

CR310: Housing Policy

Policy Title:	Housing Policy
Policy Number:	CR310
Owner:	Senior Vice-President, Student Success
Approved by:	College Executive Team
Effective Date:	January 31, 2025
Reference:	
Links to Other Policy:	

St. Lawrence College is committed to making our resources fully accessible to all persons. This document will be made available in alternative format upon request.

BACKGROUND

Definitions:

“St. Lawrence Housing Service” (SLHS) means the College unit responsible for managing student housing services, providing support, and addressing housing-related inquiries.

“Off-Campus Housing Resources” means services and supports provided to students seeking or residing in housing not owned or operated by the College.

“Student Housing” means residential accommodations provided or facilitated by the College for students, including existing on-campus and potential off-campus options.

Purpose:

St. Lawrence College (the “College”) is dedicated to providing housing options and related services that support the academic success and well-being of all students. In alignment with the Ontario *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*, this Policy outlines the College’s principles, commitments, and available resources to support students in finding suitable housing on and off campus.

Scope:

This Policy applies to all student housing services offered by the College, including on-campus residences, off-campus housing resources, and support services. The Policy is designed to guide the provision of housing options and related services to all students.

POLICY STATEMENTS

1.1 Principles and Commitments

1.1.1 Range of Housing Options

The College will provide students with a suitable range of housing options in line with its enrolment levels. This includes on-campus residences, homestay and home-share, as well as support for students seeking off-campus accommodations. While the College provides these resources and direct support, students are ultimately responsible for securing suitable accommodations.

1.1.2 Inclusive Housing Options

The College is committed to developing an inclusive SLHS which provides housing options supporting students of all circumstances and backgrounds.

1.1.3 Community Partnership

The College will consider the local community environment and context and develop community partnerships when appropriate.

1.2 Institutional Infrastructure

1.2.1 St. Lawrence Housing Service

The College will maintain the SLHS with staff dedicated to providing personal support, information, and guidance to students regarding housing options. The SLHS will serve as the primary contact for all housing-related inquiries and provide the appropriate referrals to other College and community partners as required.

1.2.2 Digital Resources

The College will maintain the SLHS webpages and digital resources that include but are not limited to information on how to source and access Student Housing, community resources, vetted College partners, legal rights and responsibilities, and contact information for the SLHS.

1.3 Off-Campus Housing Resources

1.3.1 Endorsed Third-Party Partnerships

The College will maintain and continue to establish partnerships with institutionally vetted and endorsed third-party housing platforms and databases to assist students in finding safe and reliable off-campus housing.

1.3.2 Housing Search Support

Students will have access to resources and support for their housing search, including leasing support, and general education on navigating the housing market.

1.3.3 Safety and Resources

The College will provide students with on-campus and off-campus safety contacts and other resources to support their housing search and living experience, such as campus security, neighborhood safety information, transportation information, and emergency contact information.

1.3.4 Short-Term Housing

The College will offer information and support for students needing short-term housing during transitional periods.

1.3.5 Financial Assistance

In exceptional circumstances as necessary, students will be provided with resources and financing assistance for securing housing, including emergency housing support.

1.3.6 Housing Options for Incoming International Students

As required by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities as of September 2024, the College will provide incoming international students support in finding suitable housing. The SLHS acts as an easily accessible team providing all students, including incoming international students, with assistance in finding suitable housing in the community when on-campus housing options are not available.

MONITORING

The Policy Owner will be responsible for ensuring that there is adherence to the policy as well as gathering input as part of the review process.

NEXT POLICY REVISION DATE

This policy will be reviewed in 2029.

SPECIFIC LINKS

APPENDIX A AND ATTACHMENTS