

PREPARING YOUR STUDENT FOR TRANSITION

Whether or not this is the first time you have sent a student off to college, we guarantee that things have changed. Your student will soon be packing up to begin a new chapter in their academic and personal lives. No matter the distance between your home and campus, you as the parent, guardian or friend of a new Spartan will continue to play an important role in that growth as a source of support and advice.

There are several things you can do to help your student make the transition to college:

- Consider easing up on curfews or eliminating them altogether; after all, in just a few months when they move into the residence halls they will not have to be in by a certain time. While our residence halls do close at midnight, residents can still come in by showing their MSU ID card to the night receptionist who monitors the front doors from midnight until 7 a.m.
- If your student is stressed about paying for college or needing a source of income during the school year, please encourage them to apply for one of the many jobs available on campus. They can explore jobs within Residence Education and Housing Services online at www.liveon.msu.edu by clicking on the "Employment" link.
- If they are not already, have your student start doing their own laundry. A Laundry 101 lesson now will save a whole lot of grief later! Starting in the fall, laundry will be free and unlimited in the residence halls, so there should be no reason for your student to get behind.
- Set up a checking account or credit card for your student, either through one of your hometown financial institutions, the MSU Federal Credit Union or a Lansing-area bank. Students will have an opportunity to open an account with the MSU Federal Credit Union when they are here for Academic Orientation Program.

QUICK ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The Residence Education and Housing Services website, www.liveon.msu.edu, provides information for both parents and students. You can stay informed about campus happenings, get questions answered by accessing our FAQs, or learn more about the halls by checking out our virtual tours, campus photos, Live On videos and Document Library. There is a link to the **iLiveOn** site where students can access their personal housing account, sign their housing contract, get information about early arrival/late stay requests and request room changes. There are also links to construction project updates with photos of our current renovation projects at rhs.msu.edu/construction.

CAMPUS BUILDINGS GET STANDARD ADDRESSES

Last year, MSU assigned street addresses to all campus buildings. The change affects all buildings on MSU's East Lansing campus, including residence halls, academic halls, administrative buildings and athletic venues. In addition to improving emergency and public safety responses on campus, the project has helped MSU meet requirements for 911 dispatching services and allow campus addresses to eventually be used with mapping and navigation software applications, such as Google Maps and GPS technology.

New building addresses are posted on www.liveon.msu.edu under "Quick Links" and at the project website: www.campusaddresses.msu.edu.



VISIT US ONLINE: www.liveon.msu.edu

Residence Education and Housing Services is a department of the Division of Residential and Hospitality Services at Michigan State University.

Printed *U Views* are sent to parents periodically throughout the year. Additional monthly updates are available through the *U View* e-newsletter. Visit www.liveon.msu.edu/uvview to subscribe.

This free newsletter will give you timely information throughout the academic year.

