



# MOVIN' ON



## FROM HOME TO THE HILL:

A guide for your transition to  
Mount Mercy University

RESIDENCE LIFE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Welcome ..... 1
- Campus Housing Options ..... 2
- Residential Amenities ..... 3
- Move-In Day..... 4
- Preparing for Move-In ..... 5
- Meet Your Roommate ..... 7
- Meet Your RA..... 8
- Additional Information ..... 9



## WELCOME TO THE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY OF MOUNT MERCY UNIVERSITY!

Moving into your new home and starting your college career can be a little hectic, but we hope this guide will help minimize some of the stress and answer any questions you have about the residence halls at MMU. This guide contains information on our residence halls, amenities, activities, and our staff members. If you have questions we don't answer here, please see the MMU Good Book online or contact our office. We're happy to have you as a member of our community!

– RESIDENCE LIFE STAFF

# CAMPUS HOUSING OPTIONS

## REGINA HALL

Regina Hall is our first-year student residence, housing 180 residents. Regina is a traditional-style hall that offers double rooms; every room is equipped with a sink, but bathrooms are communal. Although the hall is coed, the floors are separated by sex. MMU provides a desk, dresser, bed and mattress, and closet for each occupant.

## MCAULEY HALL

McAuley Hall is a suite-style hall, housing first-year and sophomore students. Residents have their choice of quads (two people in two rooms) and triples (three people in two rooms). Each quad and triple has a private bathroom shared by both rooms. MMU provides a desk, dresser, bed and mattress, and closet for each occupant.

## ANDREAS HOUSE

Andreas is a suite-style hall with three wings reserved for upper division students. Each suite houses twelve residents across four bedrooms (three each) and includes two restrooms, a vanity area with four sinks, a kitchenette, and common area.

## LOWER CAMPUS APARTMENTS

Four buildings comprise the Lower Campus Apartments, which are reserved for upper division students. Each two-bedroom apartment in Lower Campus houses four residents and offers a private bathroom, common area, and kitchen.

## HAZEL HOUSES

Several of the houses in the Elmhurst/Hazel Island are available for MMU students to reside in. Houses vary from two to four bedrooms, but every house includes at least one living area, one dining area, and a kitchen. Students must be 21 or over, in good financial and conduct standing with MMU, and have a 3.0 GPA minimum to be eligible for Hazel House residency.

## RESIDENTIAL AMENITIES

	Regina	McAuley	Andreas	Lower Campus	Hazel Houses
Wi-Fi	■	■	■	■	■
A/C			■	■	■
Private Restroom		■	■	■	■
Elevator	■	■			
Tunnel Access	■	■	■		
Kitchen	<i>Public</i>	<i>Public</i>	<i>Public</i>	■	■
Kitchenette			■		
Vanity/Personal Sink	■	■	■	■	■
Laundry	■	■	■	■	<i>Provided free on campus</i>
Ice Machine		■			
Loft Kits	■	■		■	■



## MOVE-IN DAY

Students will receive an email with their move-in day and time prior to Move-In Day. The email will include additional details on parking/unloading areas and where to check in. In order to prevent congestion in the stairwells and elevators, and to simplify your move-in experience, please make sure you arrive during your allotted move-in time. Early or late arrivals can slow down the process and create additional stress that we would prefer to avoid.

When you arrive on campus, Orientation staff will direct you to the designated unloading area. These volunteers will help you unload and move your belongings to your room. Once your car is unloaded, please move it to “the pit,” the parking lot North of Hennessey and Donnelly.

You will need to report to the check-in area, where Student Services and Admissions staff will help you complete check-in and collect your key(s). A Resident Assistant will show you to your room and help you complete the Room Condition report, which MMU will rely on when assessing damages and billing at the end of the year.

### LUGGAGE

If you plan to ship some of your possessions in advance, please advise shippers that luggage should arrive on campus no earlier than the day of move-in.

# PREPARING FOR MOVE-IN

For some students, moving to MMU may be the first time they've ever moved. For others, it may be the first time they've moved out on their own. Whatever our residents' prior experiences, preparing for campus life can go a long way to smoothing this transition. To this end, we have provided a list of items we consider "must-haves," items residents should consider coordinating with their roommates, and items we do not allow in the residence halls.

