

Frequently Asked Questions: Residence Life

last updated August 2016

Q: How much does it cost to live in the residence halls?

A: A single room in Laker is \$6,412, double rooms in Laker are \$5,400, and Garrett Hall room with a Silver Meal Plan is \$5,310 and with a Gold Meal Plan is \$5,910.

Q: When will I know if I have housing?

*A: Housing applications will be processed starting in May. This means that a background check will be completed on the applicant which includes criminal and court records and social media checks. Once the application and the background check have been approved, the Office of Residence Life will contact the applicant and inform them if their application is denied. If the background check is clear, you will be placed in housing based on the date the application/contract and payment were received. The student **MUST** be registered for classes to hold the room. If a student does not register for classes once assigned a room, the room may be forfeited to other waiting students.*

Q: How are students assigned housing and roommates/apartment mates?

A: Using the questionnaire that you will receive in your contract, students are matched to their roommate or apartment mates based on the information provided. If you have someone who you would like to room with both of you need to list each other's names on the housing contract. The earlier you do this the more likely we will be able to make sure you get the space and the roommate you request! There is no guarantee that we are able to match roommates or give first choice rooms to everyone.

Q: When will roommate assignments come out?

A: For new students, room assignments will typically be available by early August.

Q: What is the best way to introduce myself to my roommate?

A: When a student receives his/her room assignment, they also receive the telephone number of their roommate(s) and or apartment mates. Students are encouraged to call their roommate/apartment mates prior to arriving on campus. Some students choose to use Facebook but we encourage students not to make judgements based on what is seen on social media.

Q: When do I move in?

A: Check-in for all residential students is typically two days prior to the start of classes. Specific dates can be found each year in the academic calendar. More information pertaining to check-in will be mailed to you with your housing assignment.

Q: What room furnishings are provided by the College?

A: Student rooms include beds, desks, chairs, dressers, closets, and lighting. Closets in shared bedrooms can be locked. Students must purchase their own locks for closets (Master locks or combination locks).

Q: What appliances can I have in my room?

A: Garrett Hall residents are not allowed to have appliances in their rooms due to electrical load issues. Laker Hall residents may have appliances in their kitchen area only. Packing lists and prohibited items lists will be available on-line. You will receive these lists with your housing assignment.

Q: Is it possible to study in the residence halls?

A: Students can study in their rooms, as well as in the lounges. Between 10pm-2am the lounges become "study only" areas to ensure students have a quiet atmosphere where they can go to study. We also offer the use of the Residence Life Office after hours (times will be posted) as a study space.

Q: Where can I pick up my mail?

A: Each residence hall is furnished with mailboxes. You will be given a key to your mailbox when you move in. Packages are delivered to the Residence Life Office in Laker 105 so students do not need to worry about missing a package. Students will receive an email or door notice informing them they have a package. Packages can only be picked up when the Residence Life Office is open during designated hours. Students are required to show their id before they are given a package.

Q: What are the sizes of the mattresses and where do I buy sheets?

A: Mattresses require extra-long sheets and you can find them at most retailers such as Target and Wal-Mart.

Q: Can I have a pet in my room?

A: The only type of pet allowed are non-carnivorous fish in a 10-gallon or smaller tank.

Q: Are there special arrangements for handicapped students?

A: Yes. A student can indicate any special needs directly on their housing contract. Disabled students may also call the Student Life Office (301-387-3749), to confirm receipt of documentation, and to arrange for other accommodations, such as parking, scheduling, etc.

Q: Are there washers, dryers, kitchens, and other facilities in the residence halls?

A: Yes. Laundry facilities are provided in each residence hall; all machines are coin operated. It costs \$1.25 to wash and \$1.00 to dry. Laker Hall apartments have full kitchens.

Q: What are the sizes of the rooms?

A: Garrett Rooms are 15'8" x 11'8" Garrett Bathrooms are 5'8" x 2'7"

Laker Double Rooms are 16' x 9'11" Bathrooms in Double Apartments are 6'8" x 6'7"

Laker Single Rooms are 11' x 7' Bathrooms in Single Apartments are 7'2" x 4'

Laker Kitchens are 8' x 2'

Q: How much stuff should I bring?

A: New students are encouraged to call their roommate/ apartment mates before arriving on campus, in order to: get acquainted and see who will bring the TV, the stereo, etc. Students should also check their copy of the packing list and prohibited items list to see what items are allowed and what items are not permitted.

Q: Can I live on campus during College break periods?

A: Students can only live on campus during college breaks for extenuating circumstances and for an additional fee, with the exception of Winter Break. During Winter Break the residence halls are closed and all residents must leave by the posted time. Closing times will be listed in your housing contract and will be posted prior to the break by the Residence Hall staff.

Q: What is the visitation policy?

A: Guests are allowed, but under strict guidelines. If a guest is visiting a specific resident, he or she must be signed in as a guest and issued a guest pass. All guests must be accompanied by that resident while in the residence hall. Hosts are responsible for the conduct of their guests and for familiarizing their guests with pertinent conduct rules and regulations. No one under the age of 16 may stay overnight in the residence halls. For the full Visitation Policy, please refer to the Residence Hall Guide on the website.

Q: Is smoking allowed in the residence halls?

A: To further ensure the health and safety of the College community, all residence halls are smoke and tobacco free which means absolutely no smoking is allowed in the residence halls. There is a designated smoking area in the Laker parking lot. This includes e-cigarettes and vapors.

Q: Does Garrett College provide transportation home?

A. Garrett College does not provide transportation to Baltimore or DC, but there are a few private companies that will provide transportation. College Shuttles is an independent company that provides a shuttle bus from Laker Drive to DC and Baltimore metropolitan areas. Students and families book this transportation through the College Shuttles website (www.collegeshuttles.com).

Garrett Transit Service is an independent agency that provides a bus/van to Oakland. Students must contact Garrett Transit Service on their own to schedule a trip in advance. The fee for the bus service is approximately \$3.00 each way (\$6.00 total).

Information about other transportation services can be found outside of the Laker 105 Office.

Q: Is there internet access in the residence halls?

A. Garrett College provides free wireless internet in Garrett and Laker Halls. Students may also contact Comcast for high-speed internet service at an additional cost and billed directly to the student through Comcast. Students are responsible for payment of additional services with Comcast.

To ensure that your computer is able to access the internet it is suggested that the minimum specifications for your computer are:

- Intel Core i5 processor*
- Windows 7x64 bit*
- 4GB of RAM*
- 250 GB hard drive*
- Wireless Ethernet (802.11 g/n)*
- Microsoft Office 2013*
- Antivirus software*