University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music

Residential Life and Dining Services Contract Conditions for Students 2026–2027

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Letter from the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

Congratulations and welcome to the Eastman School of Music. You have the opportunity to pursue your passions. The determination and resilience that brought you here is something you should be proud of, and please know that we welcome you, that we're excited to have you at our school, and that you belong. You're here among those who strive to be the best.

This document is part of the resident's housing contract and also includes information on Campus Dining Services. We've officially called it Eastman's "Residential Life and Dining Services Contract Conditions" for students 2026–27. It provides the terms and conditions for our community and becomes your official contract text when you submit your application. By signing the housing contract and residing at the Eastman School of Music, the resident agrees to abide by the housing contract, this document, and all University policies.

We encourage new students to review the terms of their admittance to the Eastman School of Music and Residential Life publications. First-, second-, and third-year students have a housing requirement: they must live on campus. This policy is intended to develop community and best support the Eastman experience. Students who live off campus prior to senior year often delay graduation; do not utilize on-campus resources and supports; miss more classes, lessons, and opportunities; and don't make healthy choices to eat right, rest, and maintain appropriate school-life balance.

- New students (first year and transfer) will submit their housing and dining applications online through the Admissions portal and will receive official information on how to access the portal directly from Admissions after the enrollment deposit is received. Room assignments are made over the summer for fall enrollment and in late December/early January for spring enrollment.
- Currently enrolled students (classes of 2027, 2028, and 2029) will submit their housing and dining applications, then select their rooms online through the Housing Selection process (Room Draw). Information and instructions on how complete the application will be distributed to students each Spring semester. Confirmations of room selection and dining selection for Upperclass students will be sent to your email account.
- Reactivated and readmitted students should contact the Office for Residential Life for housing and dining materials after being activated by ESM Academic Affairs.

Additionally, all students living on and off campus are required to participate in a meal plan for the 2026–27 academic year. If you do not complete the dining registration and/or return a dining contract, you will be enrolled in the appropriate minimum plan requirement, and you will be assessed a $50 late registration fee. If you request a plan that does not meet the minimum requirement for your residential group, you will be assigned to the required minimum plan. Information concerning all meal plans can be viewed at the University Dining Services website at dining.rochester.edu

The Office for Residential Life is located at 100 Gibbs St., Rochester, New York 14605. If you have any questions, please email us at reslife@esm.rochester.edu.

Best wishes,

Robert E. Bones, EdD
Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

Contact Us

Office for Residential Life
Eastman School of Music
100 Gibbs Street
Rochester, NY 14605

(585) 274-1106
(585) 274-1175 fax

reslife@esm.rochester.edu
www.esm.rochester.edu/reslife

Residential Life
Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed University Holidays

University Dining Services
University of Rochester
Douglass Commons
720 Library Road
Box 270315
Rochester, NY 14627

(585) 275-8756
(585) 273-1030 fax

mealplans@services.rochester.edu
https://dining.rochester.edu/

Dining Services
Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed University Holidays

Introduction to Residential Life

RESIDENTIAL LIFE CONTRACT CONDITIONS
This contract is a legally binding agreement for housing at the Eastman School of Music. Once it is submitted, you will be contractually obligated for Eastman School of Music housing for the fall and spring semesters of the 2026-27 academic year subject to the conditions below. By signing the Residential Life/Dining Services Application-Contract, you agree that:

1a. **New First-Year Student (Class of 2029) Applications**. Qualified new first-year students are entitled to and obligated for University housing for the fall and spring semesters of the 2026–27, 2027–28, and 2028–29 academic years subject to the conditions below and are bound by the 2026–27 Residential Life and Dining Services Application-Contracts. Submitting this application after the New-Student Deadline may result in delayed assignment, lower preferences, and/or assignments to tripled-room housing. Students desiring to live at home with family must petition for release from this requirement prior to submitting a housing application. The deadline for this appeal is June 1, 2026. The decision whether to grant a release is at the Eastman School of Music's discretion and shall be final. Priority deadline is June 15, 2026.

