Table of Contents

1. Overview
2. New Undergraduate Students
3. New Undergraduate Students Under the Age of 18
4. New Students Part Year Spring Term Entry
5. Essex Abroad - Incoming Study Abroad and Exchange Students
   5.1. Full Year Autumn Term Entry
   5.2. Part Year Autumn Term Entry and Part Year Spring Term Entry
6. Students with Individual Needs
   6.1. New Students
   6.2. Returning Students
7. Undergraduate Students Returning for Subsequent Years of Study
8. Postgraduate Students
   8.1. Postgraduate Autumn Term Start
   8.2. Postgraduate January and April Start
9. Pre-Sessional Students
   9.1. Summer Start Courses
   9.2. Spring, Autumn, and Winter Start Courses
10. Residents’ Life
11. Students’ Union
12. Academic Partners
13. Surplus Accommodation
14. Waiting List
1. Overview

The University of Essex has approved this allocation policy, which provides specified categories of students with a guarantee of accommodation or a priority for accommodation as long as the applicant meets the stated conditions.

Should the number of applicants exceed the number of available rooms, Accommodation Essex will seek to secure additional accommodation from third party providers in order to meet the guarantees and priorities as set out in this policy. Third party accommodation will be off campus and will meet the standards set by either the Student Accommodation Accreditation Scheme or the ANUK code.

Should the number of applicants exceed the number of available rooms, Accommodation Essex may also accommodate applicants in temporary twin rooms on campus until permanent rooms becomes available.

2. New Undergraduate Students

If you are a new, full-time student commencing your studies in the autumn term, you are guaranteed accommodation provided you meet the following conditions:

- You need to submit an application for accommodation by the published guarantee deadline date
- The University of Essex must be your firm choice. Insurance choice students can apply for accommodation when Essex becomes your firm choice
- You must have an unconditional firm (UF), a conditional firm (CF) or, if a direct applicant, an unconditional accepted (UA) or conditional accepted (CA) academic offer when you apply for accommodation
- Applicants must have satisfied any outstanding conditions and achieved unconditional firm (UF) or unconditional accepted (UA) status by no later than 5pm on the Friday after the guarantee deadline date
- You must accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter.

3. New Undergraduate Students Under the Age of 18

If you will be under the age of 18 when your course commences, you are guaranteed accommodation provided you meet the following conditions:

- You need to submit an application for accommodation by the published guarantee deadline date
The University of Essex is your firm choice

You must have an unconditional firm (UF) a conditional firm (CF), or if a direct applicant an unconditional accepted (UA) or conditional accepted (CA) academic offer when you apply for accommodation

Applicants must have satisfied any outstanding conditions and achieved unconditional firm (UF) or unconditional accepted (UA) status by no later than 5pm on the Friday after the guarantee deadline date

You must accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter.

Students under the age of 18 are not always able to apply for accommodation before the guarantee deadline date. Therefore, a limited number of rooms will be held beyond the deadline date and offered to late applicants until all such rooms are allocated.

4. **New Students Part Year Spring Term Entry**

A quota of rooms will be made available to all other spring start applicants, who will be allocated rooms until all available rooms are filled. Applicants must meet the following conditions:

- You apply by the deadline date
- Applicants must have satisfied any outstanding academic conditions by the required deadline date
- You accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter

5. **Essex Abroad - Incoming Study Abroad and Exchange Students**

5.1. **Full Year Autumn Term Entry**

If you will be studying at Essex for the full year, commencing in the autumn term, you are guaranteed accommodation provided you meet the following conditions:

- You apply by the guarantee deadline date
- You accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter.
5.2. Part Year Autumn Term Entry and Part Year Spring Term Entry

A quota of rooms will be made available to part year autumn and spring start applicants, who will be allocated rooms until all available rooms are filled. Applicants must meet the following conditions:

- You apply by the deadline date
- You accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter

6. Students with Individual Needs

6.1. New Students

You will be asked on the accommodation application form if you have specific accommodation requirements due to your individual needs, such as mobility impairment or because you are a care leaver. If you let us know about your specific needs, we will liaise with Student Support to make sure you are offered the right type of accommodation. Please click on the following links for further information:

