

# First-Year Student FAQ's

## *Does Wartburg have a residential policy?*

All full-time students must live on campus. Representatives of the Off-Campus Review Committee review all submitted applications for off-campus approval. Criteria that is heavily considered include the student being married, having dependents, living with a parent or legal guardian within 30 miles of the campus, is 23 years old by September, 1 or has applied and received a special exemption from the Off-Campus Housing Review Committee which is extremely rare. Students who move off campus without permission will continue to be charged for campus room and board. Students should plan on living on campus the entire duration of their Wartburg education.

## *How are new students assigned roommates and to rooms?*

All first year and transfer students are assigned a roommate based on the responses to the housing card that they submit to the Residential Life Office. Students are encouraged to fill out the application honestly! Once the housing application is received in the Residential Life office, the date it is received is noted. Preference for building placement is considered by the date in which the application is received.

We encourage students to contact their roommates as soon as they are notified of who they are living with. Communication is key to a successful roommate relationship!

## *What if I have someone who I want to live with?*

Wonderful! Please list your roommate request on your housing card. If you have already sent in your housing card, just call the Residential Life Office and tell us who you would like to live with. Once housing assignments are made (the middle of July) no changes will be made. Requests must be mutual, meaning both students need to request one another.

## *When do I receive my housing assignment letter?*

Roommate assignments are mailed out the last few days of July for the fall semester.

## *What are my room dimensions and can I see my room during the summer?*

Once you receive your housing assignment letter you can find your room dimensions located on the residence life website by clicking on residence halls and the name of your building.

## *When do I move into my residence hall?*

First year and transfer students may arrive on campus between 8:00 a.m. and 1 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the first day of classes. Student athletes participating in fall athletics will receive specific information about early arrivals such as date, time, and check-in location from their coach in collaboration with Residential Life.

## *What comes in a residence hall room?*

- Bed
- Desk
- Desk chair
- Extra-long twin mattress
- Dresser
- Closet or clothes wardrobe
- Curtains or blinds

- Cable and Internet access with basic cable television service included in the room fee

### ***What should I bring?***

Living in a residence hall is different than living at home. For most students this will be the first time they've had to share a room so we encourage you to pack conservatively when you first come to campus. You can always bring more stuff from home if you have room for it later. You **MAY NOT** remove Wartburg furniture from the rooms.

For many of these items, it's a good idea to contact roommates about what they are bringing in order to avoid duplication in the room.

Suggestions for what to bring include: (some items are essential; others are not):

- Linens (80-inch twin XL sheets, pillowcases, pillows, blankets, comforter, mattress pad) Residents should purchase extra long (80") twin bedding as all college mattresses are extra long (80") twin.
- Towels
- Laundry bag or basket
- Desk items
- Wastebasket
- Ironing board
- Clothes hangers
- Alarm clock
- Desk lamp
- Computer
- Backpack
- Earphones
- TV
- Radio/stereo
- 5 (or less) cubic-foot refrigerator (one per room).
- 1.5 (or less) cubic-foot microwave (one per room).
- Floor coverings (rugs, carpets)
- Fan (First year halls are NOT air conditioned)
- Camera
- Bulletin board
- Plastic drawer storage units
- Laundry detergent/softener
- Favorite sports equipment
- Shower caddy and flip flops for the shower
- Markers, tape, scissors
- First-aid kit that includes: ibuprofen, thermometer, band aids, cold remedies
- Sewing kit/safety pins
- Flashlight
- 3M Command Adhesive Strips/hooks (poster size)
- Computer and Cable TV cords

### ***What should I leave at home?***

- Pets (except fish in a 30 gallon tank or smaller; no piranhas)
- Extension cords, multiple plug adapters and surge protectors with more than 6 outlets
- Alcohol (if you're under 21) or alcoholic containers for display
- Candles and incense (prohibited for safety reasons)
- Air conditioners (unless you have a documented medical need on file with the Residential Life Office)
- Toasters, toaster ovens, electric skillets, hotplates, George Foreman grills, space heaters, and other electrical appliances with exposed heating coils (fire hazard)
- Guns, knives, fireworks, and other weapons
- Wireless routers (as of Fall 2011 all halls should be wireless- so no router needed!)
- Duct tape, masking tape, nails, or thumbtacks intended for hanging wall items
- Halogen lamps and multiple head spider lamps. These types of lamps are particularly prone to starting fires. These types of lamps are not only prone to tipping, but may readily ignite objects such as curtains, bedding, lofts, or clothes if placed under or near them. Please leave halogen and spider lamps at home.

