

Flinders Accommodation Frequently Asked Questions

What happens after I submit my application?

Once your application is received at Flinders Living we check to ensure it is complete before processing it any further. You are able to track the status of your application on-line as it passes through our admissions process and can contact us if you believe there is an issue.

Why do I put in a preference for the type of accommodation I want?

Allocations are made on the basis of merit and the appropriateness of the available room. We are required to balance the on-campus communities and pay attention to the sensitivities of gender, age, and cultural background when allocating rooms. Keeping this in mind, it is not possible to meet every applicant's first preference. It may be that you receive an offer of accommodation for your second or even third preference.

What does my Application Status mean?

When you log in to the Housing Portal you will see that your Application has been given a status that allows you to track your progress through the Flinders Living admissions cycle.

- **Application Incomplete** - You have registered and commenced the application process.
- **Application Complete** - You have provided all the required information and paid the application fee. Your application is considered complete and you are eligible for an Offer of Housing.
- **Offered Pending Acceptance** - You have been made an Offer of Housing (all offers will be made by email and contracts will be completed online) and need to respond within the designated time frame.
- **Offer Accepted** - You have accepted your Housing Offer, paid the relevant Advance Fee and advised us of your arrival date.
- **Offer Lapsed** - You did not respond to a Housing Offer within the designated time frame. If you are still interested in housing please contact us immediately.
- **Offer Declined** - You turned down your Housing Offer.

Once you have submitted your application certain sections will remain open for you to update whilst other sections will be locked. Those sections which remain open may appear as 'incomplete' even once you have completed them. If you need to change your application in those areas that are locked please contact the Flinders Living Office. Contact details can be found below.

Is there an application fee? When do I need to pay it? Is it refundable if I don't get an offer at Flinders?

A non-refundable application fee of AU\$50.00 needs to be lodged with your application.

How long after I send my application will I get a response?

Applications close on 15 November and we endeavour to make our first round of housing offers by the second week of December. If we are unable to make you an offer in the first round we will let you know. There are usually three rounds of offers, one in December, a second in early-January and a final round in late January.

What do I do if I receive my accommodation offer before my Uni offer?

Accept the offer of accommodation and keep in regular contact with Flinders Living regarding your university status. Should you not get an offer of a course at Flinders University, notify us immediately so we can discuss withdrawing you from your contract and refunding any payments.

How do I ensure that my application makes a good impression?

Your personal statement provides you with the opportunity to tell us what is great about you and how you will benefit our community. Flinders Living staff read each statement and this gives us a picture of you that forms the basis of whether we offer you a place on-campus. In your personal statement, tell us why living at Flinders Living will be good for you – how will it benefit your university studies, your personal situation, and what qualities do you bring to our community? How will you make Flinders Living a richer and more diverse place? What activities have you been previously involved in? What are your passions? The more information you can give us about the type of person you are, the easier it will be for staff to form a clear picture of your suitability for on-campus living.

Can I defer my accommodation offer?

Yes, you can defer your accommodation offer for up to one year but the Advance Fee must be paid to secure your deferment (eg, if you receive an accommodation offer for the full year in 2020 and wish to defer to 2021, you are required to pay the Service Fees at the beginning of 2020 to secure your place for the following year).

Can I Apply for a Semester if I'm studying for the Full Year?

As we are unable to see your enrolment status ahead of time our system will accept a semester application. However all housing offers are made for the Full Year on the understanding that those students whose enrolment ends mid-year will apply for a contract conversion after their arrival. Students enrolled for the year are by default accepting a Full Year contract.

I don't know what type of accommodation to apply for.

If you are in your final year of secondary school when applying for on-campus accommodation, we would recommend University Hall for your first year of University. The Deirdre Jordan Village is best suited to students who have had some experience living out of home and we would encourage school-leavers to consider University Hall as a first preference. You are able to apply to live in the Village in subsequent years, and a year at University Hall helps the transition from home to self-catered living, it also helps you create networks at Flinders and can help to reduce feelings of homesickness or isolation. We do not normally accept students under the age of 18 in DJ Village.

Can I live with my friends in Deirdre Jordan Village?

In most years the pattern of availability doesn't allow us to place groups of friends together. You can live near your friends and we aim to ensure that all households have a mix of residents with different experiences so that you can become a member of a vibrant, well integrated community. Sometimes two friends can share but expect to be placed with others you don't yet know. In your second and subsequent year of residency you can choose where and with whom you live.

Can I apply for accommodation mid-year?

If your course commences mid-year you can also apply for accommodation as there are usually some places available. Applications for mid-year entry close 15 June; check the Flinders Living website for details.

Can I change my accommodation options mid-year?

Changing your accommodation mid-year is subject to availability, but where possible we try to ensure everyone is happy in the residence/room and moves between the Hall and Village are not uncommon. Breaches of contract with regard to early termination will attract a penalty.

Can you help me to find accommodation off-campus?

Flinders Living provides a free web-listing of private off-campus accommodation which you can access at <https://www.flinders.edu.au/living/short-term-private-accommodation> There are a number of housing options provided, from share accommodation to units and houses, and you can browse the listings to find suitable accommodation at any time. You can then contact the owner directly to ask questions or make an appointment to inspect.

During peak times in February, March and July we also provide an "Accommodation Service" – come by and use the computer to browse our listings, use the telephone to book an inspection time.

We also have information available about becoming a tenant, your rights and responsibilities when signing a lease, and how to get around Adelaide. Please note that Flinders Living does not take responsibility for the quality and suitability of any private accommodation advertised on our website.

Can I keep my room over summer?

You can keep your room if you pay the full rental cost over summer. Alternatively most residents pack up their rooms – you can store most of your possessions in the Hall/Village over summer. If you wish to return to the same room as the previous year, this is usually acceptable.