1b. **Returning, Transfer, and General Student Applications.** Students submitting this application by the published deadline are qualified for a regular space in the Eastman School of Music housing if adequate space is available. If space remains after all on-time applicants have been offered assignments, late applicants will be offered assignments based on the order in which their application were received. However, once you accept, you become contractually obligated for Eastman School of Music housing for the fall and spring semesters of the academic year.

Class of 2028 and 2029 applications. All Class of 2028 (juniors) and Class of 2029 (sophomores) are entitled and obligated to live in Eastman housing for the Fall and Spring semesters of the 2026-2027 academic year subject to the conditions below. Students who submit the application on-time will be allowed to participate in the annual room selection process. Students desiring to live at home with parent(s) or legal guardian must petition for release from this requirement prior to submitting a housing application.

Late or missing Class of 2028, 2029, and 2030 Applications. Students who submit late applications or do not submit any materials will be automatically assigned housing following the annual room selection process in remaining available space. Charges for 2026–2027 will be posted to the student term bill.

2. We reserve the right to hold assignments until you have been cleared by the Bursar's Office for financial holds.

3. You are applying for an assignment within the residence hall and not for any specific space. Assignments will be made according to the procedures established by the assistant dean of Student Affairs and or designee.

4. If you arrive at school late or leave early or are required to leave for disciplinary reasons, the full-year contract is still binding on you, except as explicitly otherwise provided in this document.

5. By signing and submitting this application you accept responsibility to pay all resultant charges for residential life services, even if you do not make use of some or all of these services noted. The Eastman School of Music agrees to faithfully provide those services unless events beyond its control prevent it doing so.

Gender-Inclusive Housing and All Gender Private Bathrooms
Gender-inclusive housing seeks to provide an environment that is welcoming to all gender identities and is not limited to the traditional gender binary (male and female). We recognize that same-sex room assignments are not ideal or appropriate for all students. We provide opportunities for students in singles as well as double and triple room housing on coed floors. This housing option allows students to select roommates regardless of their sex, gender, or gender expression. Unless specific mutual requests are made by the roommates, Residential Life will assign students based on the standard system used: gender binary (male/female). Residential Life will work with students individually to facilitate this housing option. Bathrooms on 4A, 2B, 4B, 2F, and 3F were recently renovated to allow for All-Gender Private Bathroom use. We encourage students who wish to use these spaces to self-select during our housing selection process or email us if they are incoming students who are interested. Contact reslife@esm.rochester.edu to begin the conversation. Please indicate on your housing contract that you are seeking gender inclusive housing. Remember that when you return as a sophomore and junior, you will likely be able to select a single room as part of the room selection process.

Eligibility—Undergraduate Students
Eligibility is limited to full-time University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music undergraduates. Students living in housing must be at least 16 years old at the time the student takes occupancy of the room. Students who have part-time status for medical reasons or who, upon the approval of the appropriate dean, change to part-time status for spring of the senior year may be allowed, with the approval of the assistant dean of Student Affairs or designate, to retain eligibility for housing. Nonstudents are not permitted to live in housing.

This contract is a legally binding agreement for housing at the University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music. Once the housing and the dining contract are submitted, you are contractually obligated for University housing for the fall and spring semesters of the 2026-2027 academic year subject to the conditions below.

CONTRACT PERIOD

First Year Move-In Day You are expected to move into your Fall 2026 housing assignment on **Tuesday, August 25, 2026** between 9:00am – 12:00pm. Move-in specific information, including instructions for move-in time slots will be communicated to you over the summer after July 30th. Your participation in New Student Orientation/Welcome Week is required.

Upperclass Move-In Day All sophomores, juniors, seniors, and returning students are expected to move into their Fall 2026 housing assignment between **Friday, August 28, 2026 after 12:00pm and the first day of classes, August 31, 2026 at 8:00am**. Move-in specific information, including instructions will be communicated to you over the summer.

