The end of the fall 2015 semester is right around the corner. If your student would like to remain on campus during part or all of winter break, please review the following information carefully.

Semester break begins at 8 p.m., Dec. 18, 2015. Residence halls will reopen at 8 a.m., Jan. 10, 2016. All students must be out of the halls during these times. Exceptions will be made for those who:

• Live in Owen Hall, Van Hoosen Hall or University Village;
• Have submitted a Late Stay/Early Arrival Request Form and have received approval; or
• Have submitted a Between Semester Housing Application and have received approval to stay in their current room in a designated Between Semester Housing residence hall during the semester break. Between Semester residence halls include Hubbard, McDonel and Wonders halls.

OWEN, VAN HOOSEN AND UNIVERSITY VILLAGE RESIDENTS

Students living in Owen, Van Hoosen and University Village may stay in their rooms during semester break without submitting an application.

DineOn Owen dining plans for fall will be active through 6 p.m. on Dec. 18, 2015 and will become active for spring on Jan. 10, 2016. Van Hoosen and University Village residents may also purchase off-campus dining plans.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FALL LATE STAY AND SPRING EARLY ARRIVAL REQUESTS

If your student does not live in Owen, Van Hoosen, University Village or a Between-Semester residence hall, but will need to stay on campus past 8 p.m. on Dec. 18 or return before 8 a.m. on Jan. 10, they must submit a Late Stay/Early Arrival Request Form in order to do so. Late Stay/Early Arrival Requests can be submitted through iLiveOn at https://liveon.msu.edu/iliveon/login.html.

Students can request to stay Friday, Dec. 18 and Saturday, Dec. 19. Any student approved to stay Saturday night will be charged their regular nightly rate for that night.

Students can also submit a request to return as early as Jan. 8. If the request is approved, the student will be charged their regular nightly rate for each night.

Anyone who needs to stay past noon on Sunday, Dec. 20 or return prior to noon on Friday, Jan. 8 will need to stay at the Kellogg Center. Please call 517-432-4000 to reserve a room.

BETWEEN SEMESTER HOUSING IN RESIDENCE HALLS

Residents of Hubbard, McDonel, and Wonders halls may apply to stay on campus during semester break in their current room by completing a Between Semester Housing Application. Upon submitting an application, a $315 flat fee that includes housing and dining will be charged to their student account.

By applying for Between Semester Housing, residents will have unlimited access to their rooms during the break and will automatically be signed up for a Between Semester Dining Plan.

BETWEEN SEMESTER DINING PLAN

This dining plan includes 30 accesses to EITHER Brody Square and Holmes Dining Hall OR Combo-X-Change at Riverwalk Market and open Culinary Services retail locations. See previous page for hours and locations. Visit eatatstate.com for details.

NEWLY ADMITTED STUDENTS

Newly admitted students who will be move to campus for spring 2016, are automatically approved to move in to their new on-campus home Jan. 6, 2016. Newly admitted students can view their spring 2016 on-campus housing assignment via their iLiveOn account on www.liveon.msu.edu after Dec. 23, 2015.

BETWEEN SEMESTER HOUSING AT KELLOGG HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

All residence hall students can choose to stay on campus between semesters by reserving a room at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center. Rooms are available for $50 plus tax (per day) based on availability. Parking is available during break in the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center garage for $150. Contact the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center at 517-432-4000 or kellogg.center.com for additional information and to make a reservation.

BETWEEN SEMESTER DINING PLAN

Students who stay at Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center between semesters can purchase a Between Semester Dining Plan for $179.70. This dining plan includes 30 accesses to open on-campus dining halls OR Combo-X-Change at Riverwalk Market and open Culinary Services retail locations. See previous page for hours and locations. Visit eatatstate.com for details.

