

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

# PHILOSOPHY *of* LIVING

## CONSIDERATION

### Introduction

At Liberty University, the mission to *Train Champions for Christ* is realized through a holistic student development model. This model is grounded in four foundational values: Spiritually Renewed, Socially Responsible, Intellectually Rooted, and Emotionally and Physically Resilient. On-campus living is a vital component of this model, providing students with opportunities to grow in each of these areas through intentional community, academic engagement, spiritual formation, and personal wellness.

### Spiritually Renewed

Scripture affirms the importance of spiritual formation through community (Colossians 3:16; Proverbs 27:17). On-campus living immerses students in community and discipleship, where they are encouraged to engage in Christian community, worship, biblical literacy, prayer, and service.

### Socially Responsible

Living in proximity with others, particularly those who come from different backgrounds, gives students the opportunity to increase their knowledge of others and meaningfully engage in interpersonal relationships. Students, thus, are able to build relationships founded on integrity and compassion with those with whom they come in contact.

### Intellectually Rooted

On-campus living increases students' proximity to academic resources such as libraries, study groups, faculty, and administrative offices and are, therefore, more likely to utilize them. Generally, those who live on campus have higher GPAs, are more likely to graduate, and retain at greater rates than those who live off campus (Malham & Clark, 2025).

### Physically and Emotionally Resilient

Residential environments with a strong social support system reduces stress and anxiety, improving mental health and well-being (Worsley et al., 2021; Franzoi et al., 2022). Furthermore, on-campus students are in closer proximity to counseling centers, health clinics, the gym, and other health resources.

### Conclusion

For these reasons, Liberty University believes in the necessity for students to live on campus for the foundational years of their college journey. Yet, we expect that many students will transition to off-campus living at an appropriate time. For this season, we aim to provide resources and leadership that replicate the environment and benefits of on-campus living for off-campus students.

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## OFF-CAMPUS CRITERIA

While we affirm the value of on-campus living, we also recognize that certain seasons of life may call for a different living arrangement.

Students qualify to live off campus if:

	<b>Criteria 1</b> (All requirements must be met)	<b>Criteria 2</b> (All requirements must be met)
1. <b>Age Requirement</b>	<b>21 years of age</b> in the academic year (August 1 to May 31) that they are applying for	<b>20 years of age</b> in the academic year (August 1 to May 31) that they are applying for
2. <b>GPA Requirement</b>	Not Required	<b>3.0 GPA</b>
3. <b>Academic hours</b>	Not Required	<b>52 academic hours</b> prior to the semester for which they are applying to live off campus.

Students who do not meet the initial criteria may be approved to live off campus under the following conditions:

	<b>Condition 1</b> (All requirements must be met)	<b>Condition 2</b> (All requirements must be met)
4. <b>Local Family</b>	<b>Living with a parent(s)</b> who are full-time residents of the Lynchburg area (60-mile radius of Lynchburg)	<b>Living with a brother or sister</b> who is at least 21 years of age

### Please Note:

- Students are only allowed to submit one off-campus request per semester.
- Any student who has been placed under disciplinary probation from the Office of Community Life within a semester may be required to remain on campus, even if they meet the criteria for living off campus.
- Off-campus students are subject to the same rules, regulations, and policies contained in the Liberty Way, except for the rules that specifically pertain to the residence hall living.
- International students should consult with the International Student Office before submitting an off-campus request to ensure that their visa supports moving off campus.
- If you have a disability that you would like to be considered in an off-campus request, please consult the Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) prior to submitting the off-campus request. More information on ODAS can be found at <https://www.liberty.edu/disability-support/>.

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