

As a residential college, Kenyon is committed to the learning processes that take place both inside and outside the classroom. The College's residential-life staff provides Kenyon students with safe, comfortable, and well-maintained living space in an environment conducive to academic seriousness.

The key to residential life at the College is personal responsibility. All students are charged with taking responsibility for their own behavior and accepting the consequences of the choices they make. Because Kenyon is a residential college, it is important that students communicate openly with their roommates and others who live on their halls. For many first-year students, this will be the first time they share a "bedroom" and living space with another person. This is a great learning experience for all students, one in which lifelong relationships are often forged.

First-year students at the College live in a residential area of campus with all other first-year students. Most share a double room with another first-year student, but some may be assigned to a triple room. A few are assigned to single rooms, based on availability and need. Students live in one of five residence halls specifically reserved for first-year students: Gund, Lewis, Mather, McBride, and Norton. The residential-life staff believes that an important part of the residential learning experience is getting to know and interact with new friends in a new environment.

Because it can reasonably be assumed that first-year students are not yet twenty-one years of age, all first-year residence halls are alcohol-free. Please note, in addition, that all College buildings, including residence halls, are smoke-free living environments.

Residence halls

Gund Hall

The central feature of the cluster of first-year residence halls, Gund Hall houses men on its first floor and women on its second floor. The building is unique in that each room has a five-foot-high divider that features a bookshelf and bulletin board on each side and also functions as a headboard for the beds, which have extra-long mattresses. The beds are the only movable furniture in this building.

Each resident of Gund has a combined desk, closet, and vanity unit, built into the wall and containing drawers, shelves, and a mirrored closet. Gund's floors are linoleum, so an area rug is recommended.

Gund has a large main lounge with a television and

areas for study, reading, and relaxing.

Lewis and Norton Residence Halls

Both Lewis and Norton halls are coeducational; each has two wings for men and two wings for women. The identical residence halls are located on either side of Gund Hall.

Rooms in Lewis and Norton are fairly large, with built-in shelves and wardrobes and movable desks, dressers, and extra-long twin beds. The floors in the rooms are linoleum, so area rugs are recommended. Each room has a large window with sections that open. Each building has a main lounge equipped with comfortable furniture, a television, and a microwave oven.

Mather and McBride Residence Halls

Primarily coeducational by room, with men and women living next door to each other, both Mather and McBride halls are directly across the street from Gund, Lewis, and Norton halls.

McBride and Mather are fully carpeted and air-conditioned. While rooms in the two vary in size, each resident has a combined desk-and-dresser unit built into the wall and containing drawers, shelves, and a mirrored closet. Beds are extra long. Both halls are equipped with computer rooms, comfortable television and game lounges, and full kitchens.

Special options

First-Year Wellness Hall

The wellness hall—emphasizing maintenance of mental and emotional well-being, interpersonal relationships, and physical health through community activities—provides a supportive environment in which healthy lifestyles are encouraged. The hall allows students to learn and develop, intellectually and socially, from their fellow students. It also provides an atmosphere conducive to self development, healthy living, and fun.

The wellness hall offers many opportunities for students to get involved. There are resident advisors assigned to the hall who have a special interest in the wellness lifestyle to help participants and facilitate programming efforts. Students who live in the first-year wellness hall are encouraged to help shape the program by getting involved.