

UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION ROOM OFFER POLICY FOR 2020/2021

Policy for offering rooms in University Locks and University Partner accommodation

Definitions

- Unconditional Firm** an Unconditional Firm offer means that you have met all the academic requirements and the University is happy to accept you onto a course (subject to the fulfilment of any non-academic requirements that are applicable, such as Occupational Health clearance and/or a DBS check).
- Conditional Firm** a Conditional Firm offer means that the University will offer you a place on a course if you meet certain academic conditions, which are usually based on exams results. Conditional offers are also subject to the fulfilment of any non-academic requirements that are applicable, such as Occupational Health clearance and/or a DBS check.
- Insurance** the offer that you have accepted as your second choice, in case you do not meet the requirements for your Firm Offer
- Clearing** a system used towards the end of the academic cycle to allow applicants who have not secured a place at a university or for those who wish to study on a different course or at a different university than originally chosen, to apply for course vacancies

Application Process

- Visit the Accommodation website www.bcu.ac.uk/accommodation to view the portfolio which includes a list of all the facilities, rents and photographs
- Once you have accepted a Conditional/Unconditional firm Course Offer at Birmingham City University, you will be sent an email for you to access the Accommodation Portal to register and complete the on-line application
- Please complete the application pathway which is relevant for the location of your course
- Select your accommodation preference/s required
- Select the appropriate licence/contract which is applicable to your course
- Check the box to agree to the terms and conditions and then submit your application
- You will then receive an email confirming that your application has been received

Accommodation offers

All first-year, full-time home, EU and international students who live more than 10 miles from their place of study are guaranteed University accommodation if they have firmly accepted an offer in the main application cycle and apply by the deadline date.

Application Deadline Dates

- UK Students - 31 July 2020
- Clearing/Insurance Students – 31 August 2020
- EU/International Students – 31 August 2020

Room Offer Process

We will start to allocate applicants and email a Room Offer from **01 April 2020** to students who:

- (a) hold an Unconditional Firm offer (UF) and live further than 10 miles from their place of study and have applied by the deadline date

We will start to allocate applicants and email a Room Offer from **13 August 2020** to students who:

- (b) hold a Conditional Firm (CF) which converts to an Unconditional Firm (UF) following receipt of exam results or other documentation required by your Faculty and live further than 10 miles from their place of study and have applied by the deadline date

We cannot guarantee your preferred choice of accommodation or guarantee single sex accommodation as places are subject to availability.

We will endeavour to accommodate you close to your place of study, however, this is dependant upon availability at the time of allocating the rooms.

When a room is offered you will receive an email advising you to log in to the Accommodation Portal; you will be required to follow the instructions given in the email. The email address we use will be the one that was used when you initially applied for the accommodation.

For the majority of the accommodation, a guarantor will be required. You will also be required to make an advance payment and /or deposit (this will depend on the allocation to a University managed/partner accommodation) to accept the offer of accommodation by a deadline date. If you are unable to provide a guarantor you may be required to pay the full Residence Fee in advance at the time of offer. If you have not responded within the stipulated period the offer will be withdrawn and the room will be re-offered to another student.

UK students will be given three days and International/EU students will be given five days in which to accept the offer of accommodation. It is therefore essential that you keep checking your emails daily.

If your room offer is rejected or withdrawn and you still require accommodation, you will be required to make a new application and your application will be placed accordingly in the queue to await allocation.

Allocations are not based on age, gender or religious belief.

Accommodation Preferences

University Locks	University Managed Accommodation
Jennens Court	Partner Accommodation managed by Unite Students
Staniforth House	Partner Accommodation managed by Unite Students
Lakeside	Partner Accommodation managed by Unite Students
The Heights	Partner Accommodation managed by Student Roost
Bentley House	Partner Accommodation managed by The Student Housing Company
Queens Hospital Close	Partner Accommodation managed by Unite Students

Postgraduate students

We are able to offer accommodation to Postgraduate students however this is not specific for Postgraduate students and may be shared with Undergraduate students

City Centre Campus Students – September intake

Students studying at the City Centre Campus will be offered accommodation, (as long as you meet the room offer criteria,) at the city centre halls of residence dependent on availability at the time of offering the rooms.

City South Students – September intake

Students studying at the City South Campus will be allocated accommodation, (as long as you meet the room offer criteria,) at Queens Hospital Close or The Heights.

