A new rate structure for Residential Community Life has been developed in consultation with student feedback. I hope you find this new structure both attractive and predictable.

Beginning fall 2015, the price of living on campus will be fixed for each entering class, and will not increase as long as your student lives in our residence halls. During the Room Selection Process, which begins in March, students can choose from three living arrangements subject to availability – a double room, a designed single room, or an Individual Room Program (IRP – a double room “bought out” as a large single room). The prices will be as follows:

- **Double room (shared by 2 students in ANY building)** - $3730 per semester
- **Designed single room in ANY building, including Higgins Apartment building** - $4600 per semester
- **IRP in ANY building** - $5160 per semester

In this age of increasing college costs, we hope this new rate structure benefits our students and their families.

Please note – these prices are the same in ANY building on campus in which your student chooses to live and are guaranteed at this rate for your student’s remaining years at Oneonta as long as he/she remains in campus housing.

Additionally, If your student must leave campus for an academic reason (i.e., student teaching, overseas study, academic leave of absence), they may return to campus upon completion of the program at the same rate.

### SPRING BREAK HALL CLOSINGS

As spring break comes to our attention, we wanted to inform everybody of the dates and times our residence halls are closing. For Spring Break the Residence Halls close on 9am on Saturday, March 7th and reopen on 1:00 pm Sunday, March 15th.

Before leaving for break, please be sure to do the following things:

- Unplug all appliances. Be sure to pay special attention to refrigerators. (Defrosting = Water)
- Clean out all trash, clear off windowsills; particularly in ground level rooms.
- Close and lock windows; lower and close blinds.
- Take home items specifically prohibited by the Residence Hall Contract.
- Close and lock the room, whether you’re the first or the last to leave.

At the beginning of each closing, the doors to each residence hall will lock and card access will be turned off until the residence halls open again. For safety and security reasons, no one is allowed within the residence halls while they closed. If anyone has any questions, please contact our Central Office at (607)-436-3182.
ROOM SELECTION PROCESS

The room selection process here at Oneonta State is coming up very quickly. Over the years we have tried to make room selection easy for everyone to understand. The entire process is completed on-line, and your student actually selects the room they want to live in for next year. Here’s a quick overview of the steps for room selection:

1. Beginning on March 16th, students can pay their $100 housing deposit via MyOneonta, or at the Student Accounts office.

2. Once the deposit has been paid students may pick up their “housing key” in MyOneonta. The housing key is a unique identification number assigned to your student for room selection, and serves as their “key” to enter the room selection process. Also, if students wish to request a specific roommate, they will need this number from their desired roommate.

3. Beginning on March 23rd, your student will be able to view his/her appointment time on MyOneonta. Students will not be able to select a room until their designated appointment time.

4. Appointments will begin on March 30th, and are assigned based on credit hour seniority. (In other words, seniors select first, then juniors, then sophomores, then freshmen.)

5. Room selection will be turned off during class registration, and then turned back on in order for students to make any changes they wish to their room assignment. Room selection will be turned off for the summer on Thursday, May 14th.

Students will receive information regarding room selection in their e-mail inbox during early March. Also, during the week of March 23 we will offer informational meetings in each residence hall. Please encourage your student to come and ask any questions about room selection they may have at that meeting.

Tips for Room selection!

- Sign up on time
- Know which building and room you are looking to move into
- If you are moving with friends, make sure you have their assigned key
- Make your housing deposit as earlier as you can!

HIGGINS HALL - INDEPENDENT LIVING EXPERIENCE

Beginning in fall 2015 a new program will begin phasing in to Higgins Hall, the only apartment style residence hall at SUNY Oneonta. The program is designed to allow students to experience independent living while still residing on campus.

Phase 1 of the program is a new policy that permits residents of legal age responsible, personal consumption of alcohol within their apartment. This policy has been approved by the College Council, Office of Student Development, and Residential Community Life. This policy is for Higgins Hall only and is a pilot program for one year (2015-16), subject to review. If successful, consideration will be given to continue, and possibly expand the policy to other upper class residence halls on campus in the future. First Year Experience halls are not candidates for this program.

