Bridgewater College
Disability-related Housing Exception

A student may request an exception from the Housing Accommodation Review Board for physical or mental health reasons.

Common conditions, for example a seasonal allergy request, which can be addressed, either by placement in an air-conditioned facility or by a window air conditioning unit, humidifier or dehumidifier, can be accommodated on campus and would not require an exception.

In order to establish whether the student qualifies for an exception, documentation of a physical or mental impairment that limits a major life function which prevents standard on campus living is needed.

Bridgewater College is a community that considers residential living central to the education of the student. All students, freshmen – senior, live on campus unless otherwise qualified.

Housing exceptions due to disability are only granted in circumstances where a single room, off-campus facility or other exception can provide an alternative that cannot be accommodated within the standard on campus living situation.

Requests for housing exceptions due to disability are considered on a case-by-case basis and space availability.

Disability-related Housing Exception Application Process:

Students applying to live in a single room, off campus or who have another housing exception request due to disability must submit the following to the Director of Academic Support and Disability Services:

1. Application for Housing Exception Due to Disability form, to be completed by the student to describe their housing exception request.

2. Health Care Provider Form (to be completed by licensed health care provider).

3. Authorization for Release of Confidential Health Information Form to be signed by student, granting permission for correspondence between the health care provider and the Director of Academic and Disability Services.

4. In the case of an off campus housing request, A letter describing the need for the exception from a custodial parent or guardian is required.

5. A personal interview is required with the director of Academic Support and Disability Services to clarify the need of the student.

Students are responsible for the completion and return of all appropriate documents.
Decisions regarding housing exception requests due to disability are made by the Housing Accommodation Review Board. The board is comprised of professionals with a comprehensive range of expertise to most helpfully consider student requests, including the Director of Health Services, Director of Counseling, Associate Dean of Students, Director of Residence Life and the Director of Academic and Disability Services. The committee reserves the right to ask for further supporting documentation.

Within fifteen working days of the fully completed housing exception application documents being returned by the student and health care provider, the Bridgewater College Housing Accommodation Review Board will meet regarding the housing request. The committee will respond in writing to the student within ten working days of the decision. Consideration of an application may be delayed if it is made outside of the period designated for housing sign-ups.

A written appeal of the Board’s decision can be made to the Dean of Students, if new information, not previously considered, is presented.