

Resident Life Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I choose my roommate?

A: Yes, incoming students are given the opportunity to complete a [Housing Preference Form](#), which includes an area to pick your roommate*. We will do everything possible to grant all housing requests. If you don't have a preference, our housing staff will try to match you with someone who is compatible.

***NOTE:** To assist in your placement, housing requests are due by May 1st.

Q: Can I bring my car to campus?

A: All students may bring their car, but must register for a parking sticker with PBU's Office of Safety and Security. Due to parking shortages at residence halls, on-site parking is not always available. When on-site parking is not available, students are encouraged to park in reserved PBU parking areas.

Q: Can I bring my bicycle to PBU?

A: Absolutely! PBU wants you to be able to travel quickly and easily around our campus and within the community. As such, PBU has a free bicycle registration program and strategically placed bike storage racks at each resident site and around the University.

Q: Why should I live in a residence hall?

A: PBU has a residency requirement for all students under the age of 22*. We do this so you will have the benefits of easy access to the library, gymnasium, student activities, dining commons, classrooms, and more. Moreover, statistical research documents that students who live on campus perform better academically. Most of all, living on campus is fun! Residency on campus allows you to make the most of your experience as a college student.

***NOTE:** Students who live with local family members and students who can prove a significant need (financial or otherwise) for off-campus housing may apply for exemption to the residency requirement. For more information, contact the Director of Resident Life.

Q: Can I bring a refrigerator?

A: Students living on Manor Campus or Heritage Hall may bring a compact refrigerator with a capacity of 4.5 cubic feet or less. Residents of Penndel are provided with one full-size refrigerator per apartment.

Q: Can I have any pets?

A: Unfortunately, pets, with the exception of fish, are not allowed on campus. Fish must be kept in an aquarium that is less than 10 gallons in size.

Q: When can I move into my room?

A: Students are usually eager to move into their dorm rooms. Those who are new to PBU are allowed to move into their dormitory room during Weekend of Welcome. Returning students and upperclassmen are given a move-in date during the summer break.

Q: Can I move in early?

A: The University does not permit early arrivals. Due to a lack of resident life attention and services that can be given to early-arrivals, PBU makes no allowance for students who desire to move into the residence halls early.

Q: Where do I get my room keys?

A: Picking up your keys will be the first thing you do when you arrive on campus. You will be issued one key to your room or apartment when you arrive to move in. Key distribution happens on site during the beginning of the Weekend of Welcome and the returning student move-in day.

Q: What size are the beds in the dormitories?

A: We provide students with standard-size twin beds (39" x 75").

Q: Do I need to bring any furniture?

A: The University provides a bed and mattress, dresser, desk and chair for each student. Students may bring additional furniture if they would like; however, the PBU-owned furniture must remain in the resident's room throughout the duration of the semester. See the descriptions of each residential living area and the "What to Bring..." link for more detail on the potential furniture needs at each site.

Q: Can I store my furniture and belongings at PBU over the summer?

A: PBU makes no provision for student storage during the summer months. Students should arrange for the use of a local storage facility to secure any items that cannot be taken home during the summer. Students who leave items in their dormitory will be charged a removal and disposal fee that is dependent upon the size of the item.

Q: Do I have to be on the meal plan?

A: To meet your needs, PBU has designed a food service plan that is student friendly and cost effective. Resident students must purchase a meal plan. Most students will participate in the "unlimited access" continuous service plan. This option allows students to enter the Dining Commons as often as they like from 7:15 am to 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday as well as the scheduled hours of operation on weekends.

Social Work and Teacher Education majors, who are participating in either field placement or student teaching, have the option to participate in the “any 9-meal plan.” This option allows admission to any 9 meals served each week. Students who have to miss meals due to work, athletics or classes may arrange to have a carry-out meal with the cafeteria, at no additional charge.