

IOWA

University Housing and Dining

Welcome Home: Housing and Dining at the University of Iowa

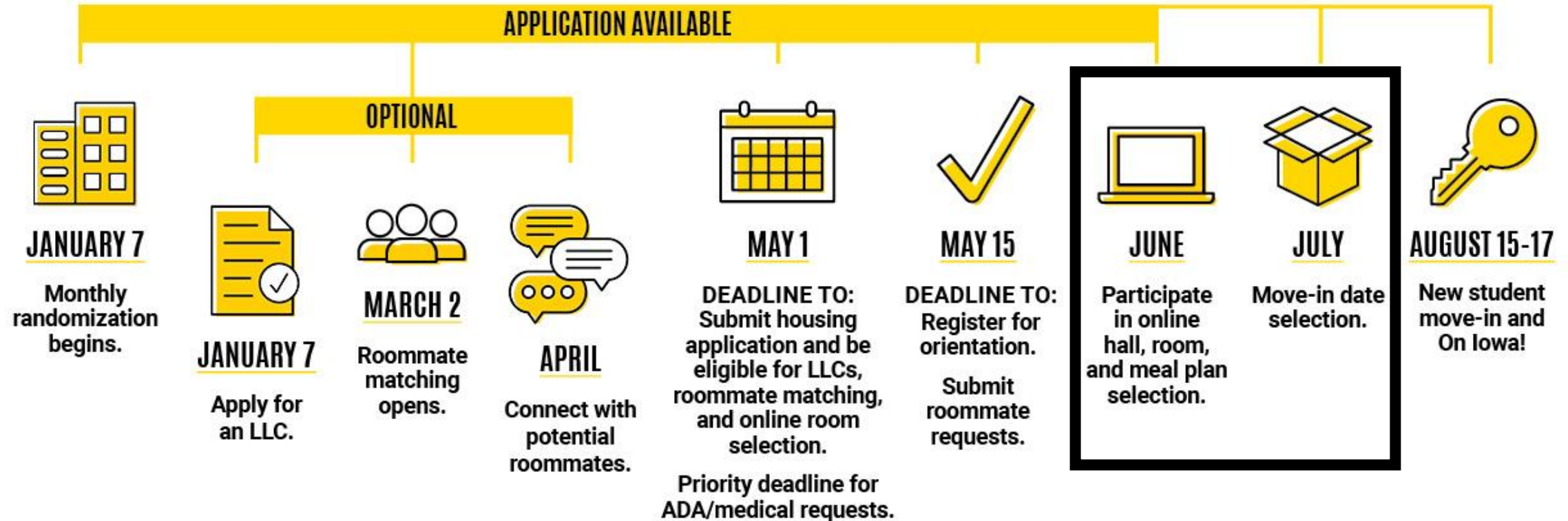
Summer 2026

Agenda for today

- Provide some “how to” overviews of processes within Housing & Dining
- Share resources and programs available to students in the halls
- Provide tips for the transition



Living on campus timeline FOR NEW HAWKEYES 2026-2027



Meal plan lingo

- **Meal plans are loaded onto your Iowa One card (Student ID)**
- **Meal Swipe:** use these at any of the three market places (Burge, Catlett, and Hillcrest); do not carry over from fall semester to spring semester
- **Dining Dollars:** declining balance; can be used in any university dining location across campus; will carry over from fall to spring, but expire at end of spring
- **Guest Meal:** meals that come with meal plans for students to bring a guest with them to the market place

Meal Plan Options

Meal Plan	Estimated Meals/Week	Dining Dollars	Guest Meals	Cost per Semester
Unlimited	21	\$150	5	\$2,417.50
Block 160	10	\$450	5	\$2,212.50
Weekly 14	14	\$350	5	\$2,315
Block 50*	3	\$250	0	\$875

- Changes may be made at the beginning of each term through the Dining website.
- <https://dining.uiowa.edu/meal-plans>

*only an option for students with a university-supplied kitchen or off-campus students

Market2Go: Green Boxes

- Convenient option to take your meal to go!
- Use a meal swipe and ask the checker for a Market2Go box, fill it with your meal, and take it to go
- Bring back the green box the next time you use a meal swipe and either take a new box or if you're eating in, grab a clip for you keychain to use next time



Dietary needs

- All market places open to students with allergies and special dietary needs
- University Dining staff can assist you with:
 - Food allergies
 - Navigating the market places
 - Making a nutritious plate
 - General nutrition education
- Dining.uiowa.edu/dietitian-appointment
- There is a pre-recorded webinar all about university dining and dietary needs that you can find on the Orientation Services site



Laundry

- Laundry dollars are included in your room contract
 - \$60/semester
 - Loaded onto your Iowa one Card
 - Laundry dollars will carry over from fall to spring semester, but expire at the end of spring semester
- \$1.75/load to wash
- \$1.25/load to dry
- Helpful laundry tips:
 - Make sure you use high-efficiency laundry detergent. The product label should have a small "HE" on it.
 - Do NOT overfill the machines. This can prevent your laundry from getting clean and cause damage to your clothes and the machine.
 - Use the monitoring app to look to see how many washers and dryers are free



