

Student Off Campus Housing Policy

POLICY

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Type:	☐ Academic	☒ Administrative	☐ Board
Effective date:	January 23, 2025		
Approved by:	Suzie Addison-Toor, Vice President, Stendet Success	College Council	
Last revision:	January 22, 2025		
Next scheduled review:	June 2026		

1. Purpose/Rationale

Georgian College is dedicated to providing access to housing options for students. This policy aligns with the Student Housing Policy and Data Requirements Directive issued by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU), pursuant to the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act*, and outlines the housing services commitments, resources, and institutional infrastructure available to students at Georgian College to ensure well-being and student success.

These efforts are in place to support access to affordable off-campus housing options, and strategies to improve housing outcomes for students, ensuring a thriving college community for all learners. Georgian College will ensure a collaborative approach to housing services provision, working with on-campus residence partners, and with local communities to engage key collaborators in the generation of off-campus housing options, and education and awareness initiatives that support student well-being and safety in community.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all full time and part time domestic and international applicants and students enrolled in credit programming at Georgian College. This policy includes off-campus housing support for all communities where Georgian College has campus locations.

3. Definitions

The table below lists the key terms and their meanings as it pertains to this policy document.

Word/Term	Definition
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Affordable Housing/Affordability	According to Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation, housing is considered affordable when it consumes no more than 30% of a household's gross income. For students, the inclusion of considerations such as proximity to amenities, cost of transportation, access to supports, shared accommodations, and housing options inform affordability.
Thriving	Dr. Laurie Schreiner's research describes five key determinants of student thriving in a postsecondary environment, and is used by Georgian to inform student success services to support student persistence. These include, engaged learning, academic determination, diverse citizenship, positive perspective and social connectedness.
On-campus housing	Residences that are located on Georgian College campus locations, operated through a third-party arrangement with Campus Living Centres.
Off-campus housing	Housing options located in the community, off Georgian College property. Options could include, but are not limited to, private rentals, purpose-built student residences, homestay and home sharing arrangements.
Offer Letter	Offer letters are provided to students upon acceptance to a Georgian College credit program.
Student	Full time, part time domestic and international applicants and students enrolled in credit programming enrolled at Georgian College.
Housing Coordinator	Dedicated support staff role for student housing advocacy, access and services.
Student Advocacy	In accordance with this policy, student advocacy is specific to the rights and responsibilities assigned to a student as a tenant

4. Policy Statement

Georgian College believes that student housing is an integral part of the student experience.

4.1 Guiding Principles and Values

Georgian College is committed to supporting its students with housing as part of their student experience at the college. We do this by adhering to the following guiding principles and values:

4.1.1 The College will ensure student housing information is easy to access, provides a range of on and off-campus housing options (where applicable), and is in context with the local community of our campus locations.

4.1.2 The College will share housing services information with all applicants in their offer letter.

4.1.3 The College will make every effort to promote a variety of housing options for consideration of students in alignment with enrolment and the needs of our diverse student population.

4.1.4 The College will facilitate student access to safe and affordable housing search assistance, and advisement through a designated housing coordinator role.

4.1.5. The College will provide comprehensive housing resources to students, including institutionally endorsed partnerships, housing search assistance, short-term housing information, financing opportunities and assistance, leasing and legal referrals, emergency housing and general education.

4.1.6. The College will ensure student education, guidance and personal support related to student advocacy, safety and rights and responsibilities as a tenant is available.

4.2 Data Collection and Use

The College commits to ensuring the institutional housing infrastructure includes the collection of on-campus housing inventory and occupancy data, and services access data, to inform service development and evaluation, and to be shared in the annual Ministry of Colleges and Universities Student Housing Survey report.

Georgian adheres to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA), ensuring that all personal information is securely collected, managed and only accessible to authorized individuals. Confidential information is only shared with informed consent or where required by law or College policy or procedure related to the health or safety of persons in the community.

4.3 Communication

4.3.1 To ensure transparency, this policy will be posted on the Georgian College [off-campus housing website](#) and a copy will be made available to anyone who requests it.

4.4 Compliance

4.4.1 To ensure accountability, in accordance with Georgian's Policy Development and Review Framework Policy, Georgian will review this policy on a regular basis to ensure efficacy and updating.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 The Vice President, Student Success is accountable for overseeing the implementation and compliance of this policy and ensuring student resources and supports are in place for student housing.

5.2 The Executive Director of Student Success is responsible for reporting on student housing as per ministry requirements and adhering to the operational requirements of this policy.

6. References

National Housing Strategy, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation
<https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/nhs>

Schreiner, Laurie, A. (2010). *The Thriving Quotient: A New Vision for Student Success*. About Campus, May-June. American College Personnel Association and Wiley Periodicals, Inc.

7. Appendices

None

8. Related Procedure(s)

N/A

Contact	Phone	Email
Megan Fenton Executive Director, Student Success	705-418-3435	Megan.Fenton@georgiancollege.ca
Suzie Addison-Toor Vice President, Student Success	249-388-1890	Suzie.AddisonToor@georgiancollege.ca