



**FIRST-YEAR AND NEW STUDENT
HOUSING & DINING SELECTION PROCEDURES
(Not currently residing in on-campus housing)**

Please read carefully!

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 is 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).**

THEMED HOUSING COMMUNITIES

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 Oak Hall. The communities are a collection of first-year students who live together, share a common interest, and participate in group activities. Themed Housing Communities were created to extend your learning beyond the classroom and foster relationships 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”):

Outdoor Enthusiast: Are you the type of person who loves to be outdoors? Are you looking forward to exploring the natural and beautiful views right at your doorstep at Mansfield University? The Outdoor Enthusiast community promotes outdoors sports, activities, and responsible stewardship of our natural resources. In joining this community, you will have the opportunity to live among other student who truly love the experiences of the great outdoors just as much as you do. Common interests might include hunting, fishing, hiking, climbing, biking or more, no matter what it is this community is dedicated to trying new things and learning new skills!

Sports Pride: Are you interested in living on a floor where you are surrounded by sports enthusiasts like yourself? If you are someone who loves watching, playing, and discussing sports then the Sports Center community is for you! Picture yourself creating a March Madness bracket with friends on your floor, shouting at the TV with fellow football fans, and cheering on Mansfield University sports teams with your floor all year long. Residents in this community have the opportunity to learn about and play a variety of sports, as well as participate in ongoing sporting events where they get to dissect every play of every big game with other passionate sports enthusiasts.

Creative Arts and Design: Are you someone who expresses themselves through painting, photography, drawing, performing or any other form of the creative arts? Join the Creative Arts and Design community where students will showcase their talents as they explore creativity, and collaboration alongside people that share their passion. This fun and festive floor community will consist of students that appreciate exploring different art forms, like theater, dance, visual art, and design. With so many different opportunities, expect to connect with a new group of friends all while getting involved on and off campus!

Technology and Media: Are you someone who is intrigued by the technological world we live in? From people who are interested in various forms of media and technology to those who consider themselves to be masters at playing, programming and/or creating, this is the theme for you! This community is for those that wish to explore, share and learn alongside those that share these passions. Students will be provided with the opportunity to share their strengths and hone their skills, while learning how they can use their talents to fulfill that purpose, whether it being for themselves, for the community, or for the world.

Healthy Lifestyle: Are you interested in all dimensions of health: physical, mental, spiritual, dietetic, intellectual, emotional, social, environmental, and occupational? If so, the Healthy Lifestyle community is for you! Residents in this community will enjoy programming focusing on learning how to improve health wellness, health/wellness issues facing college students, and best practices for a healthy lifestyle. Students that may be interested in living in this community may include students majoring in a field related to health, psychology, or counseling, as well as students interested in fitness and being active.

Community Engagement: Are you someone who enjoys and is committed to community service, civic engagement, leadership and social justice? If so, living on within the Community Engagement floor will bring you together with other residents who share your same desire! Students living within this community will participate in volunteer work, community service and engaging with the community that surrounds Mansfield University. Service experiences and immersion programs will help foster greater understanding of individual values, community issues, and the principles necessary for active citizenship.

Academic and Career Exploration: Are your interests broad in scope encouraging you to explore possibilities that capture your imagination? Join the Explorer community where students will have the chance to understand their strengths, values and identities while exploring interests, academically and socially. This community will provide students with opportunities to discover academic options, campus resources, and involvement in clubs/organizations. Students will gain leadership skills, make campus connections, and create a larger support system providing an enhanced academic and social experience.

International: Are you someone who wants to learn about other cultures and be a part of an exciting, diverse and interactive community? If so, the international themed community is for you! This global community provides international and domestic students an opportunity to experience in-depth cultural interaction on a regular basis. It emphasizes cultural awareness and sensitivity, explores diverse perspectives, and provides students with numerous opportunities to experience different cultures both socially and academically. Students from various backgrounds and fields of study are encouraged to apply to live within this internationally-themed community.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please visit the Housing & Dining Selection Guide found on the Student Living website!

CRITICAL STEP:

Before you begin the online Housing & Dining Application/Agreement, you will need to know your Mansfield University Campus Services ID and Password. Visit My Accounts to get your log in and password at: <https://info.mansfield.edu/myaccount/>.

Once you have this information, you can begin the process of completing the online Housing & Dining Application/Agreement. Please ensure you read the Agreement in full before agreeing to the terms.

TO APPLY FOR HOUSING AND DINING

1. 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.
2. Log on to My.Mansfield and select the link to MyHousing.
3. Select the “Applications” link at the top of the screen.
4. Select “New Student (2018/FA)” from the drop down menu.
5. Follow the computer prompts:
 - Read and electronically sign the Housing & Dining Agreement
 - Review the information regarding the \$100 Application Fee
 - Complete your Personal Information (this is important for roommate selection/matching)
 - 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.
 - Enter your Emergency Contact Information
 - Select a Dining Plan
 - Pay the \$100 Application Fee
 - 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.
 - Print the Confirmation for your records (don’t worry if you forget, you’ll receive an email)

REQUIRED MENINGITIS VACCINE FOR STUDENTS:

As stated in the Housing & Dining Agreement, Pennsylvania State Law requires all students living in University housing, to either have the meningitis vaccine or sign a declination statement after having received information concerning the benefits of receiving the meningitis vaccine. Students who do not either have the vaccination or sign the declination statement will not be permitted to reside in University housing.

When completing the Housing & Dining Agreement/Application, students will be asked if they have received the meningitis vaccination. The choices are either yes (if the vaccine was received) or no (if the vaccine was not received and is being waived). For more information on meningitis and the vaccine, please visit: <http://www.mansfield.edu/residence-life/upload/Meningitis-Information.pdf>

ROOM RATES:

For planning purposes, current rates for 2017-2018 are posted to the Student Living website at <http://www2.mansfield.edu/residence-life/housing-dining-rates.cfm>. Rates are subject to change and will be updated after Council of Trustee (COT) approval.

TO SELECT/CHANGE MEAL PLAN

All resident students have a Meal Plan. If you should wish to change your Meal Plan once you have completed the Housing and Dining Selection, follow the steps below. You may make changes on-line prior to the semester meals beginning (typically the Wednesday before classes begin).

- A. Sign in to My.Mansfield and select the MyHousing link
- B. Select the “Dining” link at the top of the screen
- C. Select “Select/Change My Plan” from the drop down menu
- D. Follow the computer prompts

HOUSING EXEMPTION REQUESTS

The University established the Housing 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 Requirement will need to follow the steps below, and provide appropriate documentation related to their petition (***within two weeks of filing the exemption***).

REQUESTING HOUSING EXEMPTION (if you qualify)

1. Log on to My.Mansfield and select the link to MyHousing
2. Select the "Applications" link at the top of the screen
3. Select "New Student Exemption (2018/FA)" from the drop down menu
4. Follow prompts to complete your exemption request
 - Choose the exemption reason that applies to your situation. Only the exemptions listed are considered valid exemptions.
 - Once complete, you may be asked to provide documentation. If further documentation is necessary, you will be contacted via your Mounties email address.

OTHER INFORMATION

Assignment Information

Assignments are posted to your 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.*

Accommodations

If you have any special needs or accommodations, please contact Student Living by emailing housing@mansfield.edu from your Mansfield University email account. 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**. Student Living accommodates requests due to medical concerns registered with and recommended by the Center of Services for Students with Disabilities.