

Housing and Residential Life

Housing and Residential Life Keathley University Center 300

Living on campus places students in the center of the University community so they can take advantage of opportunities for involvement in both academic and co-curricular activities. Most students find that MTSU residence halls or apartments are the right choice for making the most of their college careers. By living on campus, they become part of a vital living-learning community and make friendships that will last a lifetime. Research conducted nationally indicates that living on campus is one of the strongest influences on successful completion of an undergraduate degree.

More than 3,400 students in 22 residence halls and apartments make their homes on the MTSU campus. While every living area is unique, each offers a community that supports academic excellence at the University. Professional staff and student leaders live and work in the halls, coordinating services and programs that help students achieve success both in and out of the classroom. Referrals to academic support services on the campus, access to computing facilities, opportunities for student leadership training, participation in recreational activities, and availability of a listening ear are just a few of the services available to students living in the residence halls and apartments.

Living options include traditional halls with shared baths, exterior-entry buildings with suite-style baths, and two- and four-person and family apartments. Communities range in size from fewer than 100 residents in Rutledge Hall to up to 400 residents in Corlew and Cummings. Five computer labs in on-campus halls and apartments provide residents with convenient access to personal computing and photocopiers. Personnel at twenty-four hour desks in several areas of campus assist students and guests by providing reception services, information, and assistance with security procedures. Lounges and lobbies within the halls are designed for conversation, studying, and recreation. All rooms and furnished apartments are air-conditioned and include basic cable and all utilities. Laundry facilities are available within each complex.

General Information

When a student is accepted for admission to the University, he/she does **not** receive a room or apartment automatically. Rooms and apartments may be reserved **only** by filing an application and appropriate prepayment with the Housing and Residential Life Office.

Freshman men and women who live in residence halls are required to participate in a freshman meal plan for two full semesters, not including summer. The charge, which is payable during registration, can be found under Expenses. Additional meal plans are available to other students from the University food service (Aramark) and may be purchased during registration or at their office.

Telephone jacks are provided in each room or apartment. Residents should arrange to provide the telephone instrument of their choice. To place long-distance calls, a calling card must be obtained from a long-distance carrier who provides a **local** number to dial to access long distance. Individual bills are rendered by the carrier for all calls made against the account number during the billing period. Residents also have the option to set up an account with MTSU's STAR-1 long-distance service. Individual bills are rendered approximately once per month. One additional jack is provided in each room. One telephone device may be attached to this jack.

Each residence hall complex and each apartment complex is staffed by an area coordinator who has overall responsibility for the operation of the area. The area coordinator is assisted by a staff of resident directors and resident assistants, undergraduate and graduate students who share responsibility for managing and enhancing the daily group living experience.

Custodial and facilities staff are also assigned to each residence hall and are responsible for routine repair and cleaning in common areas of the hall, including bathrooms, corridors, and walkways. In the apartment complexes, a custodian cleans the corridors, walkways, and public areas.

Housing and Residential Life Policies

Students who reside in University residence facilities are expected, as a condition of residence, to cooperate in the observance of the laws of Tennessee, University policies, and regulations set forth in the current *MTSU Student Handbook* and the MTSU Housing License Agreement.

Students who occupy residence hall rooms or apartments may be held responsible for any breakage or damage done to the apartment or room or to the equipment in the apartment or room and for damages or losses to the public areas of the hall or apartment building which cannot be attributed to specific individuals. No pets (other than fish in an aquarium), firearms, fireworks, extension cords (except multi-outlet with circuit breaker), drugs, or alcoholic beverages are allowed in the apartments or residence halls.

The University is **not** responsible for loss or damage to personal property. Large sums of money or articles of value should not be left unsecured. Individuals are responsible for the physical condition of their apartments or rooms, as well as for their conduct and the conduct of others who visit them.

Students are encouraged to carry appropriate insurance for their personal property.

The administration reserves the right to grant or refuse admission to the apartments or the residence halls or to reassign or to terminate the residence of any student in any apartment or residence hall or other University-owned building at any time.

