UNIVERSITY HOUSING FRESHMEN RESIDENCY EXEMPTION REQUEST FORM

- National research has shown that academic success in the first year and beyond is directly linked to residing in an on-campus residence environment. The University of Arkansas recognizes the benefits students receive from living on campus their first year. Therefore, all single students who are admitted to the University with a first-year student classification, under twenty-one (21) years of age are required to live on campus in a residence hall, or in their parent or legal guardian's permanent home.
- Requests for newly admitted freshmen to live somewhere other than with parents or a legal guardian in their permanent home under most circumstances are unlikely to be approved.
- Students requesting an exemption from the University of Arkansas Freshmen Residency Requirement should send all required paperwork to University Housing at least three weeks prior to attending an orientation session to ensure the student receives approval or denial prior to attending orientation. Failure to do so could cause delays in the orientation process.
- Scan and email required paperwork to housing.uark.edu

Please carefully review the following to determine what information you will need to provide. The required documentation *must be completed and received* at the University Housing Office before a request is considered. A decision on the request can then be expected within approximately fourteen (14) business days. Please, black out any Social Security Numbers on all documentation prior to mailing.

All correspondence, including requests for additional information and notification of the decision will be sent to the student's University of Arkansas email address.

Step 1 - Complete student information (print)

Student's Name	University of Arkansas ID #
Current Address	Phone Number
City, State & Zip Code	UARK Email Address

Step 2 - Complete term you are requesting to be exempt from by checking the appropriate term.

I wish to be exempt from the University Freshmen Residency Requirement for the:
( ) Academic Year 2027- 2028 ( ) Spring Only Term 2027

Step 3 - Check why you are requesting an exemption.

- ❑ **Significant Financial need.**
- ❑ **Medical, physical, or other conditions** that will require accommodations that University Housing cannot meet.
- ❑ **Married and/or children**
- ❑ **Serving in the military**.
- ❑ **Meal Plan Only Exemption**

Step 4 – Read the appropriate directions regarding the reason you are asking for an exemption, then complete and send all requested information.

A. Requesting exemption because of financial reasons, the following information must be included with your request:

1. Documents must support claim that student may not be afforded the opportunity to attend the University of Arkansas because of extreme financial strain caused by the expense of living on campus, **and** that cost of living off campus is significantly less expensive than living on campus.
2. Unless prospective student has "independent" status with the Financial Aid Office, a copy of parents' income tax return that was used when completing the FAFSA is required. **Please, black out Social Security Numbers on all documentation prior to mailing.**
3. If student has been awarded financial aid, a copy of the financial aid award is **required**.
4. Letters from parent/guardian (unless student has established independent status with the Financial Aid Office) and from person student is requesting to live with supporting the student's request.

B. Requesting exemption because of medical, physical or other conditions. The following information must be included with your request:

1. If a medical problem exists which may worsen by conditions associated with living in a residence hall, you will need to make an appointment with the Center for Educational Access **prior to** turning in this Request form. **University Housing cannot decide until receiving and reviewing a formal recommendation from the CEA Office.**

C. Requesting exemption because of married and/or children. The following information must be included with your request:

1. If you are married or will be getting married **before the start of classes:** please send a copy of your marriage license and driver's license. You are not exempt from the Freshman Residency Requirement until **after** you are married*. If your wedding date is within the academic year, please contact our office at that time for instructions on petitioning to be released from your contract.*

2. If you are the parent of a child please send in a copy of your child's birth certificate, your driver's license, and any visitation agreement (if applicable). *If you are going to become a parent during the academic year, please contact our office at that time for instructions on petitioning to be released from your contract.*

D. Requesting exemption because of serving in the military. The following information must be included with your request:

1. If you are serving in the military: please send copies of your orders. They must have the dates of when you are serving*. If you are called into action after you arrive on campus, please call our office for additional information.*

Where do you plan to live if exempt from the freshmen residency requirement?

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Our office cannot decide until we have the address of where you will live if your exemption is approved.

_____ _____

*****DO NOT SIGN A CONTRACT FOR ALTERNATE HOUSING UNTIL YOU RECEIVE APPROVAL FOR FRESHMEN EXEMPTION FROM THE UNIVERSITY FRESHMEN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT! *****

Signature of Prospective Student Date

_____ _____

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian Date

_____ _____

E. Students who wish to be exempt from the required *meal plan ONLY* should send their name, student number and any appropriate information to the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Operations at jmichel@uark.edu.