

*** (20:37:19):Welcome to Parent Access , John Jobson!

*** (20:40:18):Welcome to Parent Access , keri!

*** (20:43:36):Welcome to Parent Access , Peggy!

Scott Travis says to (20:43:38):

Hi Keri, thanks for logging in. We will be getting started shortly. (Approx. 8:00)

*** (20:47:20):Welcome to Parent Access , Jeannie!

Scott Travis says to (20:51:08):

Hello and welcome to our 4th Parent Access chat of the year. Tonight I am here with Dr. John Jobson, Director of Residential Life and Housing and Associate Dean of students. We are now open to take your questions.

*** (20:52:58):Welcome to Parent Access , kad!

Peggy says to (20:53:48):

Thanks for the chance to ask questions! My daughter is in Gilmore. Can she store her loft for next year? Can she store boxes?

*** (20:54:27):Welcome to Parent Access , Randi!

John Jobson says (20:55:47):

Students from a considerable distance away and who plan to return to the same building the next year may store some of their items over the summer.

John Jobson says (20:56:32):

Students who are interested in storing items can contact the Resident Director of their building

*** (20:56:37):Welcome to Parent Access , spbj!

*** (20:56:53):Welcome to Parent Access , Cheryl!

*** (20:57:12):Welcome to Parent Access , Ruth!

*** (20:57:49):Welcome to Parent Access , Lisa!

Ruth says to (20:58:26):

When so the students need to sign up for dorms and roommates for next year?

Lisa says to (20:59:02):

Is storing items an option at the frats too?

Scott Travis says to (20:59:25):

Lisa- Cottages are not able to store items over the summer.

John Jobson says (21:00:32):

Students were sent letters a few weeks ago that outlined the Housing timeline. The Housing process starts with the apartment application process and concludes with Room Draw on April 5.

Scott Travis says to (21:00:46):

All the dates for housing deadlines are here:

<http://www.hope.edu/student/residential/oncamp/returning.htm>

kad says to (21:00:54):

When and how are the cottage and apartment decisions?

Ruth says to (21:01:03):

Thanks!

*** (21:02:31):Welcome to Parent Access , Joe & Darci Kessie!

John Jobson says (21:03:03):

The majority of cottages are 'closed' which means the Resident Assistant fills the house with their peers (of the same gender :-)). There are a few spaces that we reserve for room draw. The Room Draw process is credit driven.

Lisa says to (21:03:19):

My son was interested in renting a home off campus for his senior year. I wasn't too keen on the idea so it is not happening for now. What is the policy for off campus housing?

*** (21:03:38):Welcome to Parent Access , DaveB!

Jeannie says to (21:03:47):

My freshman lives in Voorhees this year and says he wants to live in the same room and there are some other guys who want to be up on the same floor, too. He says this is called "squatting" and that there is a way to request this. Yes?

Scott Travis says to (21:04:25):

Jeannie- Students can "squat" in the residence halls, but not the apartments or cottages.

John Jobson says (21:04:37):

Off-campus housing is reserved for students who are in their last year at Hope. The application process already occurred (applications were due by 2/1)

*** (21:04:38):Welcome to Parent Access , mptropp!

*** (21:04:41):Welcome to Parent Access , elcoy!

Peggy says to (21:04:49):

Are there any plans to renovate any of the other dorms in the near future?

John Jobson says (21:05:42):

Yes... We're still finalizing details so I'm not able to offer specifics but an announcement will be made in the coming weeks.

kad says to (21:05:52):

How are the apartments assigned?

spbj says to (21:06:37):

Do the cottages open up for returning students in the fall on the same day as the dorms open or is it different?

John Jobson says (21:06:52):

Apartments are assigned based upon the total number of earned credits of the people on the application.

Scott Travis says to (21:07:31):

spbj- Residence Halls for new students open on Friday of Orientation Weekend (August 27). Returning students can move in at noon on Sunday the 29th.

Randi says to (21:08:14):

What counts as "earned" credits?

Peggy says to (21:08:25):

John, is the finalizing details response to my dorm renovation question? LOL I'm hoping so!

Scott Travis says to (21:08:50):

Peggy- yes there are renovations planned, but not yet an announcement on which ones.

John Jobson says (21:08:52):

Earned credits are the number of credits that students had at the end of January 2009

kad says to (21:08:56):

Are apartments generally only for seniors then?

John Jobson says (21:10:07):

Most 2-person apartments are filled by seniors. The larger apartments (5-6 people) tend to be more of a combination of juniors and seniors

Ruth says to (21:10:09):

Do the students get "first dibs" on returning to the same dorm as they were in this year?