## MCAULEY & REGINA RESIDENTS

If you have a medical need for an air conditioner in your room, please contact [reslife@mtmercy.edu](mailto:reslife@mtmercy.edu) for information on necessary documentation and the specifications for window A/Cs allowed in the halls.

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## ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Power strip/surge protector
- Alarm clock
- Fan
- School supplies
- Cup/bowl/spoon/fork
- Extra-long twin sheets (80")
- Pillow(s)
- Blanket/comforter
- Towel(s) and robe
- Flashlight/batteries
- Laundry basket and soap
- Hangers
- Shower tote and flip-flops
- Message board
- Photos/posters/decoration

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## EXTRAS TO CONSIDER

- Personal computer
- Storage containers
- Iron/ironing board
- Hand vacuum
- Facial tissue/napkins
- Floor rug
- Drawer organizers
- Water pitcher
- Cleaning Wipes
- Air freshener
- Lamp
- Over-the-door hangers
- Chip clips/can opener
- Mirror
- Basic first aid kit

## ITEMS TO COORDINATE

- Compact refrigerator  
*(only one permitted per room, maximum size of 4 cubic feet)*
- Television
- DVD/Blu-Ray player
- Futon *(mattress must be separate and sealed in a bed bug cover)*

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## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Damaged appliances, e.g. frayed cords, bent plugs, broken safety handles, etc.
- Fire hazards: Anything with an open flame or that burns (candles, incense, Stenson burners, etc.), fireworks, grills (electric or otherwise), toasters, toaster ovens, hot plates, gasoline/kerosene/propane, blowtorches, any cooking appliance other than a microwave, space heaters, and any other fire hazard not specifically mentioned here.
- Smoke/fog machines and other devices not conducive to group living
- Microwaves over 800 watts
- Halogen lamps
- Coffee makers and clothes irons without an automatic shut off
- 3M Command strips and similar adhesives
- Weapons—for more information, see the "Weapons Policy" section.
- Power tools
- Routers are permitted only in Hazel Houses.
- Personal upholstered furniture, including futons. Only futons with a detachable mattress and a bed bug cover are permitted.
- Pets other than freshwater fish. Aquariums over 20 gallons are not permitted. For information on residential accommodations for assistance animals, please see the Assistance/Service Animals section.
- Electric skateboards or hoverboards
- Waterbeds and/or personal mattresses
- Real Christmas trees/wreaths

## MEET YOUR ROOMMATE

In July, ResLife notifies incoming students of their housing assignments (sent to their MMU email addresses). Roommate contact information is included in these emails, and we strongly encourage you to reach out to your roommate as soon as possible. Coordinating your belongings and move-in day may be a big conversation, but it will be the first of many while you live together during the year.

During Orientation, your RA will meet with you to complete a roommate agreement. Our advice? Be as specific and thorough as possible. This agreement will allow roommates to set expectations and hopefully provide the foundation for a great experience, but if conflict arises, the RA will look to the roommate agreement when mediating between residents. For more information, please check with your RA.

### THE UNCOMFORTABLE RULE

One of the best ways to prevent conflict is communication, and one of the best ways to make sure communication happens is the uncomfortable rule. Sharing a room with someone may be a new experience for some of our residents, and confronting each other about problems and frustrations can be difficult, so we strongly encourage you to keep it simple: If something your roommate has done or said has made you uncomfortable, bring it to their attention within 24-48 hours, or don't bring it up at all. This rule helps to ensure that residents acknowledge and work through the issues as they arise, rather than waiting for frustrations to ball up into something bigger. If you're not sure how to bring up something, please check with your RA—they're trained to mediate most roommate conflicts, or they can find a resource for you if the conflict is a little too big for them to handle alone.

## ROOM MOVES

If, despite their best efforts, two roommates simply cannot get along, ResLife offers room moves as a last resort. Although we require a good faith effort at mediating and resolving conflict, ResLife will coordinate a room move if mediation fails. Your RA and the Area Coordinator will provide you with more information if you find yourself in this position.

## MEET YOUR RA

Your Resident Assistant (RA) is an upper division student employed as a member of the ResLife staff. In McAuley and Regina, one RA lives on each floor and serves as a resource and role model for our residents.

