

Accommodation Allocation Policy 2023/24

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Accommodation Allocation Policy 2023/24

Introduction

This document outlines the allocation policy and process for accommodation for session 2023/24, September intake.

Accommodation comprises University-owned and managed buildings, as well as purpose-built student accommodation managed by third party providers. Applications for accommodation are processed by the University and in some cases, students may be referred to another accommodation provider.

Those commencing their first year of full-time study in September 2023 who meet the eligibility criteria and the application deadlines, will be considered for an offer of accommodation. This could be either on or off campus and may not be the applicant's first preference of accommodation type. Offers are made subject to the terms of offer outlined in this document.

Overarching Principles

The University of Strathclyde is committed to providing an outstanding student experience, in line with the [University's Values](#). Accommodation places are predominantly reserved for those who are new to the University. It is acknowledged that places in University accommodation are limited and therefore, not all students will receive an offer of accommodation.

The University actively supports widening access to higher education and aims to attract the best students regardless of their background. Where possible, accommodation will be provided to those who may be significantly disadvantaged by not living in University accommodation. The University reserves the right to offer accommodation to those not covered by this policy.

University accommodation is suitable for single occupants only and **will not be offered to families or couples**. Students who are arriving in the UK with dependants should ensure that they have suitable accommodation booked in advance of their arrival.

1. Eligibility Criteria

1.1. Eligibility to Apply for Accommodation

To be eligible to apply for accommodation applicants should be entering a full-time programme of study at the University of Strathclyde, for at least two semesters and either:

- Be entering their first year of study and have received a conditional/unconditional offer. This includes those with firm and insurance offers.

- Be a continuing student who is in one of the categories listed in section 3 and would be significantly disadvantaged by not living in University accommodation, due to health, disability or other circumstances.

Those studying remote or distance learning programmes will not be eligible to apply for accommodation.

1.2. Application Deadlines

Applications for accommodation must be submitted online by the following dates to be considered for an offer of accommodation:

New Undergraduate students	Applications open	Deadline for submitting application	Deadline for conditions to be met
Scottish students	18 April 2023	30 June 2023	22 August 2023
Rest of the United Kingdom, EU & Overseas students	18 April 2023	30 June 2023	22 August 2023
Students applying through Clearing	18 April 2023	25 August 2023	25 August 2023

New Postgraduate students	Applications open	Deadline for submitting application	Deadline for conditions to be met
All PGR and PGT students	18 April 2023	25 August 2023	25 August 2023

Eligible continuing students	Applications open	Deadline for submitting application
All eligible continuing students	18 April 2023	30 June 2023

Applications received after the deadline date will be automatically held on file and will not be consulted until 1st September 2023. Accommodation places are limited and an offer of accommodation is unlikely to be made to late applicants. Applicants should seek their own accommodation and extend their search across the city of Glasgow and the surrounding areas.

1.3. Eligibility for Accommodation Offer

To be eligible for an offer of accommodation applicants should meet all of the following criteria:

- Have submitted their application before the deadline
- Have received and accepted an unconditional offer to study at the University of Strathclyde, with all conditions met before the deadline.
- Have a home address beyond a 25-mile radius from the University of Strathclyde

Those who live within a 25-mile radius of the University and wish to be considered for an offer of accommodation, can still apply, but are unlikely to receive an offer of accommodation unless they meet one of the priority criteria as listed in section 3. Applicants should seek their own accommodation and extend their search across the city of Glasgow and the surrounding areas. Specific transport difficulties should be noted on the application as exceptions may be made in certain circumstances.

2. Conditions of Offer

Offers of accommodation will be subject to the following conditions:

- a. **One offer of accommodation will be made to each applicant.** When an offer expires or is declined the applicant will not hear from Accommodation Services with a further offer.
- b. **Offers will be time limited and must be accepted online before the deadline stated on the offer.** If an offer is not accepted by the deadline it will expire.
- c. If an offer expires or is declined, applicants should source alternative accommodation, such as private housing or purpose-built student accommodation operated by other providers. While guidance information will be provided, applicants must make their own alternative arrangements.
- d. All communication including offers of accommodation shall be made by email. An offer can be made at any time. Applicants are responsible for checking their email regularly and logging into the accommodation portal for details of an accommodation offer. The University accepts no responsibility if an offer expires due to emails being unopened or missed by the applicant.
- e. Those who no longer require University Accommodation, can choose to decline the offer. This will result in the application will be withdrawn and no further offer of accommodation shall be made.
- f. Preferred accommodation types cannot always be offered and are subject to availability at the point of allocation. Alternative accommodation may be offered and could be located either on or off campus with a third-party provider.
- g. If an applicant does not receive an offer of their preferred room type, a second offer of accommodation will not be made.
- h. Applications and acceptance of offers of accommodation should be completed by the applicant only. An offer of accommodation requires the applicant to enter into a legally binding occupancy agreement which should be read and fully understood before being accepted.
- i. In the event that demand for accommodation exceeds supply, students who have applied before the deadline may not be offered accommodation and should source alternative accommodation, such as private housing or purpose-built student accommodation operated by other providers. While guidance information will be provided, applicants must make their own alternative arrangements.
- j. Accommodation Services reserve the right not to offer accommodation to an applicant.

3. Allocation Priority

The University will consider applications from students with particular needs and requirements or whose circumstances mean that they would be significantly disadvantaged by not receiving an offer of accommodation.

Applications from students who are in any of the following categories, may be considered for an offer of accommodation. Applicants should clearly state the category they are applying under on their application for their circumstance to be considered and may be asked to provide evidence. All remaining eligibility criteria and application deadlines must be met.

All remaining eligible applications will be processed in date order of the application being made.

Category	Definition	Adjustment to Eligibility Criteria
Care experienced and estranged	<p>Care experienced: The applicant has spent any time in care as a looked after child, including kinship care, living with a relative, looked after at home with the help of social work, local authority care, living in a residential unit, living with foster carers, living in a secure unit or adoption. Please note, this does not include those who have been a carer for a relative.</p> <p>Estranged: The applicant has no contact with their immediate family and is/will be studying without their financial and emotional support and/or approval.</p>	Applications from new and continuing students will be prioritised for an offer of accommodation.
Under 18 at the beginning of the academic year	The applicant is under 18 at the beginning of the academic year with a home address beyond a 25-mile radius of the campus.	Applications from new students who will be under 18 at the beginning of the academic year shall be prioritised for an offer of on campus accommodation.
Medical requirements	Have a medical condition or disability that requires specific accommodation adjustments that can be met by the University (please note we will consult with the Disability and Wellbeing Service in assessing applications and may request medical evidence). The applicant may be contacted in advance of arrival to discuss their needs and to develop a personal emergency evacuation plan.	Applications from new and continuing students will be prioritised for an offer of accommodation.

Category	Definition	Adjustment to Eligibility Criteria
Home postcode in SIMD20 and SIMD40 categories and new to the University	The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is divided into groups called 'Quintiles'. Postcodes in Quintile 1 or 2 (the bottom 20% and 20 to 40% most deprived areas in Scotland).	New students with SIMD20 and SIMD40 home postcodes will be considered for an offer of accommodation, regardless of the distance from the University and ability to commute.

Further guidance:

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/accommodation/>

<https://www.strathunion.com/support/housing/findinghousing/>

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/wideningaccess/>