



## East Central University Freshman Residence Requirement

East Central University is committed to student success. Integral to student success and a student-centered experience is involvement in student life. One of the best ways to become involved in student life is for students to reside in the residence halls. Research has shown that students who live on campus persist and graduate at higher rates, are more satisfied with their personal college experience, and show more development than students who do not live on campus. In light of the benefits of on-campus living, all freshmen students under the age of 21 shall live on campus for their first academic year. Summer sessions are excluded. This policy will be in effect beginning Fall 2007. Exemptions to this policy include:

- If the student resides with their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) within a 35-mile radius of Ada, Oklahoma.
- If the student is 21 years of age or older on or before the first day of classes of their first semester of ECU.
- If the student is married.
- If the student has dependents who live with them.
- If the student has 24+ hours earned post high school.
- If the student transfers from another college or university with 24+ hours earned post high school.
- If the student enrolls in less than 12 credit hours per semester.
- Other extreme circumstances to be reviewed by the Office of Housing and Residence Life and/or Office of Student Development.

Students who fall within one of the above exemptions must complete a Freshman Residence Requirement Exemption Request form and provide all supporting documentation to the Office of Housing and Residence Life. Students filing a request based on living with a parent or legal guardian must reside with that parent or legal guardian on a daily basis, at their primary residence, within a 35-mile radius of Ada, Oklahoma for the entire academic year. The parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must have established their *primary* residency at least six months prior to the request for an exemption. If the student moves out of that residence, he/she and the parent/legal guardian must notify the Department of Housing and Residence Life and move into the residence halls within 5 business days.

It should be noted that students who are found in violation of the residency requirement by submitting false documentation, changing their residential status, and failing to report that to the Office of Housing and Residence Life within 5 business days or by any other means will be subject to a fee assessment of \$500.00 and must move into the residence halls within 48 hours. This policy may be modified by the President.