

LIVE ON

FAMILY NEWS

For the families of students living on campus
at Michigan State University

On-Campus Housing Sign-Up

Learn all about sign-up
for 2024-25.

Winter Break Housing

Learn what your student needs to
do if wishing to stay on campus
over the break.

Residential Student Leadership

Get the scoop on how your
Spartan could apply to be
an RA or ICA.

WELCOME

As we embark on another exciting academic year at Michigan State University, we're delighted to be part of your student's journey

The fall brings a fresh wave of energy and opportunities, and we're eager to witness the growth and achievements of our Spartans.

Navigating this transition can be both thrilling and challenging. We encourage you to stay connected with your student, as your support and encouragement are crucial to their success. The Division of Student Life & Engagement is here to ensure a smooth and supportive experience for both students and their families. We recognize this period can be emotionally charged, and we're committed to providing assistance.

In this issue, you'll find answers to common questions, helpful tips for navigating the academic year and information on housing options for 2025-26. We'll also highlight the resources available on campus, ways to stay active and healthy, and much more.

See page 3 for
On-Campus
Housing Sign-Up
information.

Our goal with each edition of Live On Family News is to keep you informed and engaged in your student's university experience, offering insights and support to help them thrive at MSU. Here's to a successful and rewarding year ahead!

in this issue



SAFETY/WELLNESS
..... page 6-9, 11



HOUSING
..... page 3-4



DINING
..... page 9



CALENDAR
..... page 11



2025-26 ON-CAMPUS HOUSING SIGN-UP

Current First-Year Students

We are pleased to be your students' on-campus home for their first two years at MSU. As you may be aware, MSU has a two-year live-on requirement for students enrolling as first-year students. On-campus living provides convenience, an all-inclusive bill and numerous resources to support student success.

We know off-campus apartments begin marketing to students and their families for the following year as soon as Spartans arrive on campus. It's important to note, first-year students should not be signing any off-campus leases, housing agreements, housing contracts, etc., this fall. Current first-year students will select their on-campus housing for 2025-26 in the spring.

They will have the opportunity to select their specific hall and room, select housing with groups of friends, as well as submit interest in single rooms. We'll share more details about housing options, housing exceptions and group housing by the beginning of the spring semester. Learn more at liveon.msu.edu/second-year-sign-up.

We encourage students to explore campus and all the resources it offers, meet new people, create new friendships, and get involved with their new community.

Current Second-Year+ Students

Students currently in their second year or beyond living on campus will have the chance to submit an interest form for the 2025-26 on-campus housing selection. We recognize the high demand for on-campus apartments and residence hall space for upper-class students, and unfortunately cannot accommodate everyone. The interest form helps us gauge who is interested in continuing to live on campus.

From these submissions, students will receive a selection time, randomly generated but based on their class standing. If your student is not selected or does not select a space during their selection window, they should look at their off-campus housing options.

The form will be open through Oct. 22. On-campus options for second year+ students include 1855 Place, University Village, singles in Owen, Abbot and Mason Halls, and double residence hall rooms. Students living in 1855 Place or University Village will have the chance to retain their current space in late October. Students living in a residence hall or residence hall apartment cannot retain their current space.

This group of students can also explore off-campus housing options for their third year and beyond. Learn more at liveon.msu.edu/upperclass-sign-up.

If you or your student would like more information about on-campus housing options, please contact the Housing Assignments Office at 517-884-5483 or liveon@msu.edu.

HOUSING OPERATIONS DURING BREAK PERIODS

You and your student may have questions about how housing operates during break periods like Thanksgiving break and spring break. Live On has put together a helpful webpage explaining these break periods and operations at liveon.msu.edu/hall-operations.

Winter Break Housing

The finals season can be stressful, and students often find themselves preoccupied with exams and studies. Winter break can sneak up on them, making it challenging to arrange accommodation. Thankfully, MSU offers between-semester housing options. Winter Break Housing is available from Friday, Dec. 13 through Saturday, Jan. 11, in all residence halls.

Soon, students can apply for this housing via their My Housing account at liveon.msu.edu. We'll email students information about fees and when the application is open. For those living in University Village and 1855 Place, Winter Break Housing is already included in their lease, so no additional application is required.

