

Subject: UNT HOUSING: Benefits of On-Campus Housing

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From: Housing.Information@unt.edu

To: Me



Dear UNT Housing Residents,

Hello! If you are receiving this email you are currently a freshman at UNT who lives in housing. As the fall semester comes to a close it is time to start searching for living options for next year. Here at UNT we take pride in the convenience and quality of our housing options and before you make the decision to live off-campus, we would like to tell you why we believe living on campus at UNT is the best option for your personal and academic success.

UNT provides three housing options, Mozart, College Inn, and Legends Hall, specifically designed for upper classmen residents, and reserves spaces in all other halls for upper classmen if they choose to stay in housing. With so many upperclassmen continuing to live in the residence halls, the collegiate housing experience is extended and residents are encouraged to continue to grow with the many other classmates who resume residence hall life (**social proof**). Being surrounded by other students who remain in the residence halls encourages upperclassmen to continue to get involved and expand their college life community to create a memorable college experience. Growing with students who are also continuing their college experience in the residence halls encourages studiousness and the benefits a student gets from being constantly surrounded by others who are on the same path creates a nurturing, productive environment (**social proof**).

Having already been given the opportunity to experience UNT from the point of view of the residence halls, you have the chance to continue that journey (**consistency**) as you advance your college career. As all of UNT residence halls are on-campus, students are constantly in close proximity to all the academic buildings and the ease of participating on campus is amplified by this closeness. Maintaining this closeness to activities encourages continued participation to previous commitments (**consistency and commitment**) and as a student, participation has been shown to increase academic scores and this benefit can greatly advance a student in their collegiate career. Here at UNT we believe living on campus is a great way to show your Mean Green spirit and as a student of this wonderful university, housing, and the events housing hosts, creates a wholesome, spirited atmosphere where students can join together in their communities and celebrate the Mean Green (**commitment to the university**).

When considering off-campus life, students need to consider the major differences from living in UNT housing (**uncertainty**). Apartments come with much greater responsibility and pressure. Being a student can already be so stressful, the added strain of taking care of, not only yourself, but your apartment, can be taxing. When living in the residence halls, students can experience an easy shift into adulthood and learn, slowly, to rely on themselves (**perceptual contrast**). Residence hall life has proved to be an excellent milestone in this transition process and students develop so many helpful skills outside of academics to assist them in becoming productive, functioning citizens of their communities. Other students in housing are experiencing very similar transitions and life paths so

finding someone to relate to is never difficult (**similarity**). Choosing to remain in housing allows students to feel more grounded and have a place to call home.

Having completed one semester of school, students now are well aware that the commitment and drive it takes to produce your best work in class can weigh heavily (**cognitive load**). The weight of classes, plus social life, plus extra involvement on campus and at work, plus responsibility for apartment life can feel like a lot to students. If you choose to stay in UNT housing, the amount of mental capacity some students have to dedicate toward worrying about how they will pay for rent or commuting to and from campus can be redirected to devotion to studying. When students have a reduced work load in life there is room for their grades to improve and when students have higher grades, they feel less stressed about their coursework, and this reduced stress aids in creating a productive, happier student.

Apartment living for students can seem exciting, however, there are many fees and responsibilities to keep track of when living in an apartment. Students must pay and budget for rent, utilities, food, laundry, car payments, gas, furnishing an apartment, and then tuition on top of that. However, when living in housing, one tuition bill covers all expenses (**perceptual contrast**). Housing provides free laundry in every residence hall, your housing fee covers utilities and the cost for your room, and when living in housing students receive a great deal on their meal plan giving them plenty of options to eat all around campus. With these expenses packaged into one single, controllable payment, students can focus on learning to manage their time and the various aspects of their lives. This way, once students leave housing after graduation, they will have less to learn and the stress of living on their own will feel doable.

Living on campus also allows students to walk to any destination, so students do not need to burden the responsibility of caring for a vehicle. All academic buildings are in close proximity to the residence halls and students have the luxury of being able to walk to all buildings. The campus is surrounded by restaurants and convenience stores which students can get to by walking as well. UNT also provides a bus system to students. At some universities bus passes can cost up to \$50 (**anchoring**), but here at UNT, the bus is free for students to use and can transport students around campus or around the city of Denton.

Students at UNT have the unique opportunity to live directly on their campus for all four years of their undergraduate career. Living on campus allows students to connect with the spirited, collegiate life around them and encourages students to be involved in campus activities. Higher involvement in activities around campus helps students excel academically and personally, and UNT encourages students to be the best they can be. Many students live on campus at UNT after their first year of school and the community formed in the residence halls promotes and encourages academic success and personal development. So, before you sign an apartment lease, remember to weigh your options, and we hope you choose an on-campus residence hall as you continue your education here at the University of North Texas.

Thank you,
Department of Housing and Residence Life
[University of North Texas](#)