Welcome future on-campus housing residents! Research shows that the benefits of the on-campus residential experience have great positive impact on first-year students, directly helping transition from living at home to university life. Second-year students benefit from the continued stability of campus residential life to support their academic and social development. This often translated into success in completing college and doing so more often in four years. For these and many more reasons, all 1st and 2nd year students (including Transfer students) are required to live on-campus (some exemptions apply).

ATTENTION FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS! In order to better assist with the transition to college, Mansfield University has created Themed Housing Communities for first-year students in the Hickory Hall. Themed Housing Communities are a collection of first-year students who share a common interest and participate in group activities around that theme with a designated faculty/staff member and Housing, Dining & Residence Life representative. MU created Themed Housing Communities to not only extend learning beyond the classroom, but also to foster friendships among like-minded students and faculty/staff.

You will be able to choose from the following communities (simply designate your choice on the Housing & Dining Application/Agreement by selecting the “Interest Area” in your personal preferences):

Outdoor Recreation: Participate and help create outdoor recreational activities including biking, hiking, high and low ropes, and rock climbing. Enjoy once in a lifetime experiences including hiking the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon to star-gazing in the darkest national park in the northeast. This theme promotes safe outdoor activities and learning to take your outdoor hobbies to the next level.

Sports Center: Because we love watching, playing, and discussing sports! Get to know and play sports from all over the world including BASEketball and Quittage. Participate in ongoing sporting events, programs like Baseball Playoffs, the World Series, Football Playoffs, the Super Bowl, etc., and dissect every play of every big game with passionate sports enthusiasts.

Gamers Anonymous: Featuring video game tournaments, Magic the Gathering games, LAN parties, designing your own games and all of your guilty gaming pleasures! Includes video gaming for charity! Bring your childhood games to life with interactive life-size Mario, Pac-Man, and more!

Performing Arts: Get on Stage! Or backstage or just hone your skills. Create open mic nights, play improv games, and stage your own shows. From Frozen to the Phantom of the Opera, immerse yourself in the art world. Join the group to showcase your musical, theatrical, or stage talents!
**Popular Culture:** From die-hards to Twi-hards, if you wanted to go to Hogwarts, are trying to get bitten by a vampire, or would volunteer for the Hunger Games, we have the fan club for you! Walking Dead trivia tournaments and cat facts are only the beginning. So, dissect the plot holes in the next Avengers movie with as the group embraces popular culture.

**Arts and Crafts:** Yeah, we know how to make that! Learn to make pillows, beanbag chairs, magnets and a variety of other projects as we craft our hobbies into useful things. Plan trips to Corning Museum of Glass, watch presentations on "how-to's" and share crafts with the community.

**Healthy Living:** Where community service and healthy living combine; whether it is giving back to the community, living a balanced life, or both, this is the community for you! Plan a variety of activities with the American Cancer Society, Habitat for Humanity, the Red Cross, Princess Project, and work with the Animal Care Sanctuary, Relay for Life and other groups. The perfect gathering place for Nursing, Nutrition, Psychology and all other majors who want to live in a supportive and healthy environment.

**International Culture:** Interested in learning about world cultures, celebrating different customs, or learning about cultural folklore? The International Culture community will explore these topics and others as you embrace the experience of living abroad without ever leaving your residence hall.

**TO APPLY FOR HOUSING**

1. Go first to My Accounts (https://info.mansfield.edu/myaccount/) to get your log in and passwords.
2. Log on to My.Mansfield (http://my.mansfield.edu) using your Campus Services ID (including @mansfield.edu) and password. Then select the link for MyHousing.
3. Select the log in button under “Go to Apply Online.”
4. Select New Student 2015/FA from the drop down box. Then click Next.
5. The next page is the “Housing & Dining Agreement.” Please read the agreement carefully so that you understand your obligations.
6. Click “I Agree” to proceed. This creates your electronic signature on the agreement. The Agreement is binding for the entire 2015-2016 Academic Year.
7. The next page contains information regarding the $100 Housing Application Fee (non-refundable). Read the information, then click “Continue with Application.”
8. In the next step, you select your “Personal Preferences.” Please be forthright in selecting your personal preferences, it helps ensure a good roommate match.
   - When asked, “I am a:” please select the following:
     - New Student if you are a first-year attending college for the first time
     - Transfer Student if you are transferring from another university
     - Returning Student if you are returning to on-campus housing after living off campus
   - This step is also where you can put the name of the person you’d like to live with.
9. Select your meal plan. Please note: if you do not select a meal plan, the 19-meal plan with $200 Flex (the best value plan) will be added.
10. For meal plan selection/changes, follow the steps below. Any meal plan changes must be submitted/completed on line by August 21, 2015 for the fall and January 15, 2016 for the spring.