Students not applying for Winter Break Housing need to check out of their rooms by Friday, Dec. 13. Note: students should plan to take anything needed over break, but they do not need to move-out of their rooms entirely.

PACKAGE GUIDELINES

Packages, mail and deliveries are received by our residential Service Centers. Live On expects residents will follow all applicable local, state and federal laws when receiving items at the Service Centers.

Recognized Carriers

Service Centers accept packages from established carriers such as UPS, USPS, FedEx, DHL or Amazon. This is to ensure we have a proper chain of custody and can log the delivery correctly.



Unclaimed Packages

Unclaimed packages or U.S. mail will be returned to the sender after 14 days. Forwarding students must update their address in the Student Information System (SIS) and My Housing account at liveon.msu.edu and notify regular mail companies six weeks before moving out. Mail will be forwarded for up to six months, but international mail cannot be forwarded.

Forwarding

Students must update their address in the Student Information System (SIS) and their My Housing account at liveon.msu.edu. They are also advised to update their address with all companies they receive regular mail from six weeks in advance of move-out. If both have been updated, mail will be forwarded to students for up to six months. Unfortunately, international mail will not be forwarded.

Missing Packages or Mail

If a resident thinks their mail or package is lost or mishandled, they should contact their neighborhood administrative coordinator (NAC) immediately. Provide a description, tracking number and delivery confirmation if possible. The NAC will respond within 24 hours; contact details are on the hall pages at liveon.msu.edu.

Perishables

Service Centers hold perishable deliveries only for a short time. If left too long, they will be discarded. Residents will receive an MSU email notification when their deliveries arrive and are expected to pick them up. If a perishable item must be discarded, the resident will receive a 24-hour notice via MSU email.

RESIDENT ASSISTANTS AND INTERCULTURAL AIDES

Living on your own for the first time can be challenging, but MSU provides peer-to-peer resources to help. Resident assistants (RAs), who are experienced students, offer guidance, conflict resolution and campus support. If needed, they'll connect your student with others who can help. Intercultural aides (ICAs) work with RAs to build community, foster relationships, and support academic and social success. They focus on engaging residents in the process of "crossing differences" through programs like their weekly roundtable discussions.

RA and ICA Recruitment

Applications for RA and ICA positions for the 2025-26 academic year open Oct. 28 through Dec. 13, with interviews in the spring and training in spring and summer. These roles enhance the resident experience by fostering communication and interaction. Students interested in leadership and helping others should apply at liveon.msu.edu. Information sessions will be held in November.

Empower your student to tackle challenges independently, while offering guidance from a respectful distance. You've laid a strong foundation; now, trust in their abilities as they embark on the journey of life.

- Kristie, parent





OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

Residence Education and Housing Services (REHS) is dedicated to creating a diverse, equitable, inclusive and safe environment for Spartans in on-campus housing. We focus on diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging (DEIB) and social justice to support personal growth, relationships, and academic success. Our DEIB Dashboard tracks progress and addresses student concerns. Learn more at liveon.msu.edu/REHS-DEI.

STUDENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (SRR)

The SRR outlines rights and duties as a student. It includes policies on drugs, unauthorized entry to campus buildings, academic integrity, physical harm and more.

Students have the right to:

- Learn free from undue interference.
- Live and sleep in a safe and clean environment.
- Redress grievances when your rights are violated.

Students have a responsibility to:

- Allow others to exercise the same rights that you have.
- Live and abide by MSU's community standards.
- Make things right when you do wrong.
- Check your email daily.

The SRR was recently updated to be more readable and easier to support students. Learn more at ossa.msu.edu/srr.

On-campus students also have specific terms and conditions to adhere to found in our On-Campus Housing Handbook at liveon.msu.edu/Documents.

RESIDENCE HALL GUESTS

MSU supports residents' rights to host guests but requires that residents accompany them at all times. Guests must follow posted policies, and residents are responsible for their behavior. If your student hosts guests, they should ensure they adhere to community standards of integrity and responsibility.

