

On-Campus Living: So much more than a bed!

Residential Life Mission: We enrich the University Experience through community, engagement and personal development.

Community: Living on campus is not just having a physical space to sleep, study and relax. It is about the community; it is about living with other people in a supportive, fun and developmental environment.

Engagement: Decades of experience, studies and self-reports from students show that being engaged in meaningful experiences enhances every facet of college life. We strive to provide and match up meaningful experiences for students. Living on campus puts you in the heart of things and helps students to become more engaged in their University community.

Personal Development: College brings about many benefits, some of them are much more tangible (i.e. a degree). Others are less tangible yet even more useful towards long-term success. Skills like conflict management, identify development, reflection, interdependence, asserting your own rights, empathy, problem solving and many more are necessary to succeed. These are the skills we work on developing throughout their time living on campus.

Staff: Our RA staff is here to help them on a daily basis with questions about Emporia, study skills, living with their roommate and any of the struggles they may face. Our Master's degree level professional staff is here to help with larger scale questions or concerns. Our dedicated custodial and maintenance staff are here to take care of our facilities and fix anything that comes up. Our Reception Center Staff are here to answer questions, provide services like mail, help with lock-outs and check-out equipment and games. All of our staff go through a lot of training and there is always someone on call.

Benefits of living on campus: College can be a very exciting and scary time for our students. Many of them are coming to a new place where they may not have the same connections they had throughout High School. Living on campus addresses many of those concerns and provides a much richer experience than off-campus living. Here are just a few of the benefits to highlight.

- **Being right in the middle of it all:** When you live on campus you are within walking distance from food, great events, classes and everything else you may need.
- **All-inclusive billing:** When you live on campus you pay one bill that covers everything (rent, electricity, air conditioning, heating, internet, food, cable in common spaces, laundry, security, events on your floor, water, recycling and trash). On paper it may seem like living off-campus is cheaper, but when you add up all of the different bills you need to pay separately, you get a much better deal from living on campus. Plus your room comes already furnished!
- **Better grades:** Students who live on campus earn higher grades than students living off campus.
- **Activities Councils:** Each Complex has an Activities Council to help students plan the events they want to attend. They also provide a great involvement opportunity.
- **Leadership:** For anyone interested in leadership opportunities, living in the halls is the place to be. You have a dedicated staff to helping you make those connections. They can get you connected to other offices and if they don't know the answer, they will find it. Living on campus also gives you the opportunity to be an RA!
- **Friends:** Memories are made with friends and the friends you make in college will be the friends that will last a lifetime. When you are on campus you have an automatic connection to people and there are always new people to meet. You can find people with similar interests and even discover new interests of your own.
- **Hireability:** The skills that employers are identifying as the "must-have skills" are the ones you learn best in the residence halls. We design our experiences around holistic development.

Tips for making the most out of college and on-campus living:

1. **Go into as many rooms as possible.** Where do things happen? In rooms. Where do people do stuff? In rooms. If you want to do things with people you need to go into rooms. The more rooms you go into the more people you will meet with and the more opportunities you will have.
2. **Put interesting things in your room:** Obviously you want to go out to meet people but you also want people to come to you. If you have interesting things in your room you will attract interesting people to come and meet you. Plus it makes your room feel more like home!
3. **Try something new each week:** They say there is a time a place for everything and that time and place is college. There is more to do than you have time for. That 's a great thing and you need to take advantage of that! Try something new each week. If you haven ' t juggled before, give that a shot. Don ' t know how to box? We have a club for that.
4. **Really talk to your roommate:** College provides you the opportunity to live in the same room and on the same floor with new people. The best way to have a great year is to actually talk to your roommate. Ask them questions, get to know them and let them know when something bothers you. There will always be disagreements in life and if you learn to work through them effectively in college it will make the rest of your life significantly better.

Room Options: We have a variety of options to fit different needs. We have singles, doubles and suites. All traditional-age freshmen live in Towers, Singular & Trusler. Upperclass and older freshmen students live in Morse. There is a lot of information about rooms on our website including pictures of actual rooms. The only freshmen singles that we have are for ADA Accommodation.

**Paul 's personal advice for where to live is in a standard double with a shared bathroom. Living in a suite means you don 't have to leave your room that often which means you meet less people. After almost a decade of working in residential life, year after year, I see students have a better experience in a standard double.*

If anyone has any questions they can call us (620.341.5264), email us (Reslife@emporia.edu), tweet at us (@ESUResLife), check us out on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ESUResLife) and go to our website (www.emporia.edu/ResLife).