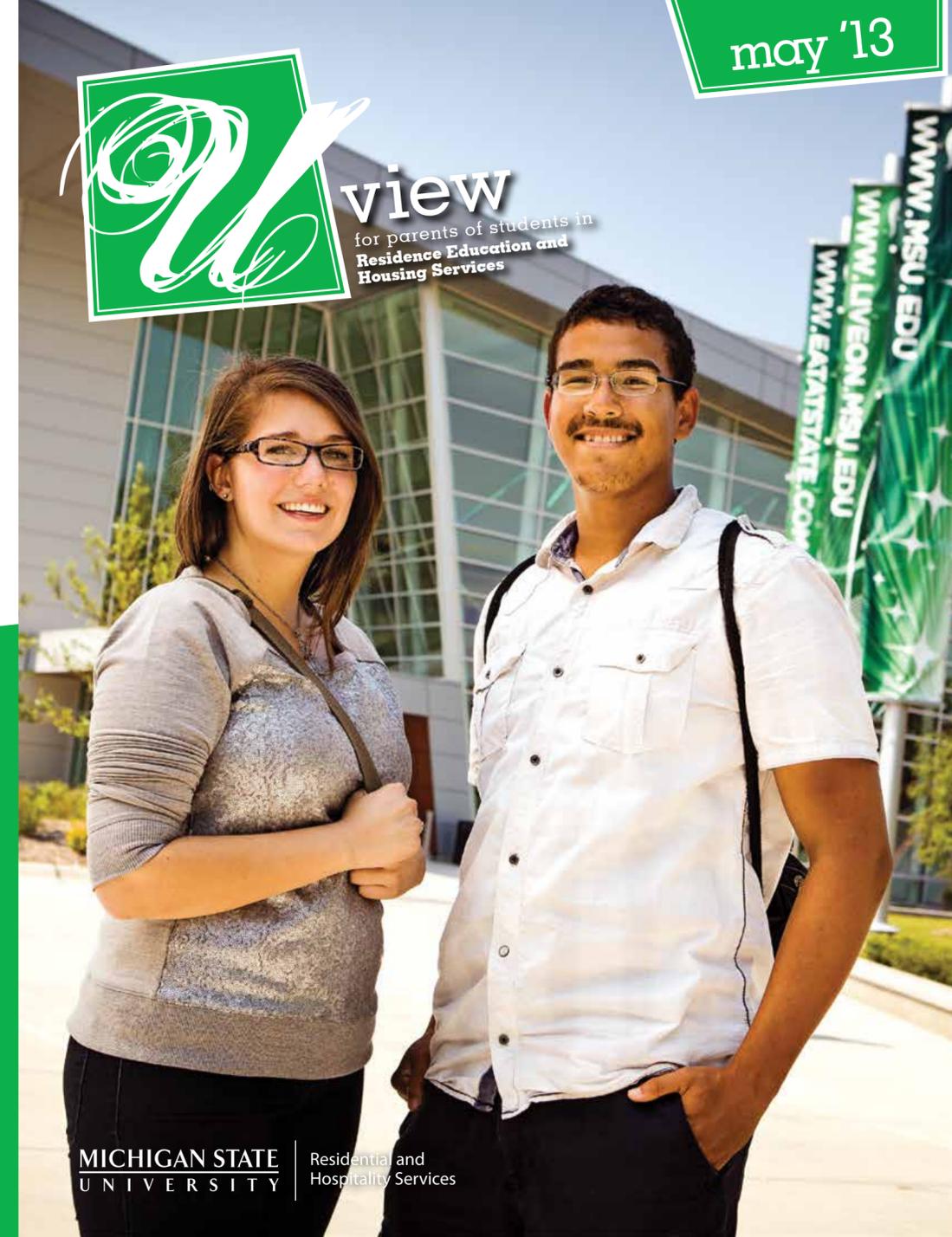


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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Residential and Hospitality Services

WELCOME FROM RESIDENCE EDUCATION AND HOUSING SERVICES

Congratulations on becoming the parent of a Spartan! An education from Michigan State University is truly an investment in your student's future. By living on campus your student can focus on getting their world-class education. The resources students get when they live on campus are not only for freshmen, they are also a major reason why so many students choose to continue to live on campus during their sophomore year, and beyond. Being surrounded by academic resources and live-in staff and services, students who live on campus save time, eat well, get rest, study and have what they need to make the most of their experience at MSU.

U View provides much of the information your family will need as you begin your relationship with MSU's Department of Residence Education and Housing Services. Printed copies of *U View* are periodically sent to parents and are supplemented by a monthly online edition throughout the school year. To subscribe to the free electronic version of *U View*, go to www.liveon.msu.edu/uvview.

Parent Club

At the Parent Orientation Program, you will have an opportunity to register for our Parent Club. We encourage you to sign up for this free program that gives you access to important information and resources related to campus life at MSU.

SpartanConnect

We know your student is eager to ask questions and connect with their fellow MSU students — so we have created SpartanConnect just for them!

SpartanConnect is a website that brings together all the online resources students need, official Facebook pages, information from great student organizations your student can join, news and social media links for all campus, and even resources for you. Be sure to have them log onto spartanconnect.msu.edu today to check out all that MSU has to offer!

Connecting on Social Media

Students can also embrace themselves in campus life at MSU and join the online conversation by following "MSU Live On" on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Encourage your students to use #SpartansLiveOn to join the conversation and share posts, videos and images chronicling their journey as they prepare for their arrival to MSU in the fall.

DID YOU KNOW?

Students who live on campus earn better grades and graduate in less time than those who live off. Of the nearly 15,000 students who lived on campus this past year, 5,000 made the Dean's List!



Brody Engagement Center

HELPING YOUR STUDENT ADJUST

We are glad your student is living with us! While living on campus, your student will have the opportunity to:

Get involved with the residence hall community. You can help by:

- Urging your student to be an active member of their hall community, by attending floor programs, floor meeting and hall events.
- Suggesting that your student meet people by attending hall-based government and caucus meetings.
- Discussing your expectations for your student's academic and social conduct.
- Encouraging your student to lock their door and not leave personal belongings unattended while on campus. We believe students must share responsibility for staying safe on campus.
- Reminding your student to get to know their resident assistant and Office of Cultural and Academic Transitional intercultural aide. These undergraduate staff members receive extensive training in order to help your student successfully transition to college!

Achieve academic success. You can help by:

- Emphasizing the importance of creating study groups with those who live nearby.
- Encouraging your student to explore new ways of thinking about potential career options.
- Asking your student what they are learning. Encourage them to talk about classroom experiences with their friends.
- Helping your student select a housing option that meets their needs (things like quiet floors or living-learning communities).
- Reminding your student to seek out MSU's many academic resources, many of which can be found right in their neighborhood engagement center. Resident assistants and Office of Cultural and Academic Transitional intercultural aides can be very helpful in connecting your student with those resources.