Academic Term Occupancy You may occupy your assigned room in the residence hall while fall and spring academic terms are in session commencing with the dates published by the Office for Residential Life for Upperclass-student move-in for fall term 2026. Your right to room occupancy ends 48 hours after your last spring term final examination. Extensions must be approved by the Office for Residential Life. Graduating seniors may remain until **12:00 p.m. EST Sunday, May 16, 2027.**

Semester Break Closing and Spring Opening The Student Living Center is closed, and you will not be permitted to enter or occupy your room, during the winter vacation period**, 12:00pm Wednesday, December 23, 2026, until 9:00am Friday, January 15, 2027.**

Break Housing Additional Charges Semester break housing **may** be available for students in the Student Living Center. If it is decided, approximately one month prior to the hall closing, a room rate will be posted for this period. There is a cost associated with this break housing and it is not a part of this contract. Break housing is limited to students who have an academic or unavoidable reason to stay on campus. Students may not sublet their room during the break period. We typically close the Student Living Center during winter break.

Eastman School of Music Room Use The Eastman School of Music reserves the right to use student rooms for temporary housing of others during vacation periods and at other times for emergency purposes.

Early Arrival and Late Departure Charge This contract is for specific dates. If you occupy before these dates without approval or fail to vacate your room by the times specified in this contract, you will be assessed a minimum charge of **$100.00 per day**, and you may be subject to packing charges and disciplinary action.

CONTRACT CONDITIONS

Room Use Your residence hall space is to be used only as your own living quarters and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Eastman School of Music, which are subject to change from time to time, without notice. Those rules and regulations are contained in this contract booklet; in Standards of Student Conduct; in the UR Wireless Acceptable Use Policy (ResNet); in the Student Living Center Area Handbook; and in other notices from the Office for Residential Life and the Eastman School of Music.

Failure to Occupy If you do not check in and occupy your assigned room by 5 p.m. Sunday, September 6, 2026, ResLife reserves the right to cancel your specific room assignment. You may apply for a waiver of this rule in writing at least five (5) days in advance of the first day of classes, giving the reasons for your late arrival. Any waiver must be approved by the assistant dean of Student Affairs or designate. Failure to occupy does not void this contract. You will be assigned to an available space when you present yourself at the Office for Residential Life to request a new assignment.

Designated Room Assignment You are assigned to a specific room in the housing system. Any change in room assignment must have prior approval by the Office for Residential Life. If you change rooms without prior approval or you fail to move after accepting a room change, you may be assessed a **$50 improper room change charge**, the room change may be revoked, and you may be subject to disciplinary action.

Laundry Room Use Included in the student housing fee is prepaid use of laundry machines in the Student Living Center. Laundry room use is restricted to residential students only. Use of the laundry facilities by nonresidents may lead to an improper use **charge of $100** and disciplinary action.

Vacancies If a vacancy occurs in a room, you must accept a new occupant as assigned by the Office for Residential Life to fill the existing vacancy. When there is a vacancy in a room, students should refrain from spreading out in the room. Students should only occupy their portion of the room. Behavior that discriminates against an interested student or assigned occupant will be considered sufficient grounds for discipline, including reassignment, **a charge of $75**, and/or removal from housing, without refund, as determined by the assistant dean of Student Affairs or designate.

Unauthorized Occupancy The occupancy of any room is limited to the student(s) assigned to that room. Rooms may not be subleased nor lent. All students involved in such situations are subject to financial penalty and disciplinary action. The occupancy of the room is designated by Residential Life.

Overnight Guests All overnight guest stays are contingent on the approval of all occupants of the living spaces. An overnight guest (any person staying in a room overnight who is not a designated occupant of that room) may stay in a room up to four (4) nights per month. Please review the Student Living Center Area Handbook for more specific information.

Responsibility for Guests You are responsible for your guest's (overnight or not) conduct in your living area or building (whether you are present or not), and you may be held accountable for any misconduct, loss, or damage caused by your guest.

Business Use of Student Rooms Commercial use of your room or solicitation anywhere on the premises is strictly forbidden. This includes commercial use of ResNet connections. Specific exceptions for approved student concessions in the residence hall, at student performances, and for students participating in entrepreneurial programs (ex. e5) must be reviewed and authorized in writing by the Office of Student Affairs or Office for Residential Life.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

Payment Room and Dining Plan charges for the period of this contract are posted to the term bill and are payable to the Bursar's Office subject to conditions applying to the term bill.

