

Accommodation Frequently Asked Questions

1) When do I apply for accommodation?

If you put Exeter as your firm first choice university, you will be able to make an online application for accommodation from April in your year of entry.

2) How do you allocate the rooms?

We do not allocate on a first come, first served basis. Once your offer becomes unconditional firm with the University, we allocate on a random basis. The computer generates a random list which we work from. If we cannot allocate you any of your three preferences, we would use your preferences as a guide to the type of accommodation you would prefer.

3) When will I hear what accommodation I have been allocated?

If you are a deferred student we would advise that you apply as soon as the online application opens in April. An offer of accommodation will then be made around June/July of your year of entry. If you have met the accommodation guarantee criteria and are awaiting your results, we will allocate you a room once we have received confirmation of your results and your offer becomes unconditional firm. So, if you are awaiting A level results you should receive your offer of accommodation by the beginning of September.

4) I do not want to share a room, can I request not to have one?

There is no guarantee that single rooms will be available however, the majority of our room are single. Within catered halls of residence there are a number of twin rooms, therefore the University is unable to guarantee that you will be given a single room even if you have requested one on your application.

5) Will my residence be on campus?

University owned, managed or approved accommodation can be either on campus or off campus. We cannot guarantee that you will be allocated a room on campus however, most of the residences are with 15 minutes walk of the Streatham campus and none are more than a 40-minute walk away. All of the residences offer easy access to a wide range of facilities within the City.

6) If I apply for catered room, will I get one?

We make every effort to allocate accommodation according to your preferred choices. However, due to the high demand for certain residences there is a small chance we may not be able to offer you any of your choices. However, we will try to match your requirements as closely as possible.

7) What are the meals like in catered halls?

There is a range of meals available at each sitting including a vegetarian option. Please note we do not provide Kosher meals, however Halal meals may be possible. A sample menu can be found on the accommodation website www.exeter.ac.uk/accommodation

8) If I apply for self-catered accommodation can I purchase food on campus?

There is a range of food outlets across the campus and details are available via our website. There are a number of supermarkets in the centre of Exeter (Tesco, Sainsbury's, Iceland, Marks and Spencer). The local D bus service also runs every 15 minutes during term-time from the campuses to the city centre and a large Tesco store on the outskirts of the city. Alternatively you could arrange to shop as a group and catch a taxi back or do a combined shop online so you can share the delivery costs.

9) I wear contact lenses, can I have a room with a washbasin?

The majority of standard study bedrooms usually have washbasins, whilst all of the enhanced and en-suite rooms will have a washbasin. When you apply for accommodation, state your request in the further information section and we will try and grant you a room with a washbasin. However, this cannot be guaranteed.

10) I am allocated standard or an enhanced room, how many people will I share a bathroom with?

The ratio varies between residences and the information can be found on our website. In general students have no problems accessing the bathrooms when needed due to the different timetables people have. In catered residences, if a bathroom is occupied, students simply walk to the next one available.

11) Why do catered halls have a 31 week contract and self-catered residences have 40, 42 or 44 week contract?

Due to other business commitments our catered halls have contracts for 31 weeks so that you do not pay for the vacation periods and will need to leave the residence. In Holland Hall, Mardon Hall and St Luke's you will also be required to remove your belongings for the Easter vacation period. In our self-catering residences, we provide a choice of contract lengths, however, the contract term and price is set and cannot be amended.

12) Which is the best residence/hall?

The University of Exeter has a wide variety of accommodation to suit different tastes and budgets. They vary in the feel and atmosphere. It is a good idea to visit the locations and view the virtual tours to get a feel for the different options.

13) Can I move to a different residence if I am not happy?

If you have a contract with the University room movements are not permitted within the first two weeks of the academic year but after this you may move rooms if alternative rooms have become available. There is an administration charge of £40.00. Where your contract is with one of our partners in University approved accommodation, room moves may be permitted but there will be a charge for this. You are advised to speak to the Accommodation team after arrival.

14) If I put Exeter as my insurance offer can I be guaranteed accommodation?

If Exeter is your insurance choice, you will not be able to apply online for accommodation until it is confirmed that you have a place at Exeter in August. We will do our best to offer you any rooms that may be available with the University residences or we will offer you advice on how to find alternative accommodation.