



SACRAMENTO STATE

TWO-YEAR RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENT

TIMELINE

Beginning Fall 2026, Sacramento State will implement a Two-Year Residential Requirement for incoming first-year students (non-transfer). This policy supports student success, community engagement, and academic achievement, by providing students with a living environment designed for connection growth, and support during their first two academic years.

WHAT'S CHANGING?

FALL 2026

All incoming first-year students (non-transfer) are required to live in university housing for their first two (2) academic years.

**First-Year Residence Halls: Desmond, Jenkins, Draper, Sierra, Klamath, Riverview, & Mt. Whitney*

**Upper Division/Transfers Residence Halls: American River Courtyard & Hornet Commons*

FALL 2027

The two-year requirement continues for new incoming first-year students.

By living on campus for two years, students gain more than a place to live; they gain a connected community that supports their academic and personal growth. This requirement aligns with system-wide graduation initiatives and ensures that every Hornet has equitable access to the resources, networks, and experiences that promote success.

BENEFITS

Research consistently shows that students who live on campus for two consecutive years experience higher academic achievement, greater sense of belonging, and stronger personal development outcomes.

1. Convenient access to campus academic resources & student support services.
2. A safe & supportive community with 24/7 staff & structured programs.
3. Higher GPAs & stronger academic outcomes.
4. More likely to return for their second year & graduate on time.
5. Develop a greater sense of belonging & participation in student life.

NORTH VILLAGE UPDATES

New Residence Halls & Occupancy Changes

- **Mt. Whitney Hall - Opening Fall 2026**

Brand-new residence hall providing 335 new beds for first-year students within a modern and supportive community.

- **Riverview Hall**

Housing only first-year students with an additional 160 single beds converted from upper-division housing to foster a building-wide shared experience that enhances peer connection and support

- **Upper-division Student Housing Communities:**

American River Courtyard will remain home for upper-division students within North Village. Also located on the south end of campus, Hornet Commons will continue providing apartment-style housing for upper-division students at Sacramento State.

Residential Curriculum

- Promote student growth through intentional programming tailored to the first-year and second-year experience.
- Emphasis is placed on belonging, wellness, academic success, and life skills.
- Collaborations with campus partners to integrate further academic and wellness initiatives into the residential experience.

Enhanced Student Engagement & Social Integration

- Increased Student-Led Programming: More social, inclusive, and late-night/weekend programs.
- Traditions: "Hornet First Night" and other large-scale campus program opportunities.

EXEMPTIONS

Sacramento State understands that some students may have unique circumstances. Students may apply for an exemption under specific conditions from the live-on requirement for reasons including, but not limited to:

- **Local Residency**

Living with immediate family within:

- **50 miles or less from campus** - Applies to Academic Year 2026-2027
- **30 miles or less from campus** - Applies to Academic Year 2027-2028

- **Age**

- Student is 21 years of age or older by the first day of classes for the applicable term

- **Independent Student Status**

- Student is considered independent on the FAFSA

- **Military or Veteran Status**

- Student is an active-duty service member or U.S. Veteran

- **Financial Hardship Consideration**

- Demonstrated and verified financial hardship

- **Live-In Employment**

- Student is required to live at their job site as a care provider

- **Study Abroad or Away/Academic Internship**

- Internship or study program requiring a student to reside outside of Sacramento County

- **Medical or Disability Considerations**

- Student has a documented condition that cannot be accommodated in campus housing

- **Other Special Circumstances**

- Reviewed individually

**Exemption requests must include supporting documentation and will be reviewed individually.*