University Housing provides an inclusive living experience for more than 8,000 Cal Poly students. Engaging residential life programs, led by professional staff and peer leaders in diverse Learning Communities, provide a foundational experience that supports Learn by Doing, encourages excellence, and promotes student success.

Because students who live on campus have greater success in college, Cal Poly requires all first-year students to live on campus. University Housing also offers campus housing to continuing, transfer and graduate students. All campus residents have access to academic, social, wellness and awareness events and enjoy opportunities to build life-long friendships.

*First-year students who do not intend to live on campus may request an exemption. Exemptions from the residential requirement are considered based upon the first-year On-Campus Living Exemption Policy.

Residential Learning Communities (RLC)

Every resident is part of a Residential Learning Community. RLCs are intentionally designed to respond to the specific academic and social needs of resident students. Students benefit from established learning outcomes and initiatives that support and expand upon their academic experience. Different RLCs are offered to meet the unique needs of first-year, transfer and continuing students. Students can choose from RLCs based on their academic college, co-curricular interests, culture and identity or gender-inclusive preferences. View the complete list of RLCs here (http://www.housing.calpoly.edu/content/res_life/learning-communities).

Cal Poly Lofts

Cal Poly Lofts, located in downtown San Luis Obispo, is for continuing students who have an entrepreneurial perspective and are ready to launch innovations or business ideas. Programs are offered in close collaboration with the Cal Poly Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship.

Residential Life Staff

RLC programs and activities are administered by Coordinators of Student Development (CSDs)—full-time, live-in professionals who assist residents with counseling, crisis intervention, general referrals, and conduct actions. The CSDs also oversee front desk services and the Resident Advisors (RAs). RAs are typically upper-division students who understand the challenges faced by new students and make living on campus a positive and memorable experience. They are trained in building community, making academic referrals, planning events, mediation and crisis intervention.

Student Leadership

Student representatives are elected in fall term to serve on Community Councils (governing boards) in each of the halls and apartments. Participants contribute to their hall’s community by planning social, recreational, and educational events, and by voicing student-related concerns. Inter Housing Council is the umbrella student government organization for all the Community Councils. Networks in community services, recreational sports and multicultural issues provide additional opportunities for student involvement.

Residential Technology and Network (ResNet)

Cal Poly Residential Technology and Network (ResNet) is the campus housing network and technology services that support student success in the residential communities. All campus rooms have 24/7 access to the Cal Poly Network and wireless Internet services. ResNet supports academic success and personal connectivity uses through robust connectivity and effective performance, with a focus on delivering the latest network standards. All residents receive convenient access to University Housing TV services, including local broadcast stations, cable networks, sports, and movies, available on lounge area TVs and on personal devices (laptops, phones, tablets, smart TVs). Residential Technology and Network computing support is available in-person, by phone, and online for all campus residents.

Securing Campus Housing

New students

Only students who accept Cal Poly’s offer of admission are able to apply for campus housing. To secure a space for first-year or transfer student housing, students must: 1) accept the offer of admission from Cal Poly; and, 2) complete the online housing application, electronically sign the license agreement, and make the initial payment.

Continuing students

To secure a space for continuing student housing, students must complete the online housing application, electronically sign the license agreement, and make the initial payment.

University Housing offers double, triple and quad rooms in the residence halls. Campus apartments feature single and shared rooms. Housing preferences are granted on a first-come, first-served basis, based on the date the student secured housing, demand, and availability. For complete application information, visit the University Housing website (http://www.housing.calpoly.edu/student-housing).

Fees

The initial payment, required to secure housing, is the first step in the payment process. A non-refundable initial payment may be required for continuing and transfer student applications. The balance of fees for the academic year are paid in advance, either in full, by installment payment plan, or by quarterly financial aid disbursements. View the current housing fees here:

First-year fees (http://www.housing.calpoly.edu/student-housing/freshman-housing/freshman-student-housing-fees)
Transfer/grad fees (http://www.housing.calpoly.edu/student-housing/transfer-graduate-student-housing)
Continuing student fees (http://www.housing.calpoly.edu/student-housing/continuing-housing/continuing-student-housing-fees)
Cal Poly Lofts (http://www.housing.calpoly.edu/student-housing/lofts)

Off-Campus Housing Resources

Cal Poly's Dean of Students office offers Off-Campus Resources (https://ercp.calpoly.edu/content/resources) for students interested in living in the community.