24-Hour Desk Services

Selected buildings offer round-the-clock desk services in the lobby, in addition to usual staff services. Desk attendants can accept deliveries of packages and flowers, handle requests for maintenance, assist with building security, provide campus and building information, and make loans of sports equipment, games, and small appliances.

Residence Halls

West Side Halls

Residence halls located on the historic west side of campus stand along pathways lined with trees that were planted when the campus was new.

The small learning communities of Rutledge, Miss Mary, Lyon, McHenry, Monohan, Reynolds, and Schardt halls range in size from 77 to 141 students and are located adjacent to the James Union Building. The JUB houses one of the main cafeterias on campus, providing residents with a convenient location to meet friends for meals or studying. A computer lab in Lyon Hall provides west side residents with 24-hour computing facilities. Reception desks are located in Lyon and Monohan halls. Centrally located bathrooms in each hallway of each floor are shared by residents.

Mid-Campus Halls

The centrally located residence halls of mid-campus provide easy access to the Woodmore Cyber Cafe and the campus Grill located in Keathley University Center. Smith, Sims, and Judd halls house small communities of 100 to 155 men while Beasley and Gracy halls house small communities of 100 to 155 women. All buildings share the services of the Smith Hall reception desk, lounge, and computer lab. Smith, Sims, and Beasley halls feature centrally located bathrooms on each floor which are shared by residents. Judd and Gracy are exterior entrance buildings which offer quad-style bathrooms shared by groups of four rooms.

East Campus

Residence halls on the east side of campus are close to the Student Recreation Center and the Walker Library. Wood Hall, for women, and Felder Hall, for men, share a connecting lobby which provides reception services, a computer lab, and meeting/television space for residents for all of the east campus. Wood and Felder halls house the Honors Living and Learning Center. Clement and Gore halls are reserved for late applicants and may be home to our overflow students. Nicks Hall for men, Deere Hall for women, and Clement and Gore halls for overflow applicants are small communi-

ties of exterior entrance buildings which feature quad-style bathrooms shared by groups of four rooms. Study rooms in each building offer a quiet space for reading, study, or homework.

North Campus

At seven stories high, Corlew and Cummings halls (on the north side of campus) are the tallest buildings at MTSU. Corlew and Cummings are located between McFarland Health Services and the Ned McWherter Learning Resources Center and adjacent to the Business and Aerospace Building. McCallie Dining Hall, located in Corlew, is one of the main cafeterias on campus. Corlew and Cummings halls house the First-Year Experience program which provides special academic and personal support to 800 freshman men and women. Reception desks are located in each hall, and a computer lab in Corlew serves residents of both halls. Centrally located bathrooms on each floor are shared by residents. Designated rooms in each building are designed to provide overflow housing for late applicants.

Apartments

Womack Lane Apartments

Womack Lane Apartments consist of 192 one- and two-bedroom apartments, with areas designated for both single students and families. Single students share a furnished one- or two-bedroom apartment with one other student; graduate students and upper-class students are given preference in assignment. Families may occupy either one- or two-bedroom apartments and may select an unfurnished or furnished apartment. All apartments include air conditioning units. The community building for Womack Lane includes a 24-hour information and service desk, laundry facilities, a recreation/meeting room, and computer lab.

Scarlett Commons

MTSU's newest residential area is Scarlett Commons. Located immediately north of the Student Recreation Center, Scarlett Commons features four-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments with full kitchens and living rooms. Residents occupy a private bedroom and share their bath with one other student. Each bedroom is wired for direct access to the University computing system. The Scarlett Commons clubhouse includes a 24-hour reception and service desk, recreation/meeting room with fireplace, and laundry room. The University shuttle bus, the *Raider Xpress*, provides campus transportation from a bus stop at the front of the clubhouse.