***Are the residence halls air conditioned?***

The residence halls which house first-year students (Centennial Complex and Clinton) do not have central air conditioning. Students may cool their rooms through the use of window fans. Students requiring air conditioning for clearly documented health reasons may bring a window air conditioning unit to campus if they have the proper documentation on file in the Residential Life Office. Air conditioning is available in all upper class halls.

***Can I build a loft in my room?***

Students living in The Centennial Complex, Clinton or the Manors are welcome to build lofts for their rooms as long as they follow these [loft standards](#). All college-provided furniture must stay in the residence hall rooms.

***How do I waive out of the health insurance that all Wartburg students are automatically signed up for?***

**In order to waive the student health plan, please log on to:**

[www.eiia.org/wartburg](http://www.eiia.org/wartburg) and then click on waive student health

You MUST do this between July 1, 2011- September 15, 2011.

**\*\*If you choose not to waive, you will be automatically enrolled and will be charged \$268 for the plan year\*\***

**\*\*Note- Many students elect this coverage as a secondary insurance\*\***

***Who can I go to in the Residence Halls if I have a question?***

A professional Residence Life staff member oversees each residence hall. Residence Hall Directors (professional staff who oversee more than one building) are trained professional staff who manage resident assistants, adjudicate disciplinary conduct issues, act as a liaison with facilities management, and promote positive living-learning environments. Professional staff members are assisted by trained student staff who live in each hall and assist with administrative tasks.

Resident Assistants (RAs) are selected and trained student leaders who assist residents by peer counseling, advising, resolving conflicts, providing programs, maintaining community standards and assisting in orientation to collegiate life. RAs play a key role in creating an environment for students that is conducive to academic, personal, and social growth and development. RAs are friends, resources, mentors, role models and community leaders.

***What are my cable TV options?***

Basic cable is provided in each room as part of the room and board costs. Service is provided through Mediacom.

***Where can I do my laundry?***

Laundry facilities are located in each residential building. The cost per load is \$1.00 to wash and free to dry. Ironing boards are not available in the residence halls. Students must provide their own laundry detergent, dryer sheets, iron, etc.

***Where can my friends and family send me mail?***

The Wartburg Mail Center provides delivery of USPS, UPS, private carrier, and on-campus mail and packages to student mailboxes. It operates Monday through Saturday. Letters and packages mailed to you should be addressed as follows:

Student Name

Box: ### (Your assigned mailbox number)

Wartburg College

100 Wartburg BLVD

Waverly, IA 50677

***Do the residence halls have kitchens?***

Each residential area is equipped with a kitchen that includes a microwave, stove, sink, and refrigerator. A small amount of pans are available in each residence hall to checkout from the RA Office.

***Where can I find an RA or check out equipment?***

The RAs in each residence hall staff an RA Office where students may check out a number of useful items. Items may include: vacuums, brooms, pans, games, movies, and pool/ping pong equipment. The RA Offices are open each evening from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. Sunday- Thursday and 8p.m.-2a.m. Friday and Saturday.

***When are quiet hours?***

Quiet hours are from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. Sunday-Thursday and 12 a.m.-8a.m. Friday and Saturday. During quiet hours, noise should not be audible outside of a resident's room with the room door closed. All students are expected to respect other students' rights to study and sleep free from interruptions. Courtesy hours exist at all other times. Simply stated, you need to respect requests from other students to keep all noise down to an acceptable level.

***What are the inter-visitation hours in the residence halls?***

Students in all residence halls may be on floors assigned to the opposite sex between 8 a.m. and 2 a.m.

Although the College has established visitation hours, a student's right to study, sleep and exercise control over his/her personal space takes precedence over the right to host guests. The Residence Life Office/Student Life Office will actively intervene if conflicts arise between roommates with respect to the inter visitation policy.

***Can I smoke on campus?***

In accordance with the State of Iowa Smoke-free Air Act in 2008, smoking is prohibited in all college owned buildings, vehicles, and on all campus grounds. This includes recreational facilities, athletic facilities, and parking lots.

***Can you have alcohol on campus?***

The Centennial Complex and Clinton Hall are “Dry” buildings, meaning regardless of age students are not permitted to possess any alcohol. Students who are found in possession of any full, partially full, or empty alcohol containers are in violation of the Alcohol Policy. For all other halls alcohol possession and consumption is allowed in residence hall rooms only by those students who are 21 years of age or older. Students who are under the age of 21 may not be present in any room where alcohol containers, full, partially full or empty are present.

***If I like to hunt, where can I store my equipment?***

Ammunition and weapons may not be kept in student rooms. Students who wish to have a weapon for hunting purposes must store the weapon and ammunition with the Wartburg Campus Security Office.