New Student Move-In 2026

- Move-In Logistics webinar: Tues, June 30 at 6pm central – we'll do a deep dive into everything you need to do to prepare for residence hall move-in.
- New student move-in dates:
 - **Saturday, August 15, Sunday, August 16, and Monday, August 17**
 - Move-In Date & Time Selection: Occurs July 7 – 9, you will be assigned a date and time to log in to choose your time
 - Can adjust move-in date & time until July 29
 - Not everyone can move in on Saturday – so plan to have flexibility in what date you choose to move in
- Need to come after August 17? Totally ok! Plan to arrive by Thursday, August 20



Move-In 2026

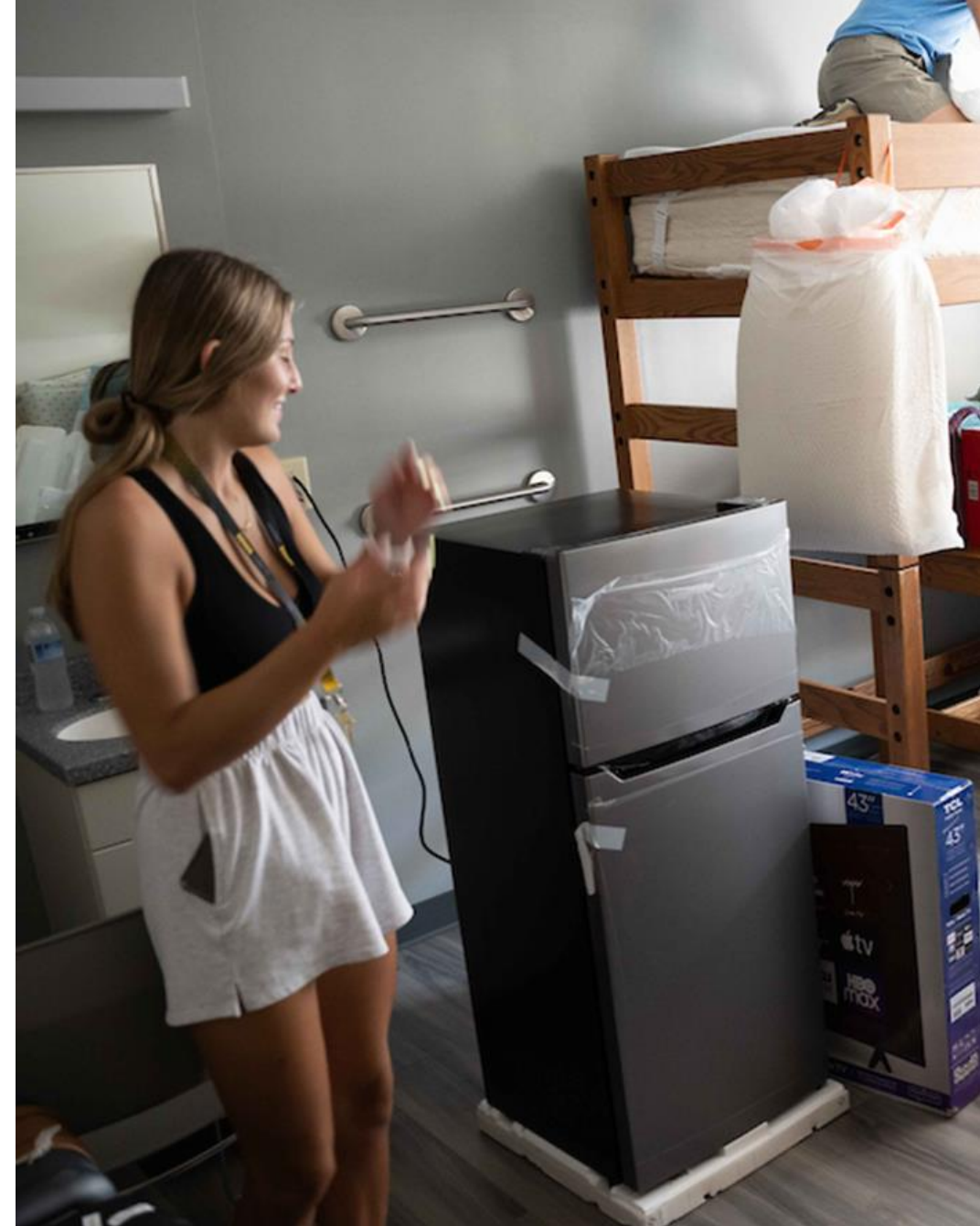
housing.uiowa.edu/move-in

- Move-In timeslots
 - Students will have a 30-minute time slot on a specific date of move-in; this is the date and time you can arrive to start the move-in process
 - We will have traffic patterns that will be important to follow with plenty of staff and volunteers to assist you with the process!
- Pre-assigned groups:
 - If you are participating in a group or program that has events scheduled the weekend of new student move-in, you will receive a pre-assigned move-in time to ensure you are here on time!