New Students - Individual Needs
New Students - Disability / Impairment

6.2. Returning Students

If you are a returning undergraduate student and need to live in University owned or administered accommodation due to your individual needs, such as mobility impairment, you are a care leaver or you are under the age of 18, you can apply for accommodation through Student Support. Please click on the following links for further information:

Returning Students - Individual Needs
Returning Students - Disability / Impairment

7. Undergraduate Students Returning for Subsequent Years of Study

International (overseas/fee-paying) undergraduate students, Home students whose permanent address is overseas, returning study abroad full year students and, returning Home placement students are guaranteed accommodation for subsequent years of study.
If you are an International student, a returning study abroad full year student, or a returning Home placement student, and wish to live in University owned or administered accommodation beyond your first year, you must meet the following conditions:

- You need to submit an application for accommodation by the published returning student deadline date
- You must accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter.
- You will also be required to pay a £250.00 rent pre-payment in order to accept your offer.
- You must not have any outstanding accommodation debt prior to your new tenancy commencing.

8. Postgraduate Students

8.1. Postgraduate Autumn Term Start

If you are a new, full time postgraduate student commencing your studies in the autumn term (including University of Essex Graduates progressing on to postgraduate study), you are guaranteed accommodation provided you meet the following conditions:

- You need to submit an application for accommodation by the postgraduate student deadline date
- You must accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter.
- You will also be required to pay a £250.00 rent pre-payment in order to accept your offer.

8.2. Postgraduate January and April Start

If you are a new, full time postgraduate student commencing your studies in the Spring term, a quota of rooms will be made available. Rooms will be allocated until all available rooms are filled. Applicants must meet the following conditions:

- You apply by the deadline date
- You accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter. You will also be required to pay a £250.00 advanced rent payment in order to accept your offer.
9. **Pre-Sessional Students**

9.1. **Summer Start Courses**

Pre-sessional students intending to commence their studies in July, August or September are guaranteed accommodation, provided you meet the following conditions.

- You apply by the deadline date
- Applicants must have satisfied any outstanding academic conditions by the required deadline date
- You accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter

9.2. **Spring, Autumn, and Winter Start Courses**

It is the intention to accommodate as many pre-sessional students as possible, whilst acknowledging room availability may be limited. Therefore, pre-sessional students will be allocated available rooms in date order of receipt of application until all rooms have been filled. Applicants must accept their offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter. Every endeavour is made to allocate pre-sessional students into accommodation that will become their term time room when their pre-sessional course has completed and the academic year commences. However, a room move may be necessary.

10. **Residents’ Life**

An allocation of rooms will be provided for student Residents’ Assistants in agreement with Resident’s Life

11. **Students’ Union**

An allocation of rooms will be provided for Students’ Union SAB Officers.

12. **Academic Partners**

Where the provision of accommodation is such that the number of rooms is expected to exceed that required to accommodate all guaranteed and prioritised University of Essex students, a quota of rooms will be provided for students studying University of Essex accredited degrees at partner institutions. This provision will be reviewed annually.
13. **Surplus Accommodation**

If the University expects to have surplus accommodation after all guaranteed and priority groups are accounted for, the surplus accommodation will be marketed to returning students. If you wish to live in University owned or administered accommodation beyond your first year, you must meet the following conditions:

- You need to submit an application for accommodation by the published returning student deadline date.
- You must accept your offer of accommodation by the offer expiry date given in the accommodation offer letter. You will also be required to pay a £250.00 advanced rent payment in order to accept your offer.
- You must not have any outstanding accommodation debt prior to your new tenancy commencing.

14. **Waiting List**

All students will be able to apply to the waiting list, including those who applied after the relevant guarantee deadline date, or who did not accept their offer of accommodation within the timeframe given. Priority will be given in the following order:

- Welfare/Medical Need
- New full time overseas undergraduate and new full time overseas postgraduate students
- New full time Home undergraduate and new full time Home postgraduate students
- New part year students
- Returning study abroad students and work placement abroad students
- All other work placement students
- Returning full time overseas undergraduate and returning full time overseas postgraduate students
- Returning full time Home undergraduate, returning full time Home postgraduate and returning full time apprenticeship students
- Returning part year students
- Continuation and Completion students.
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