Learn about themselves and others. You can help by:

- Encouraging your student to get to know others on the floor and in the hall, extending their social circle to include individuals with different backgrounds, identities and interests.
- Asking your student what makes each of their new friends unique and interesting.
- Helping your student strategize how to candidly discuss their expectations for living together with their roommates and suitemates.
- Expecting your student to take initiative to solve their own problems.
- Sharing your hope that your student will reflect on decisions made and learn from these important college experiences.

In-hall Staff are Here for Your Student

Residence Education and Housing Services has a multitude of staff available to assist your student as they settle into their campus home and onto a path of academic success. We are here to provide you and your student with information, support, problem-solving and referrals to campus and community resources. Each residence hall has a variety of full-time and student staff in: Guest Services, Facilities and Residence Education. Someone is available to help your student 24/7. Staff can assist them in checking out a loaner key to their room, handle maintenance issues, offer a listening ear when homesickness sets in or give them time management tips.

The most visible team member your student will encounter will likely be their floor resident assistant, an upper-level undergraduate student who receives extensive training on community development, study skills, intercultural communication and conflict resolution. Office of Cultural and Academic Transitional intercultural aides are also live-in team members available to assist your student. Resident assistants are supervised by graduate-level staff and hall directors, most of whom are master's level professionals in fields related to student development. Each residence hall has one of these full-time live-in staff members.

DID YOU KNOW?

80% of freshmen students who room with someone they do not know report that they have a good experience living on campus.



Bailey GREENhouse



The Vista at Shaw

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE COMING WEEKS

In early June, your student will receive a publication called *Go Green*. This information is similar to *U View*, but contains more specific information for students. A copy of the publication will be posted online at www.liveon.msu.edu in the "Document Library" section.

Also in early June, your student will receive an email to their msu.edu email account with instructions on how to view their campus neighborhood housing assignment, sign the housing contract and connect with other students in their neighborhood through social media.

Please note that students under the age of 18 will need a parent or legal guardian to co-sign the housing contract.

In early August, students will receive a second email on how to find out their residence hall room number and roommate information.

Academic Orientation Program

You and your student should have signed up to attend orientation programs via the MSU Admissions website. Academic Orientation Program (AOP) is for students and Parent Orientation Program (POP) is for parents. You and your student will have a chance to tour the neighborhood in which they will live during summer orientation.

Neighborhoods at MSU

Neighborhoods at MSU are more than a cluster of residence halls, they are student communities that provide innovative, integrated support services. Neighborhoods at MSU are designed to foster academic success, civic and social engagement, health and wellness, and intercultural development, while bringing campus resources to students where they live. Neighborhood engagement centers offer tutoring, advising, health services and more. Engagement centers are currently located in Brody, Hubbard, Holden and McDonel halls and the MSU Union.

Enter to Win a Student Bookstore Gift Card

When you attend the summer Parent Orientation Program, be sure to stop at the Residence Education and Housing Services table in the registration area. Those who sign up to subscribe to the online edition of the *U View* will be entered in a drawing to win a \$150 Spartan Bookstore gift card. We greatly appreciate the Spartan Bookstore's donation of this during each of the 25 POP sessions this summer.

Spartan Cash

Spartan Cash is a safe and convenient way for students to use their MSU ID cards to access a wide variety of services and products at more than 100 locations across campus and the local community. Instead of having to scrounge for cash, carry credit cards or write checks, students can pay with Spartan Cash. Some dining plans come with Spartan Cash automatically. Students and their families can pre-load Spartan Cash dollars onto their MSU ID cards. Spartan Cash vendors do not sell alcohol or tobacco products. For a complete list of vendors, go to www.spartancash.com.

Safety and Security Come First

The safety and security of students is something MSU takes very seriously. Green emergency phones are installed around the campus grounds and within the sightline of student room doors in the residence halls. The emergency phone allows anyone with a safety concern to quickly get to a phone with push-button capability, which greatly increases response time in the event of an emergency.

We have completed a project to increase security by installing electronic card access on the exterior doors of all residence halls. This allows only those residents who live in a certain building to gain access by swiping their MSU ID card.

GREAT CAMPUS EVENTS BY THE UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES BOARD (UAB)

UAB hosts more than 300 events annually on campus, and most are free to MSU students. Visit www.uabevents.com for more information. Many of these events are funded through the following fundraising programs:

Residence Hall Linen Program

Our residence halls provide white bed linens and towels, laundered weekly, at no additional charge. Many students wish to further personalize their space, and the Residence Hall Linen Program can help by offering savings on specialty bed linens designed especially for college students. Call 1-800-957-4338, or visit www.rhl.org/mst to place an order now as popular colors go fast.

