Study Abroad & Co-op

What if I am planning to study abroad or participate in a co-op for a semester?

Students participating in Study Abroad programs or Co-Op experiences in locations farther than 30 miles from SJU will be released from a Housing Agreement for the semester(s) of their experience. Any student who submits a Housing Agreement for the 2016-2017 academic year will be guaranteed on-campus housing for the semester they will be taking classes on campus.

Fall Semester Departures:

Students planning to Study Abroad or participate in a Co-Op experience or internship for the Fall semester may submit a Housing Agreement to be guaranteed on-campus housing for the Spring semester when they return. Students who are confirmed to participate in a Fall 2016 Study Abroad or Co-Op program will not be assigned a selection time to make a selection during the formal selection process. In November 2016, Residence Life will communicate with all students who are returning from a Fall experience to inquire about their housing preference for the Spring 2017 semester. NOTE: Returning students will be assigned based on vacant spaces in on-campus housing. If you intend to Study Abroad for the Fall semester, we suggest trying to find a student who intends to participate in a Spring semester experience. Our office can “trade” assignments, assigning you to the space to return in the Spring when the Fall student assignment is removed.

Spring Semester Departures:

Students with a signed 2016-2017 Housing Agreement should participate in the Housing Selection Process to make a selection for the Fall 2016 semester. Students who are then confirmed for Study Abroad/Co-Op/internship experiences for the Spring 2017 semester will be released from the Housing Agreement and may move out of their on-campus assignment at the end of the Fall semester.

In order to accommodate the notification schedule for Fall Study Abroad and Co-Op programs, Junior & Senior Housing Selection will occur after notifications for Fall Study Abroad and Co-Op programs are finalized. This will permit additional time for rising Juniors & Seniors to plan for the upcoming academic year.

In addition to the Exclusive Merion Gardens and Townhouse Communities, limited spaces will be available for Juniors and Senior to select within the other on-campus communities. Juniors and Seniors wishing to live in a location outside of the Exclusive Junior and Senior Communities will be able to select from available spaces within these other communities at their assigned selection time. Juniors/Seniors wishing to live with a rising Sophomore student(s) may be pulled into a space by a rising Sophomore at the earliest selection time.

The Office of Residence Life is excited to provide a unique opportunity for Junior and Senior students to consider when weighing “on-campus” or “off-campus” housing options. The Junior/Senior Communities provide residential experiences to enhance students’ second half of their undergraduate education at Saint Joseph’s University while preparing them for their future beyond the walls of our institution. Rising Juniors and Seniors who wish to live on-campus will have the opportunity to live in a community of other Junior and Senior students in facilities offering the important amenities desired by upperclassmen including:

- Parking
- Air-conditioning
- Affordable 12-month agreement option
- Ability to retain the space for both Junior and Senior year
- Modified residence life policies that promote a more independent living environment.

Examples of Events & Programs held in the Jr/Sr Communities

- Trip to Washington DC
- Preparing to Study Abroad
- Career Development Events
- Dinner with Campus Ministry
- Budgeting & Personal Finance
- Local Trip to Linvilla Orchards
- Exploring Graduate Programs
- Dinner with the President

Visit the Off-Campus Housing Portal to learn more about different housing options for next year. Offcampushousing.sju.edu

Office of Residence Life
500 City Ave.
Philadelphia, PA, 19131

RESIDENCE LIFE CONTACT INFORMATION
PHONE: 610-660-1060 FAX: 610-660-1065
WEBSITE: www.sju.edu/reslife E-MAIL: Reslife@sju.edu

The Office of Residence Life
500 City Ave.
Philadelphia, PA, 19131

JUNIOR/SENIOR EXCLUSIVE HOUSING INFORMATION ENCLOSED

THE NEWS FROM
NOV
2015

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WEBSITE:
PHONE:

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SJU Office of Residence Life
MORRIS QUAD TOWNHOUSES
MERION GARDENS APARTMENTS

Explore our exclusive housing options for juniors and seniors

Residence Life Portal
The Resident Life portal is open to students and parents alike. Explore various guides and resources to help with the dorm life experience.

Off-Campus Housing Portal
Learn more about the USA and what it has to offer. Explore off-campus living options, including apartments, houses, and more.

The Nest
The Nest is the official blog of the Office of Residence Life, providing updates, news, and resources for students. Stay informed and connected!

Office of Residence Life Portal
Access the official SJU Office of Residence Life portal, featuring important information and resources for students living on campus.

Hospitality Portal
Discover tips, tricks, and resources related to hospitality and food services within the SJU community.

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### Commonly Asked Questions

**Is the Housing Agreement binding for one semester or the entire year?**

For the entire academic year. Once a student submits a Housing Agreement, there is no option to be released for an off-campus option. A student should not enter into a University agreement AND an off-campus contract. In doing so, the student would be held financially responsible to the cost of the University’s Housing Agreement.

