



STUDENT HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

Office of the Director

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RESIDENCE OVERVIEW

- UCT accommodates 6 800 students in its residence system.
- The residence system is organised in a tiered structure:
 - first tier: undergraduates (first and second year), catering
 - second tier: senior undergraduates, catering and self-catering
 - third tier: postgraduates, all self-catering
 - limited family accommodation.

Housing eligibility criteria for first time entering undergraduates

Housing offers to new undergraduate applicants will be made according to the following criteria:

- **Financial aid:** All students who are made an academic offer and are awarded financial aid will be made an offer for housing.
- **Minors:** All students who are minors on 1 February in the year of registration and are made an academic offer will be made an offer for housing.
- **Excellence:** All entering undergraduate applicants with an admission points score of 540 or higher will be made an offer of housing.
- **Faculty criteria** will be proposed on the basis of strategic priorities in the faculties and will be approved annually by the Admissions Committee. Faculty criteria include rules-based and discretionary.
- **Medical needs:** Accommodation for students with special medical needs has to be confirmed (ratified) by the Disability Service and the Student Wellness Service.
- **Director's discretion:** These are high level special requests to which the director must apply his/her mind when considering a request for housing.
- [Please refer to the full housing eligibility criteria.](#)

Housing offer

How is a housing offer made?

- An academic offer is made.
- A housing offer is made either by institutional auto offer, or a faculty makes a housing offer.
- An email confirms that a housing offer has been made.
- This is followed by an offer letter from the Student Housing Accommodation and Advocacy Services (SHAAS).
- The letter specifies the residence allocation.
- Note: You may also receive an unspecified offer, which will place you in transit accommodation.

Transit

How long can I expect to stay in transit?

Approximately 5–10% of our new students are placed in temporary, dormitory type accommodation in a residence, for a transitional period of 2–3 weeks. When an applicant is offered transit accommodation, he or she will be notified in writing prior to arriving at the university. For further information, please visit our [visit our temporary residence web page](#).

<p>Off Campus Student Accommodation Services (OCSAS)</p> <p>I've received an email stating that there's no longer any available space in res and I really need the accommodation. What do I do?</p>	<p>If you have applied for residence and have not been successful, your name will be on the waiting list; this is not a guarantee of accommodation though. You should also visit the Off Campus Student Accommodation Service in the Masingene Building on middle campus for more information. Off-campus accommodation comprises properties located in the vicinity of the university.</p> <p>Visit the OCSAS website for more information.</p>
<p>Cape Town based students</p> <p>I heard that students in Cape Town are not allocated res as preference is given to students from outside of Cape Town and in some instances, outside of South Africa. Is this true?</p>	<p>Up to 10% of our students in residence are from Cape Town, primarily through the institutional auto offer and a limited number of faculty offers.</p>
<p>Student Housing contact info</p> <p>I can't get through to Student Housing; the line just rings and rings. Who can I call for assistance?</p>	<p>For any general queries about student housing offers, please contact 021 650 2977 or res@uct.ac.za.</p>
<p>Appeal process</p> <p>What happens if I am not offered a place of accommodation? Can I appeal?</p>	<p>Yes, you can direct all appeals, based on special circumstances, with a full motivation and supporting documents where appropriate, to the Student Housing Accommodation and Advocacy Services (SHAAS) office. The Independent Appeals Committee of Student Housing and Residence Life considers all appeals. This committee meets in January each year.</p>
<p>Residence fee structure</p> <p>What does it cost to stay in res?</p>	<p>Students in residences, houses or flats will be required to pay an annual residence fee as well as a meal plan fee (where applicable) and such amenities and laundry levies as may be defined by the UCT Council. The full amount due will depend on the residence, house or flat to which a student is eventually allocated. A student is liable for the applicable fees when an accommodation offer has been accepted.</p> <p>Read further information on the 2017 fees and payment dates.</p>