



Common Reasons Housing Cancellations/Terminations Would Not be Approved

CONTRACT: The Academic Year contract is activated on the first day of fall semester classes. The Spring Semester Only contract is activated on the first day of spring semester classes.

Once the semester begins and the residence hall contract is fully activated, residents are required to fulfill the contractual obligations.

INTERACTIVE PROCESS: Students are expected to engage in an interactive process to discuss barriers they anticipate or are experiencing in the residence halls. Once these barriers are identified, the student and a Residence Life staff member will discuss what steps the resident has already taken to manage/remove these barriers and explore additional options.

Housing Cancellation/Termination Requests are reviewed on an individual basis, but we strive to make decisions that are based on consistent criteria and fairness to all students. Requests may be approved if the resident has an extreme change in circumstances since the start of the school year, but only if an on-campus option is not available. The following are situations where requests may be denied because on-campus solutions are available.

- Unhappiness with residence hall life**
 - Residence hall living is a new experience for most students and requires a certain amount of adjustment. If a student has made a fair adjustment to the hall environment but is still unhappy; a change of hall, room, floor, or roommate may be an effective remedy.
 - Residence hall staff are available to work with residents individually to find a solution if a specific issue continues to be a problem or concern.
- Physical or mental health conditions where a reasonable accommodation is available on campus**
 - Even with documentation from a doctor or therapist, most conditions do not automatically exempt students from policy and contract obligations. Specific health-related conditions and needs must be outlined by a medical or mental health professional.
 - Through the accommodations process, students will identify and discuss the specific areas of concern and issues they are experiencing in the living environment. See DRC web page for more information on the accommodations process (uwrf.edu/DRC).
- Disability where accessible living environment is available on campus**
 - Residence Life works collaboratively with the Disability Resource Center, utilizing the Housing Accommodations process in order to meet students' disability-related needs.
 - Through the accommodations process, students will identify and discuss the specific areas of concern and issues they are experiencing in the living environment. See DRC web page for more information on the accommodations process (uwrf.edu/DRC).

- Financial difficulty
 - Lack of funds alone is not a basis for contract termination. Finances for the academic year should be considered before choosing to enroll at the University or activating the residence hall contract.
 - Financial aid is available to those who qualify based on need, and Residence Life relies on the expertise of the Financial Aid Office to determine if a student has a sufficient financial aid and other funding options to attend UWRF.
 - Financial hardship means there has been a significant change in your financial situation that cannot be rectified.
- Helping at home
 - Needing to be at home to help with a family business, take care of siblings or other family members, or take care of pets or other animals is not a reason to terminate a residence hall contract.
 - The student, along with their family, must explore alternative solutions to accommodate these needs.
- Emotional support animal
 - Pets are not allowed in the residence halls, but if a student has a documented need for an emotional support animal, they will need to go through the housing accommodation process.
 - Students are encouraged to read materials available on the Disability Resource Center website before starting the request process to ensure they qualify for an emotional support animal accommodation.
- Commuting
 - The choice to commute from the home of a parent or legal guardian must be made before the contract has been activated.
 - If you signed an academic year contract, that contract was activated the first day of Fall semester classes.

For More Information:

- Refer to the Contract Cancellation and Termination web page: <https://students.uwrf.edu/residence-life/contract-cancellation-and-termination>
- Speak with your Area Coordinator
- Contact the Residence Life Office