HOW TO APPLY

Students living in a designated Between-Semester Housing hall can apply now through their iLiveOn account at www.liveon.msu.edu/iliveon/login.
During Michigan’s colder months, a fresh-out-of-the-oven cookie can go a long way in fighting the chill. Try out the following recipe from MSU’s South Neighborhood’s Executive Chef Kurt Kwiatkowski, perfect for holiday celebrations or just a cozy night staying in from the cold.

PECAN AND DARK CHOCOLATE COOKIES – MAKES TWO DOZEN

Ingredients:
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- 2 Tbsp light corn syrup
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1¼ cup bread flour
- 1¼ cup pastry flour
- ½ tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 8 oz. dark chocolate, small chunked
- 1 cup pecans, broken into pieces

Directions:
- Toast pecans at 350˚ until lightly browned. Let cool.
- In a stand mixer, beat butter, brown sugar, sugar and corn syrup until light and creamy.
- Continue to beat while adding the eggs, one at a time. Add vanilla.
- Sift flours, baking soda, baking powder and salt together. Gradually add to the creamed mixture and mix until blended and a dough forms.
- Remove dough from the mixer and use a firm spatula to stir in dark chocolate and toasted pecans.
- Spoon by rounded tablespoons onto parchment-lined baking sheets. Refrigerate at least one hour.
- Bake at 375˚ for 12 minutes or until just barely golden on the edges. Let cool on the baking sheets before removing.

NOTE: Do NOT bake your cookies from room temperature.
SIGN UP FOR YOUR 2016-17 ON-CAMPUS HOME!

Campus called, and it wants your student back for the 2016-17 academic year. Our beautiful, historic campus is the place to eat, sleep, study and play as an MSU student. Whether your student is signing up for their room again or moving to a new neighborhood, with 27 residence halls, two apartment communities and a variety of living arrangements, there’s a place to call home for the achiever, foodie, fanatic, game changer, social butterfly and everyone in between. Supporting our students and understanding how they live on campus is important. So throughout this issue, you’ll find several campus residents who were featured in our recent on-campus housing sign-up campaign talking about the benefits they’ve experienced living on at MSU.

When you live on campus, you’re at the center of all that MSU has to offer, including: academic support, health resources, renovated residence halls, award-winning dining facilities, recreational activities, student organizations, leadership opportunities, friends and fun.

Staying on campus proves to be a smarter move too. National research shows that students who live on campus are more academically successful and more connected to the campus community. Plus, with everything included, it’s a good value for you and your student’s green and white dollar. All utilities are included in the room-and-board fees, so there is no need to budget for unpredictable monthly bill payments. We also take care of your student’s grocery list by providing unlimited meals in the dining halls, and laundry is free!

Visit [www.liveon.msu.edu](http://www.liveon.msu.edu) and [www.eatatstate.com](http://www.eatatstate.com) to review your student’s options and encourage them to sign up. If you have questions about housing options for your student, contact the Housing Assignments Office at liveon@msu.edu or 877-954-8366. We look forward to seeing your student back on campus for the 2016-17 academic year!

LANA ZUCK, JUNIOR, HOLDEN HALL

“I enjoy living on campus because the residence halls provide me with all of the resources that I need to lead a happy, healthy and successful lifestyle. For example, in my hall there are fitness classes and even the math learning center!”

MORGAN TORRE, SENIOR, SYNDER HALL

“Life is easier when you live on campus. It allows you to focus on both school and fun.”

KYLAN MEMMINGER, FRESHMAN, EAST WILSON HALL

“I love living on campus because it facilitates a sense of community among students. I have met countless wonderful people and have made lifelong friends with other students who live in my res hall. Living on campus also provides convenience with proximity to classes and other extracurricular events that happen on campus.”

CAMPUS CALLED. IT WANTS ITS ACHIEVER BACK.

Surprise your student with a personalized, freshly baked treat from the MSU Bakers! For birthdays, finals week, get well or good luck packages, or whatever the occasion, MSU Bakers can help!

Order online at [www.msubakers.com](http://www.msubakers.com) or call 517-353-9310.