John Jobson says (21:11:04):

Yes. They can fill out their housing card and turn it in to the housing office tomorrow (they could turn it in now - but the office is closed until 8:00 a.m.)

Cheryl says to (21:11:17):

My son will be a sophomore next year and has expressed an interest in having a single room. Is one person in a room an option? I know that there is an additional charge for this.

Lisa says to (21:11:57):

Is it possible for an upper classman to get into a dorm a little early? We will have two kids (one a freshman) at Hope in the fall. It's slightly over a 12 hour drive so we are bringing both in the same trip.

Scott Travis says to (21:12:13):

Lisa- yes, you will just need to contact the housing office ahead of time.

DaveB says to (21:13:03):

I live in PA; my son will be going to Japan May Term and then staying in Holland for summer for the research program. what options do we have to store his "stuff" during the May term?

John Jobson says (21:13:45):

Because of the limited number of singles available on-campus, most singles are reserved for students with a medical or emotional need. In those circumstances, we require documentation from the student's care provider.

Scott Travis says to (21:13:45):

DaveB- Your son has a very unique situation. It is best that he schedule a time to meet with Dr. Jobson and they can work out a solution.

kad says to (21:14:05):

Thanks John, so if you had a group of 4 or 5 juniors, odds would be against them getting an apartment?

Scott Travis says to (21:14:16):

kad- it all depends on the total credits of the group.

John Jobson says (21:14:33):

There are a small number of singles available at Room Draw -- these tend to go rather quickly

spbj says to (21:14:48):

What furniture comes with the cottages?

Ruth says to (21:15:24):

But they do have till March 18th to get their housing requests in to have the same dorm next year, right?

Scott Travis says to (21:15:42):

Ruth- yes. If they know that is what they would like to do, they can turn it in now and get it out of the way.

John Jobson says (21:16:15):

Cottages and apartments have the basics essentials -- soft seating (sofas, chairs, etc.), coffee table, end table, lamps, dining room table and chairs. We do not provide dishes or any sort of electronics

elcoy says to (21:16:31):

So how many credits does a student need to move off campus?

John Jobson says (21:16:56):

75 credits as of January 31 the year prior to living off-campus

Ruth says to (21:17:27):

Thanks

Peggy says to (21:18:21):

any advice on picking room mates?

John Jobson says (21:20:03):

There are a couple of ways that picking roommates go. The first, is if they have developed a working relationship with their current roommate. The second is someone in their academic program (assuring that they have similar academic schedules)

Scott Travis says to (21:20:46):

Here is a link to the "find a roommate" form:

<http://www.hope.edu/student/residential/needaroommate/index.html>

kad says to (21:20:59):

I guess I'm just wondering whether apartments would even be an option for juniors with standard credits. Or are they usually taken up by seniors? I don't know how popular they are.

Peggy says to (21:21:26):

Thanks! She's worried that rooming with a close friend will ruin the friendship!

elcoy says to (21:21:29):

so the 75 credit requirement basically eliminates juniors from moving off campus and it is a senior only program

*** (21:21:49):Welcome to Parent Access , karen!

Scott Travis says to (21:21:51):

elcoy- Yes, living off-campus is designed to be a senior year program.

John Jobson says (21:23:52):

The credit levels required to get into an apartment varies somewhat from year to year. Last year, the last group to get a 4-person apt had 219 cr. The last group to get a 5-person apt had a total of 255 cr

Ruth says to (21:24:11):

What is the percentage of students who stay with their freshman roommates vs switching to a new one their sophomore year? Ballpark

John Jobson says (21:24:19):

50-50

elcoy says to (21:24:59):

So whats the logic behind only letting seniors live off campus? I assume you have reasons

Randi says to (21:25:05):

What is the school's definition of "living off-campus"?

DaveB says to (21:25:27):

How is housing handled for the summer research program?

Scott Travis says to (21:25:44):

DaveB- Students work through the academic department that they are doing research with.

John Jobson says (21:26:20):

There is a substantial amount of research that associated living on-campus with a host of positive outcomes (e.g., likelihood of degree completion, involvement in extra-curricular activities).

karen says to (21:26:51):

I'm just joining the discussion so I hope my question wasn't already covered... My daughter is taking a class in May and is considering another for the month of June. She thinks she will be able to room in Gilmore, but does she NEED to be on a food plan

Scott Travis says to (21:27:16):

karen- For May Term a meal plan is required. For Summer Terms (June and July) there is no such requirement.