Residence Hall Carpet Program

The Residence Hall Carpet Program allows students to pre-order a sized, brand new, top-quality, plush carpet and have it waiting on campus at move-in at four convenient locations on campus — all at a special student rate! Call 1-800-892-8729, or visit www.rhcarpets.com/mst for more information.

MICROFRIDGE, FUTON AND PERSONAL SAFE RENTAL

MSU has partnered with Collegiate Fridge to provide microfridge, futon and personal safe rental services to students in our residence halls. Visit www.collegiatefridge.com for information and to place orders. Orders made by August 8, 2013, receive free delivery to student rooms before move-in day.

CAMPUS TRANSFORMATIONS

Armstrong and Bryan halls will open in Fall 2013 with updated community bathrooms, new fitness centers and renovated common area space.

Butterfield and Landon halls are undergoing major renovations, which will include the Landon Dining Hall. These locations will reopen in Fall 2014.

Hubbard Hall is getting new community kitchens that will be open for Fall 2013.

Fitness Centers in the residence halls are undergoing the second phase of renovations, which will include additional cosmetic updates and new equipment in some locations.

Landon Dining Hall is undergoing major renovations and will reopen for Fall 2014. The renovated hall will feature three entrée venue stations, serving a variety of made-to-order options. It will also feature an entrée salad venue.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 17:
International students move in

August 25:
First-year students move in

August 26:
Returning students move in

August 28:
Fall semester classes begin

EATING AT STATE

MSU's award-winning Culinary Services team provides residents with culinary excellence from 7 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week in each neighborhood. With made-to-order, healthy fresh dining in our 10 residential dining halls including the award-winning The Gallery at Snyder/Phillips, Brody Square, South Pointe at Case and The Vista at Shaw, your student is sure to eat well on campus. MSU's flexible dining plans feature Combo-X-Change, allowing students to use a meal access at all 21 Sparty's locations, Union Pizzeria, Union Deli and Serrano's at the MSU Union, Riverwalk Market at Owen Hall and the Eat at State ON-THE-GO Food Truck. Employment opportunities are also available at all our Culinary Services locations. Culinary Services offers student team members a work schedule that accommodates classes and activities, training and development opportunities, and most importantly — convenience of working close to where they live and study. For more information, visit www.eatatstate.com/employment.

New Dining Options for 2013 – 2014

The Vista at Shaw Hall

Campus' newest dining hall opened in January 2013 and features three restaurant-style venues:

- **Main Street** serving homestyle favorites from rotisserie and carved meats and comfort foods to daily specialty sandwiches and sides
- **Garden Wok** offering a fresh mix of vegetarian/vegan entrées and Pan-Asian dishes — from noodles and stir-fry to curries
- **Bread Box** serving hand-tossed, artisan pizzas from the only stone hearth pizza oven on campus, hearty pastas, deli-style sandwiches and full breakfasts to start your day the right way

Landon Dining Hall

Landon Dining Hall is closed for renovations and will reopen for Fall 2014. Landon residents are encouraged to dine at Yakeley Dining Hall. To accommodate North Neighborhood residents, the MSU Union Food Court, featuring Serrano's, Union Deli and Union Pizzeria, will offer late night all-you-care-to-eat dining from 8 p.m. to midnight.

DID YOU KNOW?

Parents and students can reserve textbooks online. Check out all the MSU apparel and other items at www.spartanbook.com.

Sweet Treats from the MSU Bakers

MSU Bakers provides fresh-baked goods to the campus community. You can send your student delicious fresh-baked treats for birthdays, finals, graduation and more throughout the semester from MSU's own on-campus bakery. Visit www.msusbakers.com for more information, to view products and monthly specials, and to place an order.

Accommodating Your Student's Dietary Restrictions

Our professional dining staff is available to assist in finding menu options that fit your needs, including vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free offerings. If your student has dietary restrictions due to health concerns, food allergies or religious observances, they are encouraged to meet with and develop a relationship with our registered dietitian, executive chefs or dining hall managers to discuss options. Kosher cuisine is available at Wilson Dining Hall and Brody Square and halal foods are featured at Riverwalk Market at Owen Hall and Holmes Dining Hall. All of our residential dining hall menus will be marked with food labels for easy identification. For more information on menus and nutritional information, visit www.eatatstate.com.

Have Another Student Off Campus?

If you are a veteran Spartan parent and have an older student who is living off campus next year, they can still take advantage of our flexible off-campus dining plans. With multiple accesses to any of our residential dining halls, our off-campus dining plans also feature Combo-X-Change. Off-campus dining plans do not expire, and can be used to bring guests — including parents — to the dining halls. Visit www.eatatstate.com for more information.