Room Rates On-campus Room Rates are established and announced for the academic year by the University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music.

Financial Aid If you are considering living off campus, it is important to talk with the Financial Aid Office; a student's financial aid is subject to adjustment based on whether a student is living on or off campus.

Contract Releases

Changes of Student Status from the Eastman School of Music If you voluntarily withdraw from the Eastman School of Music, take a leave of absence, or go on inactive status, you will be liable for payment up to the date of formal contract termination (approval of contract release; completed room check-out; and surrender of your room key and University ID card to the Office for Residential Life). Charges will be prorated from the beginning of the contract period to the date of formal contract termination. If you return to active status at any time during the term of the contract, this contract is automatically reinstated.

Students Continuing at the Eastman School of Music Once this contract is binding, as noted above, you will not be released from this contract for the contract period so long as you are a continuing student at the Eastman School of Music, except if:

• The Student Living Center is oversubscribed and the Office for Residential Life has authorized your release from this contract to reduce occupancy; this is done through a seniority-centered reduction in occupancy. Sophomores will not be released unless all seniors and juniors have been communicated; All students must participate in the housing selection process in order to be eligible for a release from their contract.

• You are married during the contract period (documentation required) and are living with your spouse; You must provide a marriage certificate within 30 days of your request to the assistant dean of Student Affairs or designee.

• You have medical reasons for release,* the Disability Services Office will make a recommendation based on documentation provided to the assistant dean of Student Affairs;

• You have financial reasons for release,* and the director of Financial Aid has recommended release to the assistant dean of Student Affairs;

• You are participating in an Education Abroad program or internship program or are approved for program housing by the appropriate Dean's Office;

• You have met your residency requirement (first-year, sophomore, and junior) and provide an eligible substitute student who agrees to and officially (at the Office for Residential Life) assumes your contractual obligation. Each substitute is subject to acceptance by the assistant dean of Student Affairs or their official designee. Any student who has already applied for housing or is under contract for the Student Living Center cannot be an approved substitute. The replacement student is placed on the assignment schedule according to their assignment status and is not guaranteed your specific room.

• Undergraduate students who are 23 or older may request to be released from their 3-year residency requirement. Students who will turn 23 during a semester may also qualify for a release from their residency requirement. This is evaluated on a semester-by-semester basis (e.g. a student who will turn 23 in February will still be required to live on campus that fall, but may request to be released from housing for the following spring semester).

Reassignments and Removal from Housing

Residential Life Reassignment, Removal, or Suspension Residential Life reserves the right to reassign, remove, or suspend (pending review) from the Student Living Center any student whose conduct exhibits disregard for the residential community, who violates the terms and conditions of residence hall occupancy, or who violates other Eastman School of Music rules and regulations. Such determinations will be made by the assistant dean of Student Affairs or designee. If a student is removed or suspended, they will be responsible for the remainder of their room rent fees.

University Disciplinary or Administrative Removal The University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music may terminate this agreement and take possession of the room at any time upon (A) violation of the provisions of this contract; or (B) the direction of a duly authorized judicial body, dean, or other officer of the University; or (C) suspension or expulsion from the University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music. If you are required to leave the University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music housing for disciplinary reasons, the full-year contract fees are still binding.

Administrative Reassignment The Office for Residential Life reserves the right to reassign students living in the Student Living Center to address administrative needs, including gender space balances, renovations, maintenance conditions, consolidations of spaces, medical, or disabled student needs, etc.

Period to Relocate or Vacate Housing Any student who is notified that they are reassigned or removed from the residence hall's space must vacate within 48 hours after receipt of such notice, unless instructed otherwise by the Office for Residential Life or its designee. Any of the student's possessions remaining on the premises after that time shall be deemed abandoned, a $100 late vacate fee will be assessed, and any cost incurred in removing possessions will be charged to the student.

ROOM FURNISHINGS AND CONDITIONS

Room Furnishings Office for Residential Life provides window coverings, a wired and wireless internet connection, and basic furniture in each room. You accept responsibility for loss or damage to furnishings, whether from carelessness, vandalism, or accident. You must keep the Residential Life–provided furniture in the room; students may not bring their own furniture without permission. Students must use the Residential Life–provided mattress unless there is a medical condition that warrants use of a special mattress. This requires prior approval from the Disabilities Services Office, and the mattress must meet current fire safety code as defined by the University Fire Marshal.

