HRE FAQ’s for Current or Transfer Students who will be Upper Class Students in Fall 2018

Q: If I live with HRE in a location off the main campus (Downtown Commons 1 or 2, Cedar Court 700, Pending 400 South Option), what does the application process and roommate matching process look like for me?

A: The application process and deadlines would remain the same. The application will open on February 10, 2018 at 9AM MST and you will be able to work through Section 2 of the application and begin searching for a roommate. We suggest connecting with others who you think might be a good fit as a roommate. You will have the opportunity to add some “About Me” information to your profile where you could note you are interested in living in one of the off-campus options. The priority date will remain as April 1, 2018 to have your application completed. If your application has been completed through Section 2 you will receive a room reservation time (between April 10-15, 2018). Space is not guaranteed.

Q: If I live with HRE in a location that is off the main campus, what does transportation look like?

A: There are a variety of options for you to consider when living in Cedar Court, Downtown Commons 1 or 2, or the 400 South Option. These options are outlined below, and arranged by location:

- **Cedar Court 700:** Transportation from Cedar Court 700 (West Village of University Student Apartments, off Foothill Drive and Sunnyside Drive) can be accommodated by the Campus Shuttle on the Purple Route and Green Route. There are also UTA bus stops on Sunnyside that go directly to the U of U campus (including the #228 UTA bus on Sunnyside). All UTA services are free for U of U students with their Ucard, click here for a view of Salt Lake County public transportation options and routes.

- **Downtown Commons 1 or 2, and 400 South Option:** Transportation from downtown SLC to the main U of U campus is simple when using UTA TRAX Light Rail or UTA Bus. The TRAX red line runs up 400 South, and there are a variety of bus routes that go to the University from downtown SLC. Review all of your options here. Transportation from the 400 South Option (pending) is simple when using TRAX at Trolley Station or UTA #228.

Q: If I live with HRE in a location that is off the main campus, what meal plan options are available to me?

A: For off-campus HRE options (Downtown Commons 1 and 2, Cedar Court 700, and the 400 South Option), these spaces have kitchens included so meal plans are not a requirement. However, there are a variety of Meal Plan options available for students to choose from, including; the 40 Block Plan, the 150 Block Plan, and various Commuter Plans.

Q: If I live with HRE in a location that is off the main campus, what type of interaction will I have with “live-on staff” (Resident Advisors, Community Managers)?

A: All of the HRE off-campus apartments will be staffed with Community Managers and supervised by graduate and professional staff members. They will be available to assist residents with facilities and
interpersonal needs as well as general community development. Community Managers will be the connection between the main HRE office and the off-campus apartments.

Q: If I live with HRE in a location that is off the main campus, what is the community life? Will there be other students surrounding me, only students surrounding me, or non-students in my community?

A: There will be a University of Utah community where the neighbors will be almost solely University of Utah Students. Students can gather in social gathering spaces, and community/social lounges. More amenities for these spaces can be found on housing.utah.edu.

Q: If I live with HRE in a location that is off the main campus, will there be student programs available to me, will I pay RHA dues?

A: HRE prides itself on building residential communities where students thrive. As such, your RHA dues will be used to provide programs and events for your specific area. Our goal in planning these events is to help connect you with your community and your peers.

Q: I am an upper class student athlete, what does this mean for me?

A: Non-scholarship athletes should plan to sign-up for housing by following HRE’s published reservation timeline and instructions and/or seek off-campus housing. Coaches will work with HRE to coordinate spaces for student athletes on scholarship. Student athletes should discuss housing needs with their coaches and watch for email communications from HRE during this process. We will hold spaces in HRE affiliated housing based on upon information received from Athletics by early-February, 2018.

Q: If I live in a location off campus (affiliated with HRE or unaffiliated with HRE), should I purchase renters insurance? Where can I find information about renters insurance?

A: Renter’s insurance is required for the 400 South Option. It is optional (and highly recommended) for the rest of HRE spaces and spaces. If you live off campus in housing not affiliated with HRE, most apartments will have insurance on the physical building, but in case of theft or natural disaster, your personal items would not be covered. Check with your car insurance or, if applicable, a parent’s homeowner’s insurance to see if an add-on plan is possible. If not, you can buy renter’s insurance through any reputable insurance firm.

Q: If I choose not to live with HRE and pursue housing options on my own, how much should I save for a security deposit and what is it used for? Under what conditions would I receive it refunded?

A: Security deposits will vary but can range from 50% to 200% of the monthly cost to rent an apartment – potentially anywhere from $400 - $1500. That cost can be covered jointly between yourself and your roommates. A portion of that may be non-refundable as the landlord may use it for future cleaning/repair costs when you move out.

The refundable security deposit is generally returned to you unless:

- You owed rent when you moved out
- You damaged property or the property requires additional cleaning
- You broke the lease and owe the landlord money
- Your lease specified
Make sure your lease covers the details of the security deposit – particularly what is and is not refundable.

Q: If I choose not to live with HRE and pursue housing options on my own, what are some way to identify scams in rental agreements or processes? How do I identify a legitimate lease agreement? What are things to look for?

A: The saying it’s too good to be true is definitely applicable when looking for an apartment. Some items to be wary of:

- Someone asking for money to show you available apartments.
- Sending money without having seeing the apartment and meeting the landlord.
- A landlord asking for too much information. It’s typical that landlords will collect information to run your credit score, verify employment, and run a background check. But they should not ask for a photo or information regarding friends and family.
- You’re told you don’t need a lease. While you don’t need a lease, it’s for your protection and will ensure you have tenant’s rights through the state.
  - A legitimate lease should include:
    - Name, address, number of tenant and landlord
    - Location of property to be rented
    - Utility information – with clear parameters on who pays what
    - Guest/Pet policies
    - Cost per month/date of payment with a clear late fee policy