

# A Quick Guide to Living and Eating at Oberlin

## Fast Facts: Living at Oberlin

- Oberlin students can live within the residential education system (ResEd) or the Oberlin Student Cooperative Association (OSCA).
- Between the two, students have 25 residential communities to choose from.
- College and conservatory students are integrated into the residential communities and dining halls.
- Every residence hall is staffed with one or more resident assistants (RA).
- Juniors and seniors have the opportunity to live in independent homes and apartments in our Village Housing portfolio.
- Oberlin students are guaranteed housing for all four years.

### RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

Oberlin has 70 student RAs to help ensure the safety and well-being of all students. RAs help to resolve roommate disputes, organize events and educational sessions for their residents, and conduct nightly rounds through each of the residence halls.

RAs have lived on campus for at least one semester. They are carefully vetted; each receives extensive training before the beginning of each semester.

### LIVING IN OSCA

**Housing Facilities:** Keep (North Campus); Harkness (Mid-Campus); Tank (East Campus); Old Barrows (South Campus), Women and Trans-Collective (South Campus).

- Available to students of all years.
- Placement is determined by a lottery.
- Students sign up for shifts to clean the common spaces.

### LIVING IN RESED: HOUSING OPTIONS

**First-Year Residential Experience Halls:** Exclusive to first-year students, these halls house half of the first-year class. RAs are specifically trained to assist with the First Year Experience. There are four communities: two on North Campus and two on Mid-Campus.

**Traditional Halls:** Standard halls open to students of all years.

**Language and Identity-Based Houses:** Housing that is centered around a particular identity or language; application-based; open to students of all years.

**Theme Halls:** Communities based on the interests of the student body; typically located in traditional dorms.

**Village Houses:** Independent homes and apartments that are owned by the college; available to students once they reach junior year.

### HOUSING SELECTION PROCESS

- First-year students receive an extensive inventory about their living habits, interests, and hall preferences, which is used to assign them to a compatible roommate.
- First-year students have the option of requesting their own roommate as a part of the survey process.
- Students have the option to request a room change after the first two weeks of each semester.

### **Key Terms:**

**Residential Education (ResEd):** College-run and operated residential communities; guaranteed for all students for the entirety of their time at Oberlin.

**Oberlin Student Cooperative Association (OSCA):** Student-run nonprofit that operates on Oberlin's campus; serves as an alternative to college-run dining and housing programs.

**Campus Dining Services (CDS):** College-run dining halls, operated on site by Bon Appétit Management Company.

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## Oberlin Campus Dining Services

### DINING FACILITIES

**Stevenson Dining Hall:** Largest dining hall; located on North Campus; buffet-style, all-you-care-to-eat; open for all meals 7 days/week.

**Lord/Saunders:** All-you-care-to-eat comfort food located on South Campus; open for dinner Sunday-Thursday.

**DeCafé:** Grab-and-go + made-to-order salads; located on Mid-Campus in Wilder Hall; sandwiches, pizza, snacks, and drinks; grocery options; serves Fourth Meal (late-night meal option); open 7 days/week.

**Azariah's Café:** Signature coffee, cappuccino, and lattes; grab-and-go breakfast, lunch, and snacks; located on Mid-Campus in Mudd Center; open Monday-Friday.

**Sky Bar:** Grab-and-go breakfast and lunch; located on South Campus in the Kohl Jazz Building; open Monday-Friday.

**GO YEO grab+GO:** Hand-crafted smoothies, grab-and-go breakfast and lunch; located on North Campus in the first floor of Stevenson; open Monday-Friday.

### MEAL PLANS

**GoYeo Plan:** Unlimited meals + \$200 flex points/semester (extra money to purchase more meals or snacks/groceries at DeCafé); available for all students; this is the only meal plan option for first- and second-year students.

**Gold Plan:** 200 meals + \$150 flex points/semester; available for juniors and seniors.

**Cardinal Plan:** 100 meals + \$100 flex points/semester; available for seniors.

**Kosher Halal Co-Op (KHC):** only co-op not affiliated with OSCA; keeps kosher.

## Oberlin Student Cooperative Association

### THE SEVEN DINING CO-OPS

**Brown Bag Co-op:** Exclusive to students who live in Village or off-campus housing; students take food from the co-op each week and cook for themselves; located on South Campus.

**Fairchild:** Vegan co-op; located on South Campus.

**Harkness:** Known for legendary Friday evening pizza nights; located on South Campus.

**Keep:** Cozy co-op where members often eat outside on the porch; located on North Campus.

**Pyle:** Best co-op for students new to OSCA; located on North Campus.

**Tank:** Hosts annual Tanksgiving for students who stay on campus for Thanksgiving break; located on East Campus.

**Third World Co-op:** Safe space for students of color; located on South Campus.

### HOW THEY OPERATE

- Co-ops require members to commit 4-5 hours of work/week for the upkeep of their co-op.
- Students sign up for shifts to help cook meals and clean up after meals.
- Students can sign up for specialty positions (bread maker, granola maker, etc.) or administrative positions (membership coordinator, food safety coordinator).
- Meals are served at 12:20 p.m. and 6:20 p.m., 7 days/week.
- Kitchen and pantry are open to members 24/7.
- Co-ops are held accountable to Ohio's food safety standards and checked weekly by OSCA administration.

### PERKS OF OSCA

- You'll gain nonprofit management experience.
- You'll gain experience navigating an industrial-sized kitchen.
- A community that is centered around healthy, positive eating.

### **For More Information:**

**Office of Residential Education:** [www.oberlin.edu/housing](http://www.oberlin.edu/housing)

**Dining Services:** [www.oberlin.edu/dining-services](http://www.oberlin.edu/dining-services)