Room Condition You are responsible for leaving your space in the same condition in which it was found upon moving in (as stated on your Room Condition Form completed at check-in). Charges will be assessed for repainting and refinishing; repair or replacement of damaged or missing furnishings and equipment; special cleaning necessary due to misuse of facilities; removal of any extra furniture, abandoned property, or large quantities of trash; or other unusual conditions requiring correction. You are responsible for notifying the Office for Residential Life immediately upon discovering any deteriorated or altered room condition. Appeals of charges must be submitted within 30 days of the posted charges or by **July 1st 2026**, whichever date arrives first.

Cleanliness You are responsible for the cleanliness of your living area. If your area must be cleaned for health or safety reasons by the University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music, you will be charged.

Room Modification You are not permitted to modify your room. This includes walls (no painting), doors, electrical connections, lighting and wiring, furnishings, cable, internet connections and equipment, or any other part of the building. Nor may you authorize anyone to do any of these things.

Furniture Removal You are not permitted to move furniture from public areas into your living space, nor may you remove room furniture from your living space. Disciplinary charges and a service fee for return of furniture will be assessed.

Public Area Damages Charges will be assessed for damages/vandalism to public areas within the Student Living Center. If those responsible cannot be identified, all students whom the Office for Residential Life determines had access to or used the affected public area (corridors, floor lounges, elevators, kitchens, etc.) will share the charges.

Keys You are responsible for all assigned keys. If lost, there will be a charge to replace the key(s) and change the lock(s). You must surrender your keys to the Office for Residential Life when you vacate your living space; if you don't, you will be charged for a lock change. Unauthorized possession, sharing of keys, duplication, or use of Student Living Center keys is subject to disciplinary action.

BEHAVIORAL RULES AND STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT ACTIONS

Prohibited Possessions The following are not permitted in any Eastman School of Music residential building: firearms, facsimiles of firearms (i.e., air guns, paint guns), knives and other weapons of any kind (including martial arts weapons); ammunition; explosives; fireworks; candles, incense, or open flames; gasoline or other flammable liquids; chemicals or hazardous materials; 3D Printers; motorcycles, hoverboards, e-bikes, and/or other fuel-powered vehicles; cooking equipment and appliances (except those specifically permitted under the fire safety policy); full-size refrigerators (acceptable sizes: between 1.7-3.5 cubic feet or 900 watts); space heaters; upward-facing lamps of any type; non-switched or lightweight extension cords; appliances that are not UL listed or have an open coil; window curtains and ceiling coverings; window or portable air conditioners; controlled substances and related drug paraphernalia; alcoholic beverages except in accordance with state, local, and University regulations; any other materials or items representing a danger to the campus community. Obtain information on approved items from the University Fire Marshal and the Office for Residential Life.

Pet Policy The only pets allowed in University housing are fish in a small aquarium (no larger than a five-gallon tank). You are responsible for providing appropriate cleanliness and care for the fish during academic, as well as, break periods.

Special Housing Needs Students who may need housing accommodation due to a disability must submit a request for accommodation with supporting documentation to **Disability Services no later than June 1.** Further information and the request form are available at rochester.edu/disability/guidelines-for-accommodation-requests-housing-dining.html . Please indicate on your housing contract that you are seeking a special housing accommodation. As a sophomore and junior, you will be able to select a single room as part of the room selection process. Additionally, if you are looking for a substance free housing experience, please email us to begin the conversation.

Prohibited Behavior Any of the following constitute a violation of terms of this contract: vandalism; any form of threat to other persons or property; excessive noise or disruptive behavior; smoking (this includes but is not limited to the use of hookahs, and vapes); burning incense or other smoldering materials; misuse of the residential or academic ResNet; tampering with facilities or equipment; being on roofs and ledges; removal of window screens; throwing objects from buildings; leaving or storing bicycles or any other item in stairways, stairwells, hallways, entryways, or other public areas; interfering with the Department of Public Safety, other safety staff, or Residential Life staff performing their duties; and any other behavior that constitutes a perceived or actual danger or threat to property or persons. Additional rules and regulations are contained in the Standards of Student Conduct; in this contract; the Office for Residential Life website; UR Wireless Acceptable Use Policy (ResNet); Student Living Center Area Handbook; and other notices from the Office for Residential Life or University Fire Marshal's Office.