SAFETY AND SECURITY AT MSU

Ensuring campus safety is our top priority. Please discuss personal safety with your student, emphasizing they should only invite trusted individuals into their residence and not hold doors open for others. Encourage your student to download the SafeMSU app for safety features. If a student sees or hears something harmful, they should call MSU Police and Public Safety at 517-355-2221. In an emergency, call or text 911.

DO

- Lock your door whenever you leave your room.
- Call 911 or use the Emergency Green Phone if there is a safety concern.
- Remind your peers of community expectations. Travel with others whenever possible.
- Follow all emergency procedures.

DON'T

- Prop doors.
- Give IDs or keys to anyone.
- Let someone you don't know in the building, or to use your ID for accessing elevator or living wings.
- Ignore emergency protocols.
- Record others without permission in private spaces.



JOIN OUR TEAM



Research shows that working part-time on campus can improve academic performance and provide valuable skills. Campus jobs offer flexibility, foster social connections and enhance resumes. The Student Life & Engagement (SLE) is hiring for various roles, including building facilities workers, dining staff, cooks and more. SLE supports the MSU community and aims to provide excellent Spartan experiences. Encourage your student to visit jobs.sle.msu.edu for open positions.



Encourage your student to get to know their professors. They are a great resource for discussing class options and also for future recommendations.

- Misty, parent

RECYCLING IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS

Throughout every building on Michigan State's campus, students can find labeled recycling bins for all paper, plastic, metal and glass materials. These bins are located in each building for students' convenience and to encourage recycling whenever possible.

Trash and cardboard should be taken outside to the dumpsters and not left in stairwells or hallways.



FINDING A HOME AT MSU

Learning how to support your student from a distance can be a challenge but we are here to help! Here are a few ways you can help guide your students as they adjust to campus life.

Wayfinding

The interactive MSU Wayfinding site (maps.msu.edu/interactive) helps Spartans find walking directions, time estimates and accessible building entrances.

Necessities

Consider gifting Spartan Cash to your student for easy purchases at over 100 campus vendors. A full list is available at spartancash.msu.edu.

Student Organizations

With over 1,000 student organizations, including the Acafellas and Underwater Hockey Club, MSU caters to diverse interests. Explore options at involve.msu.edu.



Finding the Right Fit

About 66% of Spartans change their major. And that's okay. With over 400 programs available, Career Services in the Student Services Building offers guidance to help students find their best fit.

Transportation

Navigating MSU's 5,200 acres is facilitated by bike lanes, walking trails and the CATA bus system, which provides free campus routes during fall and spring semesters. The CATA transit app (cata.org/transit) offers route details.

Use Neighborhood Resources

Students can access amenities like laundry rooms, study lounges and community kitchens. Music practice rooms are available for telehealth appointments. More information is at liveon.msu.edu/Community-Spaces.

Attend a Hall/ Neighborhood Event

Encourage participation in neighborhood events for socializing and relaxation. These get-togethers often feature free food and are a great way to meet people. Events hosted by Spartan Compass are open to all first-year students, and the Residence Halls Association (RHA) and University Activities Board (UAB) host many events for all students.

The years fly by. Savor the moments.

- Valarie, parent

SPARTAN FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Spartan Family Connections (SFC) is a central resource for Spartan families as they help their students succeed while navigating life at MSU. SFC will provide resources and tools to engage families of students, both biological and chosen, to assist them in thriving at MSU with the goal of graduation. Learn more at family.msu.edu.



EAT AT STATE

Experiential Dining Events

MSU students have the opportunity to use their Combo-X-Changes (CX) in an exciting, new way! Eat at State created an abundance of interactive events that students can attend simply by pre-registering and paying with CX swipes! Register early, as each "experience" has limited spots available. Below, see the upcoming schedule, and encourage your student to register to attend any or all of the events at eatatstate.msu.edu/experiential-dining-events.

