

Frequently Asked Questions about the Dorms:

Can I have guests stay with me?

No – you may not have guests that are not in the SMSU Upward Bound Program come into the dorms, with the exception of your parents/guardians or those helping you move during move- in or move-out times.

What is an RA?

Resident Assistants are student leaders who are ready, willing and able to be resources. They will be staying in dorm rooms next to yours and can be contacted very easily.

What happens if I lose my keys?

You may receive a temporary key at the Department of Residence Life Administrative Office in the Naoutha Hall. The key will be issued to you for five class days. If you lose both your room and front door key, you will be required to place a twenty-five dollar deposit down for the front door key. If you find your keys within the five days, this money is refundable to you. However, at the end of the five day period if you have still not found your keys, a core change will be done on your room. When the core change is completed a note is placed on your door. Core changes are almost always done in the morning to allow you enough time to pick up your new key(s) at the Housing Office. The total charge for both keys is forty dollars. This is the same as for any student during the school year.

What should I do if I lose something other than my keys?

You should contact the Student Center Information Desk located in the upper level of the Student Center. This is where the University's Lost and Found is located. You may also want to check with your RA's and with Public Safety.

Where can I do laundry and what does it cost?

Laundry facilities are available in three separate areas on campus. Commons East, Central, and West have laundry facilities. The cost is one dollar to wash and seventy five cents to dry. You will need to bring laundry detergent, fabric softener, and dryer sheets. Our machines only accept quarters. You may get change in Commons East or West when the Commons Offices are open. We also have a change machine in Commons Central.

What does my room look like and what is included in them?

A floor plan example is available for your review under room types on our website, www.smsu.edu under residential life. Room assignments will be handed out at orientation. If you have someone you would like to room with and you know they are signed up, just let Amy know and we'll do our best to put you together.

What should I bring for my room?

You should bring a few of those special things that will make your room feel like home but do not bring too much stuff. Personalizing your room is strongly encouraged and we suggest that you bring some favorite things. Pictures and posters may be hung on the walls of your room using poster putty or other adhesive material that will not damage your walls. Other things you can bring include:

- _____ Alarm clock
- _____ Blankets/Sheets/Pillow (SMSU and Upward Bound do NOT provide bedding)
- _____ Towels and face cloths
- _____ cell phone (limited use)
- _____ Bathroom caddy with your personal toiletries

- _____ Insect repellent and sun screen
- _____ Laundry money if you think you need it (\$1.75 per load)
- _____ Swim suit
- _____ Radio/CD Player/Ipod, etc.
- _____ Power strip
- _____ FAN (there is air conditioning in Sweetland Hall)
- _____ Hair Dryer/Curling Iron
- _____ Shower sandals
- _____ Tennis shoes

What size linens should I bring?

You will need to bring sheets, pillows, pillowcases, and blankets to accommodate an **extra long twin mattress**. Regular twin sheets will work, but they will be snug.

What are the bathrooms like?

You will share the bathrooms with one other room adjacent to the bathroom so there may be up to 4 people sharing the bathroom with you.

Are there problems being able to shower when I need to?

No, usually floor mates are able to determine when the best time to shower is according to their schedules.

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

Please feel free to call the Department of Residence Life Administration Office at 507-537-6136 or 1-800-642-0684 extension 6136.

Are the Residence Halls air-conditioned?

Yes, Sweetland Hall is air-conditioned.

Are there areas where I can study in my residence hall?

Yes, all of the residence halls have lounges and study areas. Ask your RA for location information.

Can I bring my dog, Fido, to live with me?

No.

Is there someone in my dorm that I can go to if I have questions?

Yes, the Resident Advisor and staff are available for any questions you may have. Those people include RAs, Assistant Director of Student Life, and the Housing Office.

How many outlets are in each room?

A minimum of two sides of your room will offer 4 outlets.

Will I need to bring a power strip?

Yes. In fact, they are widely used and highly recommended.

What am I not allowed to bring to furnish my room?

Residents may not have halogen lamps and hotplates. If there is an appliance that is questionable, feel free to contact our Housing Office.

Can I get insurance for the personal property in my room through SMSU?

No, but it is recommended that you check with your current insurance provider and ask about renters or homeowners insurance through them.