipend is paid out biweekly

More information can be found here: <https://reslife.uconn.edu/resident-assistant-ras-fall/>

Questions can be directed to [Beth.Helinski@uconn.edu](mailto:Beth.Helinski@uconn.edu)

Applications are available now on <https://uconn.erezlife.com> and are due no later than Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 11:59pm.

Click Here to Apply!



# WINTER RECESS ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

Rachel Hartley, Housing Assignments Specialist

All students who plan on staying on-campus at any point during Winter Recess (December 19, 2022–January 14, 2023) must fill out a Winter Recess Housing Application.

Students who wish to live on campus over Winter Recess must have both a Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 assignment and must meet one of the following qualifications:

- Be enrolled in a winter intersession course
- Be working for the University
- Have an academic internship on campus
- Be affiliated with a team or University sponsored program which requires Winter Recess housing

Overnight guests will not be permitted during Winter Recess, due to limited staffing and specific billing policies.

This year, 3 segments will be available for Winter Recess Housing:

- Full winter Recess housing
- Only for: All or part of December 19 after 12 pm through December 30 at 4 pm
- Only for: All or part of January 3 through opening weekend

Students who live in traditional halls and suites are required to purchase a Winter Recess meal plan.

For full Winter Recess Housing Information, Rates and Policies please visit our website at: <https://reslife.uconn.edu/winter-break-housing/>



# TRANSFERRING, GOING ABROAD, OR POTENTIALLY NOT RETURNING TO UCONN STORRS FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER?

Jen O'Neill, Housing Assignment Specialist &  
Christina Gray, Policy and Process Coordinator

We encourage you to start having conversations with your student today regarding their spring semester plans. If there is a possibility they may not return to living on campus in the spring semester, it is easiest to begin planning early, especially with holidays and winter weather travel concerns approaching.

- **If your student already knows they are not returning to the Storrs campus for the spring semester**, they will need to move out all of their belongings and turn in their keys by Monday, December 19.
- **If your student's spring plans are still up in the air**, we strongly recommend they preemptively take all of their belongings home, turn in their keys, and check out prior to leaving for winter recess. This will reduce their need to quickly return to campus during the winter recess.
- **If your student learns they are not returning for the spring semester during winter recess**, please encourage them to check their email for directions about how to schedule a check-out appointment during the break period.
  - Once a student's housing is canceled, they will need to return to campus to gather their belongings during business hours within 5 business days of their housing cancellation. For students who are academically dismissed, this window often falls during the holidays.
  - Your student's old room will very likely be reassigned to another student for January move-in and it is essential their items are removed during the winter recess to allow time for proper cleaning of the space.
  - Due to limited space, we are unable to store items for students over break. Any personal items not removed within 5 business days will be discarded.

If you or your student have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at [livingoncampus@uconn.edu](mailto:livingoncampus@uconn.edu).

# Closing Time: What to Expect for December Closing

**All residents should complete the following steps before leaving for winter break:**

- Leave the room clean (all trash must be thrown out). Students in rooms left in a condition which poses a threat to health and safety standards will be required to return to campus to resolve the condition in which they left their room. Failure to do so will result in University staff cleaning the room and the student being billed accordingly.
- Do not turn off the heat. Set the heater to snowflake to prevent the pipes from freezing.
- It is recommended that you *remove all valuables from your room*. If you need to leave any valuable items in your room, it is recommended that they be placed on shelves or areas other than the floor. The University is not responsible for any personal belongings that are left in residence halls during recess periods.
- Unplug the appropriate electrical equipment
  - Traditional Halls & Suites: Unplug all electrical equipment. This includes mini-refrigerators which must be unplugged, defrosted, cleaned, and perishable items removed. Residential Life staff will be opening refrigerators to ensure compliance with this expectation.
  - Apartments: Unplug all electrical equipment. Do not unplug your kitchen refrigerator.
  - Fish tanks are the only item that may be left plugged in.
- Close and lock windows. It is recommended that you lower your window shades if you live on the 1st floors so people cannot look into the room.
- Turn off lights.
- Lock your door as you leave. Remember to bring keys home so you can enter in January without a lock out charge!

ALL ROOMS WILL BE ENTERED AND CHECKED BY  
RESIDENTIAL LIFE STAFF TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH  
THE ABOVE GUIDELINES AND FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS

**GENERAL REMINDERS:**

- Residence Halls close on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 12:00 pm (noon)
- 24-Hour Quiet Hours begin Friday, December 2, 2022, at 10:00 pm
- Students are asked to leave 24 hours after their last final
- If a student is returning to the same room for spring 2023, they do not need to check out or remove any belongings from their room
- All students who wish to stay on campus during the winter recess must apply on their MyHousing portal

**VACANCY IN THE ROOM:**

All residents whose rooms have a vacancy need to ensure that the room is ready for a new roommate. This means a visibly clean and empty/open bed, desk, dresser, and closet space for each vacancy. Students should anticipate receiving a new roommate for Spring 2023.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR SPRING 2023

**December 19**

Halls close at noon for Fall 2023 (Students can request to stay over Winter Recess for an additional fee)

**January 1**

2023-2024 housing app available; room and roommates selected online in Spring 2023

**January 15**

Halls open for Spring 2023

**January 17**

First day of classes

**February 3**

2023-2024 housing app deadline for returning residents

Deadline for Spring 2022 residents to turn in meningitis vaccination verification to Student Health and Wellness

**March-April**

Spring 2023 residents choose rooms and roommates online for 2023-2024

**March 12-18**

Spring Recess (no classes, halls remain open)

**March 31**

Last day to cancel Fall 2023 housing application for no cost

**May 8**

Halls, Suites, Northwood Apartments, & all Stamford housing close at noon for Spring 2023

**May 14**

Hilltop Apartments & Charter Oak Apartments close for Spring 2023