

EMU Families: On-campus housing move-out deadline March 31

March 26, 2020

To: EMU families with students living in residence halls or on campus apartments:

Due to the COVID-19 crisis and following directives from federal, state and local governments and public health agencies, **Eastern Michigan University announced the closure of residence halls and on campus apartments effective Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 5 p.m.** [This decision was shared with students on March 19, 2020.](#) It applies to all students, with the exception of international students, students from far away in the U.S, or other students who have special circumstances that affect their ability to return to their permanent place of residence.

As announced previously, Eastern Michigan, along with universities across the state and nation, has transitioned to an online/virtual class schedule for the remainder of winter semester, which ends April 27, 2020.

To accommodate the early move-out from housing, the University announced it would provide a credit for students living on-campus and/or who have meal plans as long as they formally check-out of on campus housing by March 31 at 5 p.m. The amount of the housing or meal plan credit will be calculated based on the March 31 housing closure date through the end of the winter semester.

The University is offering students living in residence halls and on-campus apartments two options to receive a housing and/or meal plan credit:

Option 1: A credit will be applied to the student's account for the current semester. As always, normal University refund processes apply.

Option 2: A credit will be applied toward the student's on-campus room and board costs for next fall. **Students who choose Option 2 will receive an additional \$500 housing grant credit to be applied to their student account once Fall 2020 housing charges are applied.** Students who receive federal financial aid should contact EMU Financial Aid at Financial_Aid@emich.edu to see how selecting Option 2 may impact their financial aid determination. Students are responsible for investigating and understanding the potential impact.

Students who are eligible for a housing and/or meal plan credit will receive an email the week of April 6.

Here is important additional guidance regarding this process:

- Institutional funds covering student room and board – including student-athletic scholarships, Presidential Scholarships, Residential Advisor housing grants, and others – are not subject to this credit.

- Students should monitor their campus email for information and timing about the housing and dining credit opportunity.
- For any student who receives Federal financial aid, it is strongly encouraged you contact EMU Financial Aid at financial_aid@emich.edu to see how this credit may impact your financial aid determination. Students are responsible for investigating and understanding any potential impact.
- The credit is meant to cover out-of-pocket costs only.

To be eligible for the housing and/or dining credit, all personal items must be removed from on-campus housing and formal checkout and key must be returned no later than March 31 at 5 p.m. Students will not receive a credit if they have not removed their belongings and completed the formal checkout process/key return by that date and time.

A few students and parents have asked if coming to campus would violate the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order. **The Governor's executive order does not prohibit travel for such purposes.** Section 7 of the Governor's executive order states:

Section 7(b): Individuals may also travel:

- (1) To return to a home or place of residence from outside this state.
- (2) To leave this state for a home or residence elsewhere.
- (3) To travel between two residences in this state.

Students moving their belongings from campus to their permanent residence fall within these exceptions.

We encourage you to email the housing office if you have questions at housing@emich.edu.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through these processes and details as quickly as possible in light of the global crisis. Please monitor the University's [COVID-19 website](#) for the University's latest communications, information and links to health resources.

Sincerely,

Calvin Phillips, D.Ed.
Associate Vice President, Student Affairs

Michael Valdes
Chief Financial Officer