Fire Safety Regulations Failure to comply with fire safety rules and regulations may result in disciplinary action such as, but not limited to, removal from Eastman School of Music housing (along with applicable criminal or civil charges), as may any of the following: setting a fire; damaging or disabling fire safety or fire alarm equipment, including discharging a fire extinguisher; intentionally activating a heat or smoke detector; triggering a false fire alarm; failure to evacuate or reentering buildings during a fire alarm or fire drill; interfering with safety officers performing their duties;

failure to address repeat fire safety violations or other safety violations. Students may be assessed charges for repairs related to damages or fined for repeated fire safety violations.

Room Entry It is the University of Rochester – Eastman School of Music's intention to assure all reasonable privacy in student rooms. When appropriate, reasonable advance notification will be provided before entering a student room. However, the Office for Residential Life reserves the right to enter your room without notice and/or without your consent for verification of occupancy and other Residential Life administrative functions; for performance of protective, housekeeping, or maintenance functions; for health and safety inspections; to protect life, limb, or property; and to assure compliance with these contract conditions as well as state and federal regulations.

INSURANCE

Health Coverage All students are required to pay the mandatory University Health Fee for basic medical care through the University Health Service. Visit rochester.edu/uhs for more information.

Loss or Damage of Personal Property The University of Rochester - Eastman School of Music cannot and does not assume responsibility for personal accident, injury, or illness to residents, guests or visitors, or for damage, theft, or loss of personal property, and you hereby release the University, its trustees, officers, agents, faculty and employees from any liability on account of any accident, injury, illness, property damage, theft, or loss not caused by the University's gross negligence or intentional act or omission. The University will not reimburse you or parents/guardians for damaged, lost, or stolen personal and private property.

You are encouraged to protect yourself from loss by purchasing appropriate insurance, as you are not covered under the University's property and fire insurance policy. In that regard, you should review any homeowner's policy that you or your family might have to determine whether the contents of your University room are already covered or could be covered with a policy rider or should purchase renter's insurance. When you consider this insurance protection, you should keep in mind the replacement cost of such items as computer, jewelry, musical instruments, electronics, books, calculators, clothes and shoes, and sports equipment.

DINING CONTRACT

The University offers a variety of meal plans and other electronic spending options. The details of the dining and electronic spending options, costs, requirements, and policies are described in the insert Dining Services 2026-2027 Meal Plan Options & Pricing, which is an extension of this agreement, and at the University Dining Services website, dining.rochester.edu.

Our Mission: To Be the Best
The University of Rochester offers a first-class dining program with locations varying in style, menu, atmosphere, and hours of operation to meet the needs of a diverse student, staff, and faculty population. With 14 unique locations, we cater to a wide variety of dietary needs and choices—including Kosher, Halal, gluten-free, vegan, and vegetarian meals. We rely heavily on student input and feedback to keep our menus current and our patrons satisfied. Through high-quality food and customer service, we are proud to deliver a unique combination of diversity and value for your dining dollar. See Dining Services' website: dining.rochester.edu.

Rocky Bucks Account (optional spending account)
The Rocky Bucks Account is a prepaid debit card plan that is used to pay for a wide variety of items and services throughout the campus. Rocky Buck is accepted in on-campus dining locations, but they are intended for use in campus areas that are not dining related. Rocky Bucks is used for purchases in the Hillside Market, bookstores, the Common Market, Computer Sales and Services, as well as vending machines, copiers and printing services. You make a deposit in your account by indicating a per-semester deposit at the time you sign up for your dining plan. You may also make deposits to your Rocky