11. When completed, click “Continue to Payment Page.”

12. Select if paying with e-check (no service charge) or credit card (2.5% service charge). Credit cards accepted are Visa, Master Card, American Express, and Discover.

13. Follow the steps carefully through the payment process.

14. Print the confirmation page for your records.

Assignments are posted to MyHousing Portal as soon as they are completed (mid-summer). You can log on to this site to view your room assignment, roommate name, and roommate contact information. You will also receive an e-mail in early August with this information. Please note that assignments are subject to change during the summer if needed.

If you have any special needs or accommodations, please contact Housing, Dining & Residence Life by emailing housing@mansfield.edu from your Mounties email. Please provide information and be very specific. Students requesting specific housing due to medical concerns should also register with the Center of Services for Students with Disabilities. Housing, Dining & Residence Life accommodates requests due to medical concerns registered with and recommended by the Center of Services for Students with Disabilities.

**If you have any questions or need additional information, please visit the Housing & Dining Selection Guide!**

**TO SELECT/CHANGE MEAL PLAN**

*All resident students have a meal plan.* During the housing selection process, you will also select the meal plan of choice. For meal plan selection/changes, follow the steps below. If you should later wish to change your Meal Plan changes must be completed on line by August 21, 2015 for the fall semester and January 15, 2016 for the spring semester.

A. Sign in to My.Mansfield and select the My Housing link
B. Select the log-in button under "MyHousing" to be directed to My Housing Overview
C. Click on the Dining button in the Navigation menu
D. Under the 2015/FA time period, choose "Select a New Dining Plan" in the drop down and click Continue.
E. Choose a Meal Plan from the drop down menu and click "Submit My Dining Plan Selection."

**HOUSING AND DINING EXEMPTION REQUESTS**

The University established the Housing and Dining Requirement because students clearly benefit from living in an environment designed with their needs in mind. Living on-campus is an important part of the MU experience. Thus, all first and second year students are required to live in Residence Halls and participate in a University-provided dining plan unless they qualify for one or more of the following exemption categories:
• If the student resides in the primary residence of their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in which the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) reside full time and which is within a 50-mile radius of the campus.
• If the student fulfills the requirement after spending two years living and dining on campus (post high school). **Academic credit hours and/or class status do not exempt one from the policy.** This policy applies to traditional first and second year students and international students. It also applies to transfer students who have not completed two years of on-campus residency at another university (post high school).
• If the student is married.
• If the student has a dependent.
• If the student is 21 years of age and older prior to the start of the academic year.
• If the student is a veteran who has been honorably discharged.

All first or second year students wishing to be exempt from the Housing and Dining Requirement will need to follow the steps below, and provide appropriate documentation related to their petition **(within two weeks of filing the exemption).** *

*All rationale and documentation related to exemptions should meet the high standards of the Character (integrity) standard of the Mansfield Creed.

**TO REQUEST HOUSING AND DINING EXEMPTION (if you qualify)**

1. Sign in to My.Mansfield and select the My Housing link
2. Select the log-in button under “Go to Apply Online.”
3. Select “New Student Exemption.”
4. Choose the exemption reason that applies to your situation. Only the exemptions listed are considered valid exemptions.
5. Afterwards, provide documentation required. If further documentation is necessary, you will be contacted via your Mounties email address.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Contact housing@mansfield.edu, 570-662-4934 or 570-662-4952.

MU looks forward to you becoming a part of the Mansfield University on-campus community!