Deliveries are available to residence halls, so order your student’s favorite today!
TOP 10 REASONS FOR YOUR STUDENT TO LIVE ON NEXT YEAR

Cleaning service is included for all common areas: Let our fantastic facilities staff take care of the dirty work so you have more time to focus on studying for your next exam.

Proximity and convenience: You live within walking distance of class, delicious meals, cozy study spaces, sporting events, campus activities and entertainment, and your best friend’s room.

Expand your circle: Living on campus allows you to meet people outside of your usual social scene. It’s a great place to connect with friendly faces!

Safety: Residence Halls require key-card access in addition to your room key, and living wings in residence halls are locked 24 hours a day, seven days a week to ensure you and your property’s safety.

One Bill: Off-Campus living often means juggling multiple bills with varying deadlines. However, living on campus allows you the option of making just one payment at the beginning of the semester or arranging one simple payment plan that covers everything!

Ultimate Entertainment Centers: With game rooms, large screen TVs, basketball and volleyball courts, and more than 300 student activities each year, there is always something going on all around you when you live on campus.

Resources Right In Your Neighborhood: We’ve brought the resources right to you through our Neighborhood Engagement Centers. Here you’ll find much of what you need to be a successful student at MSU, including academic advising, a health clinic, Live On and Be Fit fitness classes, and more.

Choose the Room That Fits You: With 27 residence halls on campus, you have plenty of choices on where you’d like to call home. Students are also encouraged to personalize their space to showcase their personality or to add some Spartan flare!

Exceptional Dining: MSU’s team of executive chefs, sous chefs, bakers and cooks embody our commitment to Lead with Food. Each campus neighborhood features a renovated dining hall, and with our 7 a.m.–midnight hours, we can accommodate just about anyone’s schedule.

It’s a Once in a Lifetime Experience: Living on campus is an integral part of the complete college experience. Your campus neighborhood is where memories are made.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 11
Fall Semester classes end

Dec. 14–18
Final exams

Dec. 17–19
Fall Commencement

Dec. 18–Jan. 10
Winter Break

Jan. 11
Spring Semester classes begin

Jan. 18
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, classes cancelled

March 7–11
Spring Break

April 1
Online Housing Sign-up ends, students must sign up for housing in the Housing Assignments Office

April 29
Spring Semester classes end

May 2–6
Final Exams

May 6–8
Spring Commencement

WORKING ON CAMPUS

The Division of Residential and Hospitality Service (RHS) offers a variety of student positions located across campus. Working on campus has many benefits, including:

• A great way to get involved on campus
• Flexible schedules that work with academic ambitions
• A convenient way to learn new, valuable skills
• An opportunity to meet new people
• Develop valuable skills that will easily transfer to professional working environments after graduation
• Extra money to pay for activities with friends

RHS offers flexible work schedules that accommodate classes and activities, competitive pay with regular increases, promotional opportunities and discounted meals in the dining halls. Students can find more information and apply online by visiting jobs.rhs.msu.edu.
HOW TO SURVIVE THE MIDWEST WINTER

Cozy residence halls and snowly mornings make winter at MSU a beautiful time of year. But the chilly weather can last for the majority of the spring semester, forcing students to adapt to unfavorable temperatures. Some students live in denial of the colder temperatures and struggle to accept that the sunny days on the Red Cedar are being replaced by snow and ice. While the idea of trudging to class in single digit weather can be a nightmare, the best way to make the most of the season is by being prepared. Pass on these essential tips and tricks to your student to ensure they thrive for the majority of the spring semester, forcing students to adapt to unfavorable temperatures. Some students live in denial of the colder temperatures and struggle to accept that the sunny days on the Red Cedar are being replaced by snow and ice. While the idea of trudging to class in single digit weather can be a nightmare, the best way to make the most of the season is by being prepared. Pass on these essential tips and tricks to your student to ensure they thrive

• Dress in layers to stay warm, and remove as needed to avoid overheating in class.
• Invest in a warm, high quality winter coat.
• Always carry gloves, a hat and a scarf.
• Wear waterproof boots.
• Wear warm socks (multiple pairs if necessary). You can even carry an extra pair in case your feet get wet.
• Tissues, lotion, hand sanitizer and lip balm will become your new best friends. Keep these items in your backpack or purse at all times.

