

Residence Halls vs. Living at Home

(Rates based on 2018-2019 academic year)



Complete this worksheet to compare residential living to living at home with parent(s).

RENT & UTILITIES	Traditional Hall	At Home								
Double Room	\$5,040/academic year	\$ _____ /academic year								
Water	Included	Factor costs based on 9 month academic year								
Electricity/Gas/Heat	Included									
Cable (+100 channels)	Included									
High-Speed Internet/Wi-Fi	Included									
MEALS										
Meal Plan	\$ _____ /academic year	\$ _____ /academic year								
PLU Meal Plans include Dining Dollars which can be used to purchase coffees, mid-day and late night snacks, as well as supplemental groceries.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Meal Plan A</td> <td>\$6,059</td> <td>Meal Plan C</td> <td>\$5,522</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meal Plan B</td> <td>\$5,750</td> <td>Meal Plan D</td> <td>\$4,748</td> </tr> </table>	Meal Plan A	\$6,059	Meal Plan C	\$5,522	Meal Plan B	\$5,750	Meal Plan D	\$4,748	Add food costs specific to student living at home for 9 months.
Meal Plan A	\$6,059	Meal Plan C	\$5,522							
Meal Plan B	\$5,750	Meal Plan D	\$4,748							
Groceries, Meals out or on the go, Supplemental meals.	Optional Adjust as needed.	\$ _____ /academic year (Commuter students typically spend \$500 for food on campus per academic year)								
RESIDENCY GIFT AID										
Additional Gift Aid										
Additional gift aid is often awarded if you live on campus. Contact Student Financial Services for your amount.	As much as \$4000/year	No								
TRANSPORTATION										
Commuting Costs	\$0.00	\$ _____ /year (average cost per mile = 56¢)								
Gas, Parking Permit, Bus Pass, Oil Changes, Maintenance, Insurance	Students are not expected to have a vehicle or bus pass. Adjust if appropriate.									

Sometimes it's more than just a \$\$ amount . . .
See below for additional benefits and conveniences of living on campus.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION		
Academic Resources	Included	On Campus Only
Academic Assistance, Study Lounges, Library, Faculty Offices...		
Fun/Programming	Included	On Campus Only
Residence Hall Programs, wing events, RHC events, new friends...		
Health & Wellness	Included	On Campus Only
Olson Gym, Names Fitness Center, Pool, Intramural Sports, Health Center, Counseling Center...		
24/7 On-Call Professional Staff	Included	On Campus Only
Live-in Resident Directors, RA/CA student staff, Emergency Response, Campus Escorts...		
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS		
Independent Living	Included	Yes/No
Lasting Friendships	Included	Yes/No
Sense of Connection and Belonging	Included	Yes/No
Higher Average GPA & Graduation Rate	Included	No
Residence Hall Water Bottle	Included	No

We recognize this is a big decision for you and your family, and there are many factors involved. Living on campus is a foundational element of the PLU experience, a key contributor to student success, and may not be as expensive as you think. If you would like to live on-campus please apply online at www.plu.edu/applyreslife.