



Guidelines for Student Occupancy of Non-University Owned Sorority Chapter Facilities (Revised January 2020)

Fulfillment of On-Campus Housing Requirement

Illinois Wesleyan University has a six (6) semester housing requirement for all members of our community. The University grants a special privilege to sorority chapters/housing corporations/housing LLCs by allowing chapter housing to be “University approved housing” and fulfill the requirement. First-year women who choose to join a sorority may fulfill this housing requirement by living in their respective sorority house, after completing two (2) semesters in IWU-owned housing. Members who join a chapter in the fall of their sophomore, junior, or senior year must fulfill their year-long housing lease with the IWU Office of Residential Life and can elect to live in their chapter facility the fall of the following year. Transfer students entering the IWU community in the spring term will be eligible to move into their sorority house for the following fall term.

Resident Participation in Educationally Enriching Experiences

In order for sorority chapters, house corporations, and housing LLCs (known as “campus partners”) to be eligible as “University approved” housing, they must support member participation in study abroad, residential leadership experiences (RA, RCA, etc), and other high impact educational practices that may impact their housing choices. Campus partners may not charge room/board fees to members if they are engaged in one of these experiences (for example, cannot require a sorority woman RA to pay for sorority housing/meals; cannot require a spring study abroad woman to pay for spring housing/meals). This does not include under capacity fees applied to all chapter members equally, which are regulated by individual chapters.

If a resident is participating in a partial-semester internship (accounting majors) and is not residing in the chapter home for any portion of the ten-week internship, the chapter cannot charge her room and board during the time period of the internship. If a resident chooses to store her belongings in her room and/or plans to reside in the home for any portion of the ten-week period, the chapter can charge the room and board rates to the resident. This is consistent with IWU Office of Residential Life policies for students in accounting internships.

The University understands that campus partners must maintain financially viable housing and that vacancies create an issue; therefore, campus partners may choose not to house women who cannot fulfill a full-year lease. The University is happy to house women for partial year contracts as part of our educational commitment and collaboration with campus partners. Although students are only required to live on campus through their junior year, chapters can, and are encouraged to, require senior members to reside in the chapter home until the home reaches its capacity.

Members Living Locally with Parents or Guardians

IWU permits students who live with parents or guardians within a 60 mile radius to petition to live at home and commute to IWU in lieu of the six-semester housing requirement. If living in the chapter home is a requirement of membership of an organization, sorority chapters can require commuter-eligible members to live in the home. If a chapter determines that a woman can live out of the home as a sophomore or junior student, she will need to petition to commute via the MyHousing portal in MyIWU.

FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

PO Box 2900 • Bloomington, IL 61702-2900 • www.iwu.edu



Member Withdraw from the University

The University recognizes that students may transfer to a different institution or take an academic leave from IWU for various reasons. If a student is not enrolled at the institution, it is the expectation of the University that the student is not charged for room and board when she is not living in the chapter home. This guideline is consistent with IWU Office of Residential Life (ORL), as ORL does not hold students to contracts when they leave the institution. If a member decides to withdraw from the University after 60% or more of the semester has passed, the member should be held financially accountable to the remainder of the charges for the semester in which the member withdrew. This is consistent with ORL's policy for charging students who withdraw after 60% or more of the semester has passed with a withdraw takes place.

Member Accessibility in Chapter Homes

If a member is unable to access the chapter home due to physical limitations or if a member has ADA needs/accommodations that cannot be met by the chapter, the chapter cannot require the member to live in the chapter home, nor can they financially punish her for being unable to reside in the home. Chapters should consult with housing boards/corporations and I/NHQs to clarify chapter policies for service and emotional support animals. Students can obtain University documentation for accommodations for support animals and other needs by working with Chandra Shipley (cshipley@iwu.edu) in Disability Services.

Please contact the Office of Student Involvement at (309) 556-3555 with questions regarding these guidelines. For questions regarding policies and procedures of chapters and their homes, please contact the leadership of the chapter in question.