

RESIDENCE LIFE

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Ask someone about their college experience, and they're likely to relate stories of the most exciting, intense and memorable times of their life. These memories will almost always relate to their experience in a residence hall. A campus environment is an atmosphere where lifetime friendships are formed, ideas and ideals are exchanged, and a whole world of opportunity and potential is spread before those willing to explore, study and get involved. In fact, many of these experiences occur outside the classroom in the living and social environment of the residence halls.

It is our mission to provide you with an environment that will contribute to your academic and social success as well as providing you with skills necessary to be successful in your career choice. Research has shown that, when compared to those living elsewhere, students living in the residence halls are more fully involved in academic and extracurricular activities, and tend to earn a higher GPA.

SWT provides a setting for these experiences, offering several group living options in 20 residence halls which can accommodate approximately 5000 students and in 3 university-managed (Clear Springs, Comanche Hills, Riverside) and 1 privately-managed (Bobcat Village) apartment complexes.

Many different types of living environments; from traditional community bath, to suite style, to halls with private baths, coed halls, single sex halls, alcohol-free limited visitation halls and 24 hour visitation halls, all offer you the opportunity to find the one best arrangement suited for you.

Our staff encourages and promotes education and service. We make ourselves available to assist in developing your academic, social and personal growth. The staff is committed to quality and excellent service that will continue to meet your needs as you grow in these areas.

No matter what you like to eat, when you want to eat, or who you want to be with, our food plans have your needs in mind. We offer five dining plans so you can pick the one that best fits your schedule, eating preferences, and pocketbook. Some plans offer Paw Points, which you can use like cash to purchase food at any campus dining facility.

University Housing Policy

In support of the educational mission of SWT and the value of the on-campus life to the academic success of most students, all unmarried students under 21 years of age who have completed fewer than 56 credit hours must reside in university housing. Students are required to sign a room and board contract that is binding for the full academic year. Exceptions may be granted if a student lives at home with a parent or is married. These students must complete an Off Campus Request Form and submit it to Residence Life with sufficient documentation to support the information given. Students who will have completed at least 56 credit hours or are at least 21 years of age do not need to submit an off campus request prior to the contract period.

Applying to Live On Campus

Contracts for on-campus housing are distributed and accepted only after you have been admitted to SWT. Your social security number must be on the contract to ensure accurate processing. All applicants will be prioritized according to the date the contract and deposit are received by Residence Life.

A \$100 deposit must accompany the housing contract. Please submit a check or money order. Cash deposits are not accepted by mail. Make check payable to: Southwest Texas State University-Residence Life. This deposit is retained on file with SWT as long as you are housed in a residence hall or have an active contract for a future semester. The deposit is used against unnecessary wear and damages to the room, to deter against late reservation cancellations and to maintain contracts in the active file. The deposit is not applied to residence hall rent. Deposits will be refunded upon your request if all cancellation criteria are met and all monies owed to SWT have been paid. A request for a refund must be made by you either in person or in writing to Residence Life. Students needing accommodations should contact the Residence Life Office.

Cancellation Deadlines

Once your contract has been signed and returned, cancellation deadlines must be met for a deposit to be refunded. The deadline dates for cancellation of a contract are:

For a Fall Semester	July 1
For a Spring Semester.....	December 1
For Summer Session I.....	May 15
For Summer Session II	June 15

What to Bring?

Each room is furnished to meet your basic furniture needs. In general, you will need to provide linens (blankets, sheets, pillows and towels), alarm clock, telephone, study lamps and wastebasket. Twin size beds (some bunk beds) with standard twin mattresses are provided in each room. Stereos, fans, small refrigerators and televisions are permitted, but you may wish to consult your roommate to avoid duplication.

Besides these basics, there is the opportunity for you to create your own environment through the use of posters, carpeting, plants, and special construction. The style of your room will be limited by your own imagination. There are policies in each hall regarding what you can and cannot do to the structure and furnishings in your room.