

## Philosophy

The Office of Housing and Residential Life at the University of Michigan-Flint is committed to the goal of achieving equal educational opportunity and full participation for students with disabilities and chronic health conditions. Students with sensory, mobility, learning, mental health disorder, and health disabilities are welcome in the residence hall. We believe that the Residence Hall is a place to develop and nurture new ideas and opinions, to learn about new people and cultures all accomplished in an atmosphere of respect, understanding, and mutual support.

We maintain a perspective that all individuals with the same disability do not necessarily have the same needs, and that there are many disabilities with varying needs. We wish to discuss your needs for your living accommodations in order to be of assistance in making you as comfortable as possible with your surroundings as you begin your academic life at the University of Michigan-Flint. It is our goal to incorporate each student into residence hall life as fully as possible.

## History

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal civil rights law enacted on July 26, 1990. The ADA prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in employment, government services and programs, transportation, public accommodations, and telecommunications. Discrimination on the basis of a disability is further prohibited at the University of Michigan by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Michigan Persons with Disability Civil Rights Act.

Public entities are required to make all their programs, services, and activities accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, in addition to providing accessible facilities.

## Applying for Housing

To ensure that you receive accommodations that meet your particular needs in a residence hall, it is important that you contact Housing and Residential Life to discuss your needs, even before applying for housing, call (810) 237-6571 or fax (810) 762-3362.

We know that disabilities or chronic health conditions are not always apparent. As a result it is important that accommodation requests for pre-existing conditions be made.

Upon receipt of your application we will send you Documentation for Accommodation Needs form. We will need you to complete the form and attached clinical recommendations and submit it to our office.

**Please note:** The Documentation form is an Adobe Acrobat Reader PDF file. You need to have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer to read it. If you don't already have it, you can [download it for free from Adobe](#).

The Documentation form asks for the clinician to give the date of initial and the most recent contacts and, on professional stationery, the diagnosis, functional limitations, recommendations regarding accommodation needs, and the justification for same. We will evaluate the information and recommendations in the submitted documentation, consulting as needed with other University departments that have considerable expertise in working with students with disabilities. Submitting the above documentation is not a guarantee of receiving the recommended accommodations. The information you provide will be only shared with other relevant staff in a discreet and confidential manner and will be used only as permitted under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This information will have no bearing on your general eligibility for housing.

Students with disabilities are assigned roommates in the same manner as all other residence hall applicants.

## University Services

Accessibility Services Coordinator is responsible for the coordination of University programs and services for qualified applicants for admission and enrolled students with disabilities who need accommodations. Please contact the Accessibility Services Coordinator in The Student Development Center, 264 UCEN, 810-762-3452 or visit their website [http://www.umflint.edu/studentdevelopment/accessibility\\_services.htm](http://www.umflint.edu/studentdevelopment/accessibility_services.htm).