**Can I submit a Housing Agreement as a back-up plan in case I am unable to secure off-campus housing?**

No! A student should not enter into a University agreement AND an off-campus contract. In doing so, the student would be held financially responsible to the cost of the University’s Housing Agreement. If a student is not able to secure off-campus housing, we may be able to accommodate late Housing Agreements even through the summer prior to the start of the academic year.

**How are the selection times assigned?**

Selection times are randomly assigned by class year, through an automated computer program. For the Junior & Senior Housing Selection Process, priority is given first to rising Seniors and then to rising Juniors.

**Can a student select into an apartment and then be assigned “random” roommates?**

No. All students will be required to fill a space to capacity. Capacity information for all housing locations will be available through the Room Search feature prior to the selection process. Students who do not participate in selection will be administratively assigned after the process. Residence Life will communicate directly to these students with additional information about available options.

**If I am currently living in an Exclusive Upperclassman Community, may I stay in this space for the next academic year?**

Yes! Students may elect to remain in their current space as long as at least 50% of the current occupants agree to stay in the same assignment for the 2016-2017 academic year. You may request other students who have completed a Housing Agreement to fill the space to capacity.

**Are there summer housing options in the Exclusive Upperclassman Communities?**

Rising Juniors and Seniors who select into Merion Gardens will have the opportunity to complete a 12-month Housing Addendum, allowing them to move into their assignment in May for an additional cost. Students with a completed 12-month Addendum will be permitted to stay in their space during Summer breaks through the 2016-2017 Academic Year.

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### Merion Gardens Apartments

220 students call Merion Gardens home. The apartments in this facility are predominantly 2-person units (see typical floor plans below). There are also several 4, 5, and 6-person apartments available. Most of the larger occupancy apartments have unique layouts. All spaces are single sex by apartment. Each apartment is equipped with in-wall air conditioning, full kitchen/bathroom, hardwood floors and basic furniture. Free laundry facilities and a fitness center are located in the basement. Merion Gardens also features a security-monitored parking lot behind the building.

#### Floor Plans of Typical 2-Person Apartments

- **Layout 1**
  - 1st Floor
  - 2nd Floor
  - 3rd Floor

### Morris Quad Townhouses

The townhouse community houses 116 students in single bedrooms within both 4-person and 7-person units. We recognize that 7-person townhouses can be challenging to fill to capacity, so some units are split in the selection process into 3 and 4-person groups. Each space is single sex by townhouse. Each unit includes a kitchen, 2-3 full bathrooms, washer/dryer and basic furniture. They are located next to Moore Hall, which houses a fitness center. The townhouses also feature a security-monitored parking adjacent to the buildings.

#### Floor Plans of Typical 7-Person Townhouses

- **Person Townhouses**
  - 1st Floor
  - 2nd Floor

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### Cost & Amenity Comparison

**Off-Campus vs. On-Campus**

The cost for off-campus housing can range dramatically. Despite the variance in cost, we have gathered some average cost comparison information so that an informed decision can be made between on-campus/SJU housing and off-campus housing.

For the cost comparison below, rent is based on the average cost of an apartment shared by 3 occupants on a 12-month lease renting for $2,100 per month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Off-Campus</th>
<th>On-Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$700 ($2100 total)</td>
<td>No deposit required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent/Rate</td>
<td>Rent/Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$700/month</td>
<td>$4,200/semester approx.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications (Internet, cable TV, phone)</td>
<td>Communications (Internet, cable TV, phone)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60/semester per person</td>
<td>$4.920/semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concom Cable &amp; Internet</td>
<td>Concom Cable &amp; Internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30-50/month per person</td>
<td>$60/semester per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities (gas, electricity, water)</td>
<td>Utilities (gas, electricity, water)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50/month per person (depending on usage)</td>
<td>Included in semester rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>Furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generally not furnished</td>
<td>Fully furnished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td>Laundry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability/Cost Varies</td>
<td>Free in all SJU facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$234 for SJU Commuter Parking Permit</td>
<td>Parking Permit included &amp; SJU shuttle available for on-campus transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hassle Factor</td>
<td>Hassle Factor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many more details to arrange</td>
<td>Almost hassle-free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace of Mind</td>
<td>Peace of Mind</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each off-campus housing option differs in provided amenities, service and security. All SJU buildings are monitored 24-hours a day by Public Safety. Facilities and Residence Life staff are available to address any concerns that may arise in a timely and professional manner.

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### Educational Housing District Law

**Section 9-2805. Zoning Compliance**

The Educational Housing District Zoning Code states that no more than three unrelated people can live in a legal one-family off-campus dwelling. No matter how many bedrooms a house or apartment has, each one-family dwelling can have no more than three occupants.

**Violations to this code may include tenant and/or landlord fines and/or eviction. This code extends to houses inрадион, Lower Merion, Upper Merion and Overbrook Farms (All of Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties).**