• Wash your hands! Staying indoors can cause faster spread of germs in halls and classrooms.
• Watch for ice on sidewalks and streets.
• Make sure you have a cozy blanket to provide extra warmth in the residence halls.
• Hot chocolate or tea is a must for keeping toasty on snowy evenings.
• Allow ample time to scrape ice and snow off your car in the morning.
• Give yourself extra time to get from place to place.
• Stay active! The best way to combat the winter blues is to keep moving.
• Enjoy the weather by taking a brisk walk on campus.
• Take advantage of the snow. Grab some friends and build a fort or snowman!
• Just because it’s cold doesn’t mean there’s nothing to do! Stay involved in the events and happenings in your neighborhood.

In her first year at MSU, Matovu received second prize in the university’s International Writing Contest for her essay “The Girl in Tears,” which focuses on her experience coming to MSU. Her strong writing skills are just part of why she’s so valued at IS. “I love answering an email or the phone and just getting to talk to people and know that we’ll be able to make their day better. It’s so nice to hear from someone in the office that I was able to get them to the right place for us to assist them.”

Matovu is loving her time living on campus. “MSU is super diverse. It’s amazing to experience all these different cultures and to have the opportunity to understand American culture. I always have someone to talk to and to have dinner with, whether my roommates or best friends are around or not, just through the community throughout the entire floor of the residence hall,” said Matovu. “Plus I was very happy to know that with my ID card, I wasn’t forced to eat at just one dining hall. I could experience the variety and find my favorites. There’s tutoring and fitness classes – I do Zumba and yoga – it’s amazing.”

Matovu tends to bring a smile to the face of everyone she interacts with. “I love the people here. I didn’t expect them to all be so nice,” she said. “Maybe it’s a Midwestern thing when people say ‘have a nice day,’ but it was almost culture shock – the best kind. It was so nice. Opening doors. Holding elevators. Niceness is ingrained in the people here.”

Amal Matovu is a sophomore from Botswana majoring in International Development with an emphasis in Economics and a minor in Arabic at MSU. As a front desk receptionist in the division of Residential and Hospitality Services’ Information Services (IS) department, she greets guests, answers phones, drafts email updates to her office, oversees kitchen inventory and orders, and collaborates on editing the Daily Download, a staff newsletter.

After graduation, she hopes to work with the UN to help alleviate poverty and promote development in Africa. “There is a great need for focus on food and security and issues related to women and children to bring about social change,” said Matovu. “I grew up seeing lots of people not having the opportunity to finish a college-level education due to things like pregnancies. Thirty percent of the two million population of Botswana are living in poverty. Let’s do something. I feel I should try to be that agent of change.”

The Mastercard Foundation Scholarship has allowed Matovu to attend MSU. “It gives to people in Africa who’ve done community service, received good grades and who show leadership potential with the ideal that we go back to Africa to bring a change. My career advisor and my one-on-one advisor and I talk about everything. Because of them I never have to worry about anything,” Matovu added. “There’s a real sense of family, bringing so many African students together. We see that everyone cares about us.” She is also a member of ASLA (African Student Leadership Association) where she focuses on international development.

Since coming to MSU, Matovu has begun modeling and was featured in the fall 2014 issue of VIM, MSU’s fashion magazine. She also participated in the university’s on-campus housing sign-up campaign photo shoot.
Residence Education and Housing Services is part of the Division of Residential and Hospitality Services 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 www.liveon.msu.edu.

VISIT US ONLINE: WWW.LIVEON.MSU.EDU