Ruth says to (21:27:19):

Thanks

John Jobson says (21:28:08):

The definition of living off-campus is anything that isn't owned or controlled by the College or the parent's primary residence

elcoy says to (21:28:24):

Do you ever allow sophomores or juniors to live off campus if the parents approve and sign off so to speak?

Peggy says to (21:28:53):

This isn't a question, but I would like to say you have some wonderful young women as RA's and RD's at Hope.

Scott Travis says to (21:28:56):

Thanks Peggy.

John Jobson says (21:29:11):

Soph and Jr students may commute from their parents primary place of residence but may not live off-campus

John Jobson says (21:29:25):

Peggy- Thanks.

karen says to (21:29:37):

What are the costs for May/June housing

karen says to (21:29:45):

I agree with Peggy! My daughter lives in Dykstra and her RA is wonderful!!!

Scott Travis says to (21:30:11):

Karen: Great question. We don't have those rates with us here. You can email housing@hope.edu and we will be happy to help you out.

karen says to (21:30:52):

Thanks Scott. Will do.

elcoy says to (21:31:17):

What is your distance limit on how far away the primary parents live before it becomes too far to live off campus?

John Jobson says (21:32:25):

25 miles. If the student can build a compelling case for expanding it beyond 25 miles, it is a case by case basis and they should meet with me one-on-one

Scott Travis says to (21:32:40):

More information on the housing policy and the on-campus philosophy can be found here: <http://www.hope.edu/student/residential/HousingPolicy.htm>

Ruth says to (21:32:53):

If the students want to live together in the same dorm next year can they get the same room and keep it set up as a loft or does everything need to be put back in the original configuration, regardless?

John Jobson says (21:33:38):

Everything needs to be put back in the original configuration because of the buildings being used for summer conferences

Ruth says to (21:34:51):

OK makes a lot of sense- thanks

elcoy says to (21:35:03):

i might be showing my age but is the off campus ruling something new? When I went to Hope we all moved off campus when we were juniors and I do not recall any policy issues.

John Jobson says (21:35:53):

The housing policy has been the same since before my arrival in 05. Like you, I am Hope alum and when I was a student in the early 90s it was the same

kad says to (21:39:41):

What options would you recommend to a group (4-5) of juniors who do not want to live in the dorms next year?

DaveB says to (21:40:12):

i came in a little late. what was the link to the housing dates again? sorry

John Jobson says (21:40:13):

Apply for an apartment or try to draw into the same flex cottage

Scott Travis says to (21:40:14):

<http://www.hope.edu/student/residential/oncamp/returning.htm>

DaveB says to (21:40:24):

thanks

John Jobson says (21:41:17):

Flex cottages are the houses that we allow the RA to fill 1/2 with their friends and then give out the other rooms at Room Draw

kad says to (21:42:46):

Thanks, it sounds like apartments are hard to get as a junior, but a 'flex' cottage may work better for juniors? Is that the case?

John Jobson says (21:43:18):

I would encourage them to try for an apartment as that process is completed prior to Room Draw

Ruth says to (21:43:32):

How do students who are on a year abroad get their housing set for their senior year if they are out of the country their junior year? Does Hope contact them in Jan of their junior year?

John Jobson says (21:43:33):

Yes

Ruth says to (21:44:04):

Thanks

kad says to (21:44:54):

So if they don't get an apartment, then they can put in for the flex cottage room draw. Thanks for the info.

Scott Travis says to (21:45:40):

We will stay on to answer a few more questions if you have them. You have all asked some very good questions tonight!

DaveB says to (21:46:42):

Thanks again for this forum to find info (esp since I often feel a bit out of it since I live so far away). I'll have my son contact you about the May term away

Randi says to (21:46:54):

Thank you for having this session. It was helpful.

Ruth says to (21:47:25):

I would also like to compliment you on this forum. Very helpful and efficient. Thanks. Have a good night.

Scott Travis says to (21:48:04):

We enjoyed chatting with you all. Our next chat is Tuesday, March 9 with Alfredo Gonzales on the topic of Diversity and Inclusion. Alfredo is Associate Provost and Dean of International and Multicultural Ed.

Scott Travis says to (21:48:13):

Any more questions?

Scott Travis says to (21:50:16):

Thanks again everyone. It looks like we are all set for the night. We look forward to hosting future chats with you and hope you have a great rest of your week. You can always find info for Hope parents at www.hope.edu/parents.

Scott Travis says to (21:50:22):

Goodnight!