Thursday, Oct. 24 | **MSU vs Michigan Big Game Pep Rally** - Holmes Dining Hall, 4-8 p.m. - Cost: 2 CX

Friday, Oct. 25 | **Pre-Game Tailgate MSU vs Michigan Football Pre-Game** - Holden Dining Hall, 7-9 p.m. - Cost: 2 CX

Thursday, Nov. 7 | **Karaoke Night** - Holmes Dining Hall, 6-8 p.m. - Cost: 3 CX

Wednesday, Nov. 20 | **Student Organic Farm Fall Fest** - Brody Square, Large Private Dining Room, 6-8 p.m. - Cost: 3 CX

Thursday, Nov. 21 | **Charcuterie Class** - The Gallery at Snyder-Phillips, 7-8 p.m. - Cost: 3 CX

Tuesday, Dec. 3 | **Dickens Dinner** - The State Room Restaurant, Kellogg Center - Cost: 4 CX

Sunday, Dec. 8 | **Late Night Breakfast Bar** - Cost: 2 CX



Participants at a recent candy making Experiential Dining Event.

Celebrate the end of the semester and fuel up for exams! Each dining hall will serve a special menu for this late-night treat.

- **Brody Square, 9-11 p.m.**
- **The Gallery at Snyder/Phillips, 9-11 p.m.**
- **The Edge at Akers, 9:30-11 p.m.**
- **South Pointe at Case, 9-11 p.m.**

Fall and Winter Break Dining Options

Thanksgiving break hours will be in effect from Wednesday, Nov. 27, through Sunday, Dec. 1. Below, please find details regarding dining options for those who may be remaining on campus for the long holiday weekend. See go.msu.edu/dininghours for complete details.

For winter break dining options, please visit eatatstate.com.

Wednesday, Nov. 27: Most dining locations close early at 3 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 28 (Thanksgiving Day): The Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center will be open from 6 a.m. to noon for a continental breakfast, which includes items such as baked goods and pastries, fruit, bread, coffee, and tea as well as cereal and milk.

Kellogg Market will be open from noon to 5 p.m. with an expanded selection of grab-and-go items as part of the Combo-X-Change program. All other dining locations will be closed.

Friday, Nov. 28-Sunday, Dec. 1: Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center will continue offering a continental breakfast from 6 a.m. to noon each day.

Friday, Nov. 28-Saturday, Nov. 30: Kellogg Market and Owen Hall Sparty's will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Combo-X-Change meals can be redeemed at these retail stores. All other dining locations will be closed.

Saturday, Nov. 30-Sunday, Dec. 1: Thrive at Owen will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 1: Select dining locations will reopen.



SPARTAN ONE-STOP BEGINS PROVIDING VIRTUAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Spartan One-Stop will integrate services from the Registrar's Office, Financial Aid and Student Accounts to enhance the student experience with personalized support.

In spring 2024, new solutions specialists were hired and trained to assist students, focusing on customer service and navigating university systems. They collaborated over the summer with the three offices to understand specific inquiries and improve hand-offs between teams.

In early August 2024, the One-Stop team soft-launched email services, redirecting support emails from the three offices to streamline student inquiries. Phone support begins in fall 2024, followed by the opening of the physical Spartan One-Stop space in the Hannah Administration Building in spring 2025, featuring self-service kiosks and in-person assistance.

Ultimately, Spartan One-Stop aims to reduce administrative barriers and prioritize student success through accessible education and effective customer service.

Learn more at onestop.msu.edu.

The team looks forward to supporting you and your Spartans!



calendar

OF EVENTS

oct.
22

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING
INTEREST FORM FOR
SECOND YEAR+
STUDENTS CLOSES

oct.
21-22
FALL BREAK



nov.
1-3
FAMILY
WEEKEND



nov.
28-29



THANKSGIVING BREAK

dec.
9-13
FINAL EXAMS



dec.
13-jan.13
WINTER BREAK



Residence halls close at 8 p.m. on Dec. 13 for winter break.



jan.11

RESIDENCE HALLS OPEN
FOR SPRING SEMESTER



Housing Assignments Office
Michigan State University
1855 Place
550 S. Harrison Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

NONPROFIT
MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANSING, MI
PERMIT NO. 249

Residence Education and Housing Services is part of the Division of Student Life & Engagement at Michigan State University. Live On Family News is a quarterly newsletter published throughout the academic year to keep Spartan families connected to what is happening in Residence Education and Housing Services at MSU. You can read past issues at liveon.msu.edu.

liveon.msu.edu

Spartan Cash

Michigan State University

Invest in your student's success! Deposit Spartan Cash to your student's MSU ID today at spartancash.com.

spartancash.com