***Where can I store my bike?***

There are bicycle racks outside of the residence halls and around most other buildings. Bicycles may also be stored in the student’s room. They cannot be stored in hallways, stairwells, lobbies, lounges, laundry rooms, and building entrances. Also they may not be chained to guard rails, trash cans or trees. We strongly encourage you to register your bike with the Security Office! With minor exceptions, all bicycles look the same. Registering a bike assists Campus Security and the student in locating a missing bike. At any time, there could be 5 blue Treks or 8 green Roadmasters on campus. When registered, each bike is provided with a registration decal with a unique registration number. While everyone is strongly encouraged to lock their bike when not in use, there is evidence the registration decal can be also a theft deterrent. Registration is free.

***Can I bring a car to campus?***

All students may bring one vehicle to campus. They must register it with Campus Security. Students commuting from home may register more than one vehicle. All vehicles must be registered, regardless of duration. There is a nominal fee for registering a vehicle temporarily and bringing a substitute vehicle for an already registered vehicle can be registered at no cost. Always park in one’s assigned student parking lot pending receiving a parking decal or, if not registered, park in D Lot until a decal can be arranged.

***What about security in the residence halls?***

Wartburg has Residence Hall Directors and Security staff members on duty 24 hour per day, 365 days each year. Resident Assistants perform duty rounds in their halls to ensure safety in each building.

***Do the residence hall doors lock at night?***

Outside doors to all residence halls are locked every night at 10:00 p.m. and opened the next morning by 8:00 a.m. All residents are issued an access key for their own hall at check in. Phones are located near access doors in each building.

***Are there emergency phones on campus?***

Emergency telephones are located in several parking lots across campus in case of an emergency. Please note their location when arriving on campus. Telephones are also available in the hallway of each floor within the Residence Halls for emergency purposes as well as the RA Offices in each building.

### ***Can I stay in my room during campus breaks?***

Students are permitted to reside on campus during our three major breaks (Christmas, Winter and Tour Week) as long as they fulfill one of the following requirements: Students are required to be on campus for athletics, on campus employment or academic work. Students who live farther than 500 miles from campus may also request to stay. More information will be provided to students as the various breaks approach. Students who wish to stay on campus must fill out the appropriate form. Any student who isn't registered to stay needs to be out of the hall by 7:00PM on the day break begins, or noon on the day following the beginning of break. The time specific time and date will be sent out to students in the weeks prior to the beginning of the break.

### ***What should I do if I need something fixed in my room?***

If you need to report maintenance concerns to the facilities management staff, simply go to the Hall Directors office or see one of your RAs who will have maintenance work request forms that you can fill out. During your first floor meeting your RA will point out where you can find maintenance request forms.

### ***What happens if I don't get along with my roommate?***

Most roommate matches work out well. Some do not. Students who wish to move to different rooms should talk with their RAs first. The staff will try to help you and your roommate(s) work out your differences. Typically, roommate conflicts arise as a result of communication problems, and the staff will help facilitate open dialog. This process may take awhile; developing open communication does not always occur quickly.

After students have made a good faith effort toward resolving the conflicts, room switches may be available. These moves may also involve a wait depending on the availability of housing or the individual's particular preferences for qualities in their new roommate(s). No room changes will occur before September fifteenth of every academic year.

### ***Where do I eat?***

Wartburg is a residential campus. For this reason, Wartburg offers a variety of dining services that allow the students flexibility and choice. Whether it's eating a full scale meal in the Mensa Dining Hall or picking up a sandwich at the Den-Rittersaal, or ordering specialty drinks at the Konditorei or Zesty Orange, our facilities offer a variety of foods that are ready when you are. For more information visit the Dining Services website.

### ***Who cleans my room?***

You do! Set up cleaning standards with your roommate upon your arrival to campus. All bathrooms are cleaned once a day by professional maintenance staff members, however it is the expectation that each student do his or her part to keep the community areas clean as well.

### ***What if I get Sick?***

You can call the Noah Campus Health Clinic at ext. 8436 to make an appointment to be seen by our staff. The clinic is located in Suite 1392 of the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center. Noah Campus Health Clinic is a comprehensive outpatient clinic on Wartburg College's campus that can meet most health needs of students,

faculty, and staff. Medical conditions that go beyond the scope of the campus health clinic are referred to off-campus providers.

***Do I need health insurance?***

All students are enrolled in Wartburg's Health Insurance Plan. Students wishing to remove themselves from this insurance can do so by "waiving out" on-line. Please follow the instructions sent to you in your first year information packet. All students are required to have some sort of health insurance.

***Do I need insurance for my housing?***

The college does not assume liability for loss or damage to a student's personal items. Students and their parents are encouraged to insure their personal property. It is a good idea to review your home owner's insurance to verify coverage and to consider renter's insurance, if necessary.