

Residence Halls vs. Living at Home

(Rates based on 2021-2022 academic year)



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

RENT & UTILITIES	Traditional Hall	At Home								
Double Room	\$5,330 /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>\$6,487</td> <td>Meal Plan C</td> <td>\$5,910</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meal Plan B</td> <td>\$6,152</td> <td>Meal Plan D</td> <td>\$5,087</td> </tr> </table>	Meal Plan A	\$6,487	Meal Plan C	\$5,910	Meal Plan B	\$6,152	Meal Plan D	\$5,087	Add food costs specific to student living at home for 9 months.
Meal Plan A	\$6,487	Meal Plan C	\$5,910							
Meal Plan B	\$6,152	Meal Plan D	\$5,087							
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	As much as \$4000/year	No								
Additional gift aid is often awarded if you live on campus. Contact Student Financial Services for your amount.										
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.