Move-In Prep

- Streamline your move-in process and support your hall:
 - **Rent** a mini fridge and microwave combo & have it delivered to your room through MicroFridge. Order by Aug 2! <https://mymicrofridge.com/>
 - **Purchase** a futon & have it delivered to your room through Bedloft.com. Order by Aug 2! <https://bedloft.com/>
 - **Purchase** a room essentials pack & have it delivered to you before you come to campus through SWAKU. Order by July 22! <https://www.swaku.com/uiowa-room>
 - **Room Direct** program with Storage Squad: send your items to Storage Squad and they'll place them in your room for you. <https://storagesquad.com/room-direct/university-of-iowa/>



A photograph of two young men in a dorm room. They are standing in front of a wooden desk and a brick wall decorated with sports banners. The student on the left is wearing a white t-shirt and grey pants, while the student on the right is wearing a dark t-shirt and blue pants. Both are wearing backpacks. The room features wooden bunk beds, a desk with a plant, and various sports memorabilia.

LIFE IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS

Welcoming & Engaging Communities

- Living in the residence halls gives you the chance to:
 - Build friendships
 - Explore new experiences
 - Be a part of a welcoming community with support, connection, and help you find a sense of belonging
- Residence Hall staff will support you through events, one-on-one interactions, and community experiences
- We focus on helping you:
 - Inquire about your academic growth
 - Reflect on your personal development
 - Expand your perspectives and your community



Roommate Relationships

housing.uiowa.edu/roommates

- Talk with your roommate now:
 - Get to know one another
 - What to bring & when are you moving in: housing.uiowa.edu/what-to-bring
 - What is important to you or what habits do you have that it will be important to share with your roommate now?
- Roommate agreement will occur within the first few weeks of the semester with Resident Assistants
 - Creating a home for all roommates
 - Communication
 - Conflict management



Residence Hall Life

- Safety and security
 - On-call emergency support: RAs and professional staff
- Packages and mail
- Renter's insurance
- Select policies:
 - Substance free
 - Writable surfaces on doors not permitted
 - Respect your space and others
 - Vandalism
 - Noise
 - Guest policy
 - Pets



Get involved!

Hall Associations

- Develop leadership skills
- Apply to be an executive member
- Join as a general body member
- Learn more during move-in

University Housing and Dining Student Advisory Board

- Provides feedback on policies & new ideas
- Learns from campus leaders
- Monthly meetings with other leaders in halls

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University Housing and Dining



Employment with UHD

- Largest employer on campus
- Approximately 2,000 student jobs in the Division of Student Life
- Housing and Dining
 - Residence hall desk clerks
 - Food service
 - Retail
 - Catering
 - Market places
 - Central bakery
 - Cold food production kitchen
 - Delivery
 - Facilities



TIPS FOR THE TRANSITION



Expand your expectations

- Your experience as a student living on campus is your own to create
- Roommate relationships take time to develop
- Conflict is normal and second chances can go a long way



Talk about talking

- **Clarify Family Expectations**
 - How often do you want to talk? What expectations do you have?
- **Check-In's leading up to move-in:**
 - Will you have a job while in college?
 - UBill and budget expectations
 - What are you excited about? Nervous about?
- **Deadlines and information sharing**
 - How will you stay organized with all of the upcoming deadlines?
 - What information do you want to share with your family, what do they want you to share?
 - How will you check-in about upcoming deadlines:
 - Ex: students will have a deadline in the fall semester on when they must be enrolled in spring courses by to remain eligible to live in the residence halls for the spring semester



Embrace everyday advocacy

- Attend On Iowa! and hall events
 - Move-In is a part of On Iowa! and events begin the same time
- Create a routine and schedule
- Learn to use the Transit app and ride the Cambus.
- Talk about your ADA or dietary accommodations as needed.
- Foster the support team that you need
 - Homesickness is a real thing, and everyone experiences it in their own way
 - Support team from UHD can include RAs, Hall Coordinator, Embedded Therapists



Consider your goodbye

- Move-in day goes incredibly quick!
- Students: Think about how you would like this transition to begin
- Family/Supporters: Think about what you want to say to your Hawkeye
 - Consider your feelings now so you can be fully present for all the excitement of move-in day.



Before we go...

- Due to summer construction as well as camps & conferences, we do not have residence hall tours available, please check out room configurations online
- Families – UHD has another session this afternoon as an option for you. We will do a deeper dive into some topics and have a panel of UHD to staff to answer your questions
- UHD will also be at the information fair! There also will be bed configurations set up to help you decide which style you would like to request.



University Housing and Dining

Keep In Touch!

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t: 319-335-3000

housing.uiowa.edu | dining.uiowa.edu

→ housing.uiowa.edu/contact

If you email us, please don't forget to include your first and last name
and your University ID Number