

2024-2025

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OPUS HALL AGREEMENT

CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT

1. a. This Agreement is a binding commitment to live in Opus Hall for the entire 2024-2025 academic year. This Agreement guarantees the student a room in a College apartment, not any specific apartment.
- b. In addition to housing requirements stated in this agreement, it is noted that all students residing in college housing are required to maintain a college meal plan through the duration of their housing. Any adjustment must be requested for change by September 1, 2024. There are no meal plan changes for the academic year past this September 1st deadline. Please see section 9 in this agreement for any information on requesting exemption.
- c. Students in Opus must be of senior status and must maintain full-time student status to remain in the Opus. Students who lose their full-time senior status must receive special permission from the Director of Residence Life (DRL) to remain in the Opus. Students whose request is denied will be assigned to a space in another residence hall.
- d. Students may be released from this agreement under the following circumstances: withdrawal from the College and failure to be in good academic or social standing or extenuating circumstances as approved by the DRL.
- e. Students who withdraw from the College *prior* to the first day of classes, fall or spring semester, will not be charged for Opus for that semester but could be assessed a cancellation fee. The deposit will be forfeited except in extenuating circumstances as approved by the DRL. Students who withdraw *after* the first day of classes, fall or spring semester, will be charged in accordance with the College refund policy outlined in the Saint Mary's College Bulletin.
- f. Students who are granted a leave of absence from the College must vacate their apartment at the beginning of the leave. If they return to the College in the same academic year, they will be reassigned to a space upon their return. It is likely the space assigned to a returning student will not be in Opus. If the leave changes to a withdrawal, see sections 1d and 1e.
- g. If a student is required to vacate Opus due to disciplinary sanctions, all fees will be forfeited.
- h. The College may cancel this agreement if the student's outstanding financial obligations are not met. Accounts must be paid in full or financial arrangements acceptable to the College must be in place by the start of the fall and spring semesters.
- i. A student requesting to cancel their opus hall housing agreement must provide a written request and provide supporting documentation to the DRL. If approved, the student will be assessed a cancellation fee.
 1. Prior to May 1st: **\$250** cancellation fee.
 2. After May 2nd up to 30 calendar days prior to the first day of classes: **\$500** cancellation fee.

3. Less than 30 calendar days prior to the first day of classes: **\$1,000** cancellation fee
 4. On or after the first day of classes: **\$2,000** cancellation fee.
2. a. The occupancy period for seniors living in Opus Hall will begin **9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 24, 2024**. Meal plans for Opus Hall students begin with dinner on **Saturday, August 24, 2024**.
 - b. Students who do not occupy their assigned rooms by the first day of classes and have not notified the Office of Residence Life prior to of their intended late arrival, may be reassigned to a different space.
 - c. The residence halls close at 12:00 p.m. (noon) on **Saturday, December 21, 2024** for Christmas break, and students may not remain in their rooms during this time. The residence halls will re-open at 9:00 a.m. on **Saturday, January 25, 2025**. Meal plans for all students begin with dinner on Sunday, January 26, 2025.
 - d. College housing remains open for Fall, Spring, Thanksgiving and Easter breaks. Students may remain in their rooms. Meal plans will only be accessible through the tri-campus dining options available at the University of Notre Dame. Saint Mary's dining facilities are not in effect during these break periods. Students are responsible for their own meals during these breaks should they reside on campus.
 - e. Opus Hall close at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 18, 2025.
3. a. If a space becomes vacant in a student's apartment prior to the occupancy period (see section 2a), the Office of Residence Life will provide the residents the opportunity to select a new roommate within five (5) business days. If no roommate is selected by the designated time, the Office will reassign another student to that vacant space.
 - b. If a space becomes vacant in a student's apartment within the occupancy period (see section 2a), the Office of Residence Life will provide the residents the opportunity to select a new roommate within five (5) business days. If no roommate is selected by the designated time, the Office reserves the right to assign a student to the vacant space. Students may not sublet rooms or any part thereof.
 - c. The student is responsible for cleaning the apartment, for removing garbage regularly, and maintaining sanitary and safety conditions.
 - d. All assigned furniture must remain in the apartment and fully assembled.
 - e. The College reserves the right to enter rooms for reasons of safety, health, general welfare, maintenance, or official business and remove any object or material which would constitute a violation of College policy.
6. Although the College will use reasonable efforts to protect a student's property, the College is not liable for any loss, theft, or damage to property belonging to residents. Students are encouraged to invest in a personal insurance policy if their belongings are not covered under their parents' homeowner's insurance.

7. The student shall hold the College harmless from any suit, action at law, or any other claim whatsoever resulting from or arising out of any injury to the student's person or property while an occupant of a College apartment. The student agrees to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the Board of Trustees, Saint Mary's College, members, representatives, officers, agents, and employees against any and all claims, demands, costs, and expenses including attorney fees which any or all said parties may sustain or incur due to the actions of the student while an occupant of a College apartment.

8. Additional resident responsibilities may be found in the Guide to Residence Hall Living. Residents agree to abide by all policies and procedures as outlined in the Guide and the Code of Student Conduct.

9. All students requesting a housing (including but not limited to a specific room type, ESA, etc.) and/or meal plan accommodation should contact the Accessibility Resource Office (ARO) first to discuss this accommodation request in more detail. All requests to the ARO should be submitted by February 2nd to the ARO. Requests received after the February 2nd deadline will be placed on a waitlist and assigned as space becomes available.

10. The College reserves the right to move a student out of a room and into a new room on campus for the purpose of maintaining community standards and/or ensuring a student's health, safety, or wellbeing. The College also reserves the right to move students to and from rooms in order to consolidate spaces.

11. This agreement constitutes the full and complete agreement between the student and the College, and may not be modified in any way without the express written consent of both the student and the College. All items in this agreement are binding and supersede any conflicting housing information in any other College publication.

The College, as an academic community, intends to provide a residential atmosphere where study and learning can take place along with recreation, relaxation and social development. This atmosphere is dependent upon the willingness of all individuals to associate in such a way that personal freedom and responsible order co-exist. The undersigned student, therefore, acknowledges the need for socially responsible behavior, recognizes the role of the Residence Life staff in promoting such behavior, and accepts a reasonable disciplinary action for disregarding such behavior.

By completing the on-line housing agreement, the student confirms their responsibility to accept the above "Opus Hall Agreement."