RAs promote and maintain a positive living environment conducive to academic achievement, personal growth, and respect for the rights of all residents. In addition to being available for their floor, RAs serve in an on-call rotation and conduct nightly rounds to ensure the safety of the buildings and the residents.

Your RA will help you meet other students, learn about resources on and off campus, explain and enforce policies and procedures, and assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. Throughout the year, RAs will host events on the floor or on campus to help introduce people to each other. If you have an idea for an event, please don't hesitate to suggest it to your RA.

Our RAs are trained in a variety of skills and will be someone who can help make the transition to Mount Mercy a little easier!

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### EMAIL & INTERNET

Every student is assigned a university email address/account. ResLife and many other departments will communicate with you **only** via this university email. Please make sure you are regularly checking your MMU email. The IT HelpDesk can help you add your MMU account to your phone, if you aren't sure how.

Students can find instructions on connecting to the university wi-fi on MyCampus. We encourage everyone to download a copy of the instructions to their device before coming to campus in the fall.

### MAIL

When you check in, you will be assigned a mailbox. Please make sure your incoming mail is addressed in the following manner:

Full Name  
Mount Mercy University  
1330 Elmhurst Dr NE  
Mailbox Number  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

The mailboxes are located in the Campus Bookstore by the Regina entrance. If you receive a package, a package slip will be placed in your mailbox, and the package can be picked up in the bookstore.

### INSURANCE

MMU assumes no responsibility for loss, theft, or damage of personal property. Most home owner's insurance can be applied to personal belongings in your residence hall, but we strongly encourage you to double check your insurance policy for specific coverage details. Renter's insurance is another option to consider.

### ASSISTANCE ANIMALS/PETS

ResLife prohibits all pets other than freshwater fish in the residence halls, but accommodations can be made for assistance and/or service animals. For more information, please visit the Academic Center for Excellence and speak with the Disability Services Coordinator.

### SAFETY

At Mount Mercy, your safety is important to us! In addition to RAs on each floor and the RAs on call each night, the Office of Public Safety has someone available at all times, including overnight and on holidays.

The Office of Public Safety is located on the first floor of the University Center, near the Academic Center for Excellence. A Safety Officer will respond to emergencies 24/7. To request a Safety Officer, please call **319.363.1323 ext. 1234** from a personal phone, or **1234** from a campus phone.

### LOCKOUTS/LOST KEYS

Public Safety responds to all lockouts on campus. If you have locked yourself out of your room, please contact Public Safety at **319.363.1323 ext. 1234**. The first lockout is free, but additional lockouts may result in charges to your student account.

If you have lost your room key, mailbox key, or stairwell key, please contact ResLife immediately by emailing [reslife@mustangs.mtmercy.edu](mailto:reslife@mustangs.mtmercy.edu). In order to ensure the security of our residents, lost keys will always result in a lock change, the cost of which will be charged to the student's account.

### INFORMATION DESK

The Information Desk is located at the front entrance of the University Center. Staff can be reached at **319.363.8213** or **319.363.1323 ext. 1234**. In addition to campus and community information, the Info Desk also checks out Wii-motes, Wii games, and recreational equipment for the game room. If you lose your ID, the Info Desk/Student Life Office can make you a replacement.

## **RECYCLING**

Mount Mercy University has recycling initiatives that work to reduce our carbon footprint. Each room is provided with a recycling bin, and Facilities staff will collect recycling trash each week. For information on pick-up times, please check with your RA.

To dispose of recyclables outside the pick-up times, please drop your items off outside of the recycling room on the bottom floor of McAuley, near the loading dock.

## **TRASH**

Students are expected to take their own non-recyclable trash and dispose of it in the dumpsters at the McAuley loading bay, at the Andreas Mound Dr. entrance, or at the Warde dumpsters.

## **BREAK INFORMATION**

Please plan now for your transportation to and from Mount Mercy for the major breaks in the academic calendar. Although the halls remain open during fall break, many of them close during the other breaks. Only students who meet stringent exception criteria will be allowed to remain in the halls: distance from home, academic or athletic need, and certain employment requirements. Instructions on break housing registration and dates are emailed to students each fall.

At Christmas and in May, students are expected to check out within 24 hours of their last final or when the halls close (whichever is sooner).



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[www.mtmercy.edu](http://www.mtmercy.edu)