International Fee-paying Students

We will make an offer of accommodation to International students so long as you have accepted a place on a course and have applied for accommodation by **31 August 2020**

BCUIC Students

We will make an offer of accommodation to our BCUIC students so long as you have accepted a place on a course and have applied for accommodation by **31 August 2020**. If you wish to apply for accommodation after this date, please contact the Accommodation Office for availability of accommodation and your application will be considered on an individual basis. **For January and May in-take students this will be subject to availability.**

Semester 1 Students

Subject to availability we will aim to make an offer of accommodation to Semester 1 students at University Locks (September 2020 – January 2021), so long as you have been offered and have accepted a place on a course, meet the room offer criteria and have applied for accommodation by **31 August 2020**.

Semester 2 Students

Subject to availability we will aim to make an offer of accommodation to Semester 2 students at University Locks (January 2021 – June 2021), so long as you have been offered and have accepted a place on a course, meet the room offer criteria and have applied for accommodation by **13 December 2020**.

January Intake

Subject to availability we will aim to provide you with a room offer until the end of Semester 2 (June/July 2021), depending on location of accommodation. We will endeavour to offer you a room close to your place of study subject to availability as long as you meet the room offer criteria.

Insurance/Clearing Students

We do not guarantee but will aim to provide you with a room in University accommodation. If there are no rooms available we will assist you in finding alternative accommodation with a University approved provider. You must apply through the on-line process if accommodation is required by **31 August 2020**.

Local Students

Local students, defined as students who live within a 10 mile radius from their place of study, can apply for accommodation using the on-line process. Local students are not guaranteed accommodation, however we will aim to assist in locating appropriate accommodation within University appointed providers. Subject to availability rooms will be offered at the end of the allocation process in **August/September 2020**.

Under 18s

All student accommodation is an adult environment where most residents are aged over 18. Students sharing a flat with a student under the age of 18 will not have been vetted. All bedrooms are single occupancy however students will share kitchen/dining/lounge facilities. Allocations are not based on age, gender or religious belief.

Care Leavers

We will guarantee you accommodation for the duration of your course. You will be required to submit a new application form for each academic year by the advised deadline date.

Please note: depending on the accommodation you have selected you may be required to move rooms during the summer vacation period.

A care leaver is someone who has previously lived with foster parents, in a children's home, orphanage, or sheltered accommodation who has been in the care of the Local Authority for

a period of 13 weeks or more spanning their 16th birthday ([The Children \(Leaving Care\) Act 2000](#)).

We will guarantee you accommodation for the duration of your course. Please note during the summer vacation you may be required to move rooms. You will be required to submit a new application form for each academic year by the advised deadline date.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability or long term medical condition and you require adjustments it is essential that you contact Accommodation Services as soon as possible to discuss your specific requirements. We can only make you a room offer once we are able to confirm that appropriate accommodation is available and reasonable adjustments can be made. We may be able to offer you accommodation for the duration of your course but due to possible changes in the portfolio please note that this may not be the same accommodation each year.

If you have a personal support worker who will be enabling you to live independently at university, we can also provide a room for them (the full cost of this room will be payable).

To ensure you receive the appropriate support with your studies, it is recommended that you contact the Enablement and Wellbeing Team and inform them of your disability and the adjustments you require. Further information about the team including their contact details is available at www.bcu.ac.uk/student-info/student-affairs/

Please see the Data Protection and Confidentiality section below in relation to declaring your disability to Accommodation Services.

If you have any questions regarding suitable accommodation please contact us by email at accommodation@bcu.ac.uk

Allocation of rooms during the Academic Year

Accommodation Services can/will allocate rooms during the academic year and will ensure the student fits the criteria of the flat/room they have been allocated.

Equality and Diversity

The University operates an Equal Opportunities Policy and, accordingly, Accommodation Services offers accommodation to students regardless of race, gender, religion, disability or sexuality. It is expected that students in University accommodation will uphold the principles of this policy and be tolerant towards each other.

Data Protection & Confidentiality

The [University's Privacy Policy Statement](#) explains what happens to the personal information you provide to the University or the University collects from you. We will use information collected about you during the accommodation application process. This will be used for the administration and allocation of accommodation and to deliver the accommodation service.

We may share your data with other departments and faculties within the University, only where necessary, for the delivery of the accommodation services.

If you provide any information relating to a medical condition or disability this is sensitive personal information under data protection legislation. This will only be shared with other departments of the University with your consent.

Where you have already declared a medical condition or disability to the Enablement and Wellbeing Team you may have already agreed for this information to be shared with relevant Accommodation Service staff. This information will be used to provide appropriate support and reasonable adjustments where appropriate.

If you wish to inform Accommodation Services about a medical condition or disability but have not already agreed for your information to be shared via the Enablement and Wellbeing Team we ask that you contact Accommodation Services team on 0121 331 5191 or accommodation@bcu.ac.uk to provide the information.