This summer the kitchens of two apartments will be upgraded to include an oven, stove top, and the necessary ventilation for cooking full meals (Phase 2). These two apartments will allow the College to make any changes in design before we embark on upgrading the rest of the apartments, scheduled for summer 2016 (Phase 3). Presently, Higgins Hall has community kitchens on most of the floors. Expanding these to each apartment will allow students to be more in charge of their meals, and the responsibility of preparing them.

During the next year the Residence Life Office will also be assessing the staffing patterns and program of Higgins. We hope that by giving more responsibility and independence to our students the better prepared they will be for life after college, while still enjoying the perks of living within the campus community.
RA SELECTION PROCESS

Resident Advisors are an important part of our residence hall community at SUNY Oneonta. Each semester, there are nearly 120 students who have the opportunity to take advantage of this great leadership opportunity. This semester, the application process will begin with an Application Kickoff Mingle in Hunt Union’s Waterfront room at 9 pm on March 1st. Residential Community Life staff will be available to answer questions, meet those interested in the position, and to help students enroll in the course necessary to begin the position. Applications are available online and close on March 17, 2015 at noon.

TOP 10 REASONS TO LIVE ON CAMPUS

Wondering if you should stay on campus or move off? We polled a group of students on campus students — Here are ten good reasons as to why they say staying on campus is the better choice!

#1 - SUNY Oneonta’s campus promotes top safety for the students. University Police Officers are on campus 24/7 to assist with whatever problems they can. We also use the “Blue Lights” system which acts as an emergency help button. You should be able to see at least one where ever you stand on campus.

#2 - Living on campus is very convenient for students. You are in walking distance from everything that you might need including the library, dining halls, classes, and the gym.

#3 - You’ll never have to do your own dishes! With your unlimited meal plan you will never have to worry about grocery shopping or worse... doing the dishes. This allows you to have more time throughout your day!

#4 - Every residence hall has cleaners that clean the bathrooms daily. If you live in a suite they clean it weekly. You already know that if you live on your own you won’t have that luxury! Also, emergency maintenance is available 24/7.

#5 - There are Resident Advisors, Academic Team Members and a Residence Hall Director that all live right in your residence halls if you needed anything! Whether it’s academically, personally or you just want to chit chat.

#6 - Staying on campus helps and encourages you to meet new people and help build a community. You will be living in a residence hall with 200 plus other students, the possibilities to make friends are endless!

#7 - It is easier to stay in tune with all of the events going on around campus if you are actually on campus. That includes your RAs programs and socials, new movie releases, diversity programs and tons more!

#8 - FREE, a college students favorite word. Luckily for the students who stay on campus laundry, Wi-Fi, amenities, cable, rec rooms, computer labs, and even condoms are free! You won’t see that living off campus.

#9 - You can sleep more! Since everything is so much closer to you, you can hit that snooze button a few more times before having to roll out of bed. There is nothing more satisfying then a full night’s sleep.

#10 - Staying on campus allows you to stay close with your friends. They can either be right down the hall or just the building next door. Signing leases for off campus housing can be tricky if you are trying to stay close to a specific group of friends. Who knows where you will all wind up?

Play it safe, play it smart, live on campus!
Students have basic needs which affect their ability to succeed and develop at SUNY Oneonta. They need an environment conducive to healthy living and learning. They need a sense of safety and security within the student community. They need to learn life skills to complement their academic progress and assist them in becoming well-balanced individuals. They need opportunities and encouragement to grow.

Everything we do in Residence Life relates to students and our goal to respond to their basic needs. Residence Life maintenance and custodial efforts, food service, hall facilities (i.e. laundry, vending machines, desk operations), grounds maintenance and building renovations are all responses to a student’s need for an environment conducive to living and learning. The hall and university policies, emergency procedures and resources, conduct system and hall staff coverage of buildings respond to the safety and security needs by providing a structure for the living environment. Hall Governments and committees, corridor meetings, intramurals and hall/campus activities provide opportunities to satisfy a student’s desire to become involved in the community. Programming in the hall or on campus involves many of the life skills students need to develop, (i.e. communication, career development, research, time management or relating to others.) Personal growth opportunities are also provided in hall and campus programming as well as through the many resource centers on campus.

Our hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8am-4:30pm.