Dining Plan Changes
Dining plan changes are permitted during the academic year only during designated change periods. The dates of these change periods may be found on the University Dining Services website, dining.rochester.edu. A $50 fee is charged for any lateral meal plan change or decrease that is requested during any modification period except the open change periods. Parents or legal guardians cannot make dining plan changes for the participant. Changes are submitted via the Dining Plan Change Request form. Phone, email, or oral requests are not accepted. Change request forms must be emailed as a word or pdf attachment to mealplans@services.rochester.edu.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS
University of Rochester Residential Life and Dining Contracts for Undergraduate Students 2026-2027
1.The period of the contract corresponds to the official opening and closing of the residence halls each semester. The participant will have access to his or her meal plan during that time. Spendable Dollars balance accounts will remain active between the fall and spring semesters.
2.Fall semester contracts automatically renew for the spring semester unless changed during a Dining Plan Change Period.
3.A participant whose contract is valid for the fall and spring semesters is billed through the University's Bursar Office prior to each semester.
4. It is the responsibility of the participant to specify to the cashier, prior to each meal purchase, which account to access for the transaction.
5.The participant is the only person who has the authority to request or receive account audits or balance information.
6. Purchases made with declining balance funds are not subject to local sales tax; therefore, transfers cannot be made from a Spendable Dollars Balance account to a Rocky Bucks Account.
7.To help participants monitor their meal plans, budget sheets are provided online (dining.rochester.edu).

8.Additional Spendable Dollars and Rocky Bucks dollars can be added to an existing account at any time during the term of the contract online (http://learn.rochester.edu) using Visa, MasterCard, or Discover Card. Funds can be billed to the participant's Bursar account for the fall and/or spring semester during the Dining Plan Change Periods.
9.Withdrawals/transfers are not permitted from either the Spendable Dollars Balance accounts or Rocky Bucks accounts.
10.Unused fall semester spendable dollars balance carry forward to the spring semester. Remaining spendable dollars balance at the close of the spring semester are not carried forward nor are they refundable.
11.Auxiliary Operations/Dining Services reserves the right to make necessary dining or policy changes at any time.

REFUND POLICY

Dining Plans

Refunds of unused declining balance will be issued for any participant who withdraws from the University or whose status changes to inactive during a semester, as certified by College Center for Advising Services, the Registrar's Office, or the appropriate dean. Refunds of declining and meal plan costs are credited through the University's Bursar statement and are subject to proration based upon the official date of the student's change in status. Remaining spendable dollars balance at the close of the spring semester are not carried forward nor are they refundable.

Rocky Bucks Accounts

Rocky Bucks account balances will carry over from year to year until graduation. Upon graduation, any unused balance of $25 or more is refunded via the University's Bursar statement. Should you withdraw from the University during or at the close of a semester, any unused balance of $25 or more is refunded via the University's Bursar statement.

Dining Plan Exceptions

Participants requesting an exception to dining plan requirements must request and submit a Dining Plan Appeal Form to mealplans@services.rochester.edu using either word or pdf formatting. The request will be forwarded to the University Dining Advisory Committee. We ask that students requesting - exceptions for religious reasons provide supporting documentation from their religious affiliate. Information concerning all meal plans can be viewed at the University Dining Services website at dining.rochester.edu.

Exceptions for special dietary needs or medical reasons must be submitted by letter from the participant's medical doctor on the physician's letterhead. This request should be mailed to: Director, University Health Service, University of Rochester, Box 270617,Rochester, New York 14627-0617.

Campus Dining commits to offering inclusive and safe dining for all students. Before any exceptions are considered by the Committee, a personal consultation with the Campus Dining Dietician and participant must be scheduled. This can be scheduled by emailing rcnutrition@services.rochester.edu. The goal is always to modify offerings and help navigate options prior to granting an exception.

After the documentation and personal consultation have been completed the request is reviewed, and recommendations will be made to the University Dining Advisory Committee. Decisions of the University Dining Advisory Committee are final. Only one exemption per participant will be considered in an academic year.

Additional dining resources for students of both campuses can be found on the University Dining Services website at dining.rochester.edu or by emailing mealplans@services.rochester.edu, eastmandining@ur.rochester.edu, or by calling (585) 275-8756 or (800) 661-1118.

*****All undergraduate students are required to be on a dining plan.***