Special Interest Housing

Honors Living and Learning Center

Wood and Felder residence halls on the east side of campus are the home of MTSU's Honors Living and Learning Center. Application to this residence facility is limited to students who meet Honors College eligibility requirements. Students who live in the Honors Living and Learning Center must also enroll in at least one Honors class (3 credit hours) each semester. The Honors Living and Learning Center offers unique

services such as classes taught in the Felder classroom, academic advisors who hold office hours on site, and tutoring sessions held on site. Students who live in these halls have the opportunity to interact with their professors outside of class, participate in Honors College seminars, and gain valuable leadership skills. For more information about eligibility requirements for the Honors Living and Learning Center, please contact the Housing and Residential Life Office at 898-2971 or the Honors College at 898-2152.

First-Year Experience Residence Hall

Corlew and Cummings halls, seven-story high-rises located on the north side of campus, are the home of MTSU's First-Year Experience program. Services and programs offered in these residence halls are geared toward first-year students (29 college credit hours or less) and are designed to enhance students' academic success at MTSU. The First-Year Experience residence halls offer a number of unique services for first-year students at MTSU such as lower-division classes taught in the Cummings Hall classroom, an academic advisor who holds office hours in each building, tutors who live on each floor of the residence halls and provide tutoring services in the Hall Tutoring Centers, and special workshops and programs designed to assist students with their transition to MTSU. If you are interested in the First-Year Experience, please indicate First-Year Experience as the selected option on the application for housing.

Family Student Housing

A portion of the Womack Lane Apartment area is assigned as Family Student Housing. Apartments include both semi-furnished and unfurnished one- and two-bedroom apartments with exterior entry, social areas, and kitchen and bathroom facilities.

Family student apartments are reserved for full-time students with spouses, and/or a dependent child or children living with the full-time student. Family Student Housing rates cover utilities, including electric heat with an individual control per unit and a window air conditioner. Semifurnished apartments include a twin bedset, dresser, sofa, chair, end table, and dinette set.

The Womack Lane Community Center building includes a 24-hour desk, meeting area, and computer lab as well as a coin-operated laundromat with commercial washers keyed to enhance security and restricted to Womack Lane residents.

Housing Reservations

How to Apply

To apply for residence halls, on-campus apartments, and family student apartments, complete an MTSU Application for Housing and Residential Life and return it with the required fees to MTSU Housing and Residential Life, Middle Tennessee State University, P.O. Box 6, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. Applications may be completed online by accessing the Housing Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~housing and clicking on the "How to Apply" section. Housing assignment priorities are based on the date of application; due to the demand for on-campus housing and limited amount of space available, the University is unable to guarantee housing for all students. Completed applications, signed by the student, indicate acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in the Housing License Agreement. Please be aware that the agreement is for a full academic year, including both Fall and Spring Semesters. Student agrees to accept accommodations assigned, including overflow housing for single students, or to cancel and accept prepayment forfeitures as outlined in the license agreement.

Overflow Housing

Housing and Residential Life maintains overflow housing which is used to accommodate late applicants who apply for housing after all regular spaces are assigned. On-campus overflow housing refers to the furnishing of a room to accommodate a third person. Students will be advised of their status and given details and policy information at the time of assignment.

MTSU Housing License Agreement

Please review the MTSU Housing License Agreement carefully. Submitting an MTSU Application for Housing and Residential Life commits you to the terms and conditions outlined in the agreement. Please be aware that the agreement is for a full academic year, including both Fall and Spring Semesters. Early termination of the agreement will result in substantial financial penalty.

Fees and Refunds

Applications for residence halls, on-campus apartments, and family student living must be accompanied by a prepayment. Prepayment is a security of good faith that denotes the

applicant's serious intent to reside in on-campus housing. Prepayment fees are applied toward semester housing fees, with one-half toward Fall Semester charges and one-half toward Spring Semester charges. This prepayment is refundable prior to check-in according to the refund schedule located in the license agreement. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing and Residential Life Office by mail (P.O. Box 6, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132), fax (615) 898-5459.

For More Information

Prospective students and their families are invited to MTSU to tour the campus and become acquainted with the residence halls and on-campus apartments. For additional information, contact Housing and Residential Life at (615) 898-2971 (Fax: 615-898-5459) or come to the office in Keathley University Center 300. Information is also available at www.mtsu.edu/~housing.

