6,700+ undergraduates live on campus

The university houses more than 6,700 undergraduates, the vast majority of whom are freshmen and required to live on campus.

As the size of the freshman class has increased, the number of upperclassmen living on campus has decreased. University Housing’s master housing plan calls for exploring public-private partnerships to open additional rooms for upperclassmen in the years to come.

According to “Postsecondary Education Opportunity,” 65% of the average college student’s waking hours each weekday is discretionary time. For campus residents, much of this time is spent in their halls.

Living and learning communities

Among the university’s 21 living and learning communities, some are academically associated, and some are thematic. But, all have the same goal: to help students foster relationships with peers, faculty and staff in an educationally purposeful environment. Examples of these communities include:

- Business
- Journalism and Mass Communications
- Engineering and Computing
- Music
- Healthy Carolina Wellness
- Carolina Women’s Community
- Carolina Men’s Community

Top majors of residential students

1. business
2. biological sciences
3. nursing
4. exercise science
5. mechanical engineering

Undergraduates are housed in 24 residence halls located in three “neighborhoods”: North, Central and South Campus.
**Educational Priority**

University Housing is about more than putting a roof over students’ heads. Staff strive to provide not only a place for students to live, but also a place for students to learn.

**Mission**

University Housing’s mission statement places a priority on education: “University Housing provides an environment that motivates students to devote time and energy to educationally purposeful activities by providing experiences that facilitate students’ academic progress, awareness of self and awareness of others.” These three elements comprise what Housing calls the “A-Frame,” which serves as the framework for all programs presented in residence halls.

**Community Education Teams**

Similar to a board of directors, Community Education Teams help guide programming for living and learning communities that aligns with the goals of undergraduate education at the University of South Carolina. Teams are composed of students, faculty and staff who have a vested interest in the academic progress and personal development of a particular group of students.

**Faculty in the halls**

An important element of residential education includes faculty participation in programs for students. Recent examples include faculty lectures on presidential candidates and foreign policy, leadership and campus sexual assault. Other faculty have led field trips, hosted dinners and simply enjoyed lunch with students.

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**MORE**

**Faculty can do**

- **Attend a program** hosted in a residence hall.
- **Have coffee with a student** to discuss his/her experiences at the university.
- **Propose an associated learning community** in partnership with your academic department.
- **Plan a living and learning community event or program** with a residence hall staff member.
- **Participate in a Community Education Team.**

For more information, contact

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Residential Learning Initiatives

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