Ohio University Resources

Dean of Students Office
341 Baker University Center
740.593.1200
www.ohio.edu/deanofstudents

Staff in the office of the Dean of Students can help connect students experiencing housing or food insecurity to Ohio University and Athens community resources.

Cats’ Cupboard
536 Baker University Center
740.593.1200
www.ohio.edu/studentlife

This service provides access to fresh, frozen, and shelf stable food to students experiencing food insecurity or hunger.

Housing and Residence Life
740.593.1200
115 South Union Drive
www.ohio.edu/housing

Staff in the Housing and Residence Life office can help connect students to on-campus resources and can assist with finding on-campus housing accommodations for enrolled students.

Counseling and Psychological Services
740.593.1118
Hilliard Student Health Center, 3rd floor
www.ohio.edu/counseling

Counseling and Psychological Services provides professional and confidential counseling to students. Drop-in hours are 8:30am – 5:30pm, M-F.

Student Legal Services
740.594.2020
126 South Court Street, Suite C, Athens, OH
G-31, Integrative Studies Center, 1st Floor, M-F, 9am – 5pm
www.ohio.edu/legalservices

Student Legal Services provides Ohio University students with a wide range of legal services.

Athens Community Resources

Food Resources
Athens Church of Christ food pantry
795 West Union Street, Athens, OH 45701
http://www.athensfoodbank.net/740.593.7444

Athens County Food Pantry
Downtown Athens
Athens County Job and Family Services
Midfield, Route 15
740.592.0001

Community Meals
Monday
First United Methodist Church (7:30 p.m.)
3 B. College St., Athens, OH 45701

Tuesday
Athens Church of Christ (6:30 p.m.)
795 W. Union St., Athens, OH 45701

Wednesday
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepard (12:30 p.m.)
14 University Terrace Athens, OH 740.593.6877

Friday
Grace United Methodist Church (6:00 p.m.)
420 South Court Street, Athens, OH 45701

Saturday
First United Methodist Church (5:00 p.m.)
10 College St., Athens, OH 45701

Housing Resources
Integrated Services
740.593.2020
www.integratedservice.org

Salvation Army
740.593.4000
100 North Union Drive
www.salvationarmy.org

TimeOut House
33 South Court Street
740.593.0004
www.timeouthouse.com

Ohio University Guide to Assist Students Challenged by Basic Needs
How Can I Help?

Referrals
Issues of food and housing insecurity and homelessness can come with a significant deal of stigma. If someone does disclose that they are facing these challenges you have several options to offer support. You can refer them directly to the Dean of Students office, complete one of the online nominal forms for emergency grants or housing insecurity, or suggest one of the resources in this folder. We encourage you to also reach out to the Dean of Students office to share these concerns.

Referral Steps:
1. Thank them for sharing with you.
   “I’m really glad you told me what’s going on with you.”
   “I’m sorry it was hard to share that struggle with me, thank you for trusting me.”
2. Acknowledge the challenge they are facing
   “I can’t imagine how hard it is to be in this when you are hungry.”
   “Not having stable housing is very stressful.”
3. Discuss options for support
   “Did you know there is a food pantry in Baker Center? Open to any student? It’s a resource here for students who might be struggling financially.”
   “The Dean of Students office may be able to help with an Emergency Microgrant.”
4. Follow-up to see if they accessed the resource or need more help
   “Were you able to connect with the Dean of Students office?”
   “Is your situation improved?”

Faculty/Staff Statement
It’s not always easy to know which students might be struggling with housing or food insecurity, to be proactive about these issues, consider adding a Basic Needs syllabus statement:

Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students office for support by emailing deansstudents@ohio.edu. The Food Pantry is located on the 4th floor of Baker Center and is open to all students.

Emergency Microgrant Program
Today’s students face increased costs of higher education, while federal grants and loans continue to shrink. Many students are one emergency away from dropping out of school because of their inability to pay their bills. The solution we have turned to are emergency microgrant programs. These grants are typically under $1000 and can support students who are experiencing a financial crisis that for many of us would be an uncomfortable hit to our savings account, but for these students it may mean walking away from an undergraduate or graduate degree.

Students must apply for these emergency grants, or be nominated by faculty or staff, and provide necessary documentation. This process allows for students at financial risk for leaving the institution to connect with an Assistant Dean of Students who can provide additional resources, referrals, and financial education.

Micro-Grant Guidelines:
- Grants do not typically exceed $1000, and are specific to the identified need.
- Generally, grants can only be awarded once per academic year.

What Micro-Grants Cover:
- Safety needs (changing of locks, temporary housing changes)
- Replacement of belongings, including textbooks, due to fire, theft or natural disaster
- Medical/Dental Care/Medication (cannot cover outstanding balances)
- Housing/Rent/Utilities
- Food/Staples
- Personal Automobile/Travel
- Child care
- Other emergency or unforeseen circumstances

What Micro-Grants do NOT Cover:
- Tuition and Fees
- Legal Fees/Expenses
- Parking Tickets/Fines
- Health Insurance
- Study Abroad costs

Apply on the Dean of Students website www.ohio.edu/deansstudents under the Bobcats Helping Bobcats tab.

Questions about the program can be directed to the Office of the Dean of Students at deansstudents@ohio.edu or 330-594-1800.

Ohio University Services Available to Students

Cats’ Cupboard Food Pantry in Baker University Center
Ohio recognizes that some students may not have enough to eat on a daily or weekly basis. The Food Pantry, located on the fifth floor of Baker University Center, is open to anyone in need.

Bobcats Helping Bobcats Meal Bank
Athens students who are on a Traditional, Flex, or Block Meal Plan can donate up to three meals during a specified donation week in both the Fall and Spring semesters. Those meals will then be available to students experiencing hunger on our campus.

To access the Meal Bank, students need to complete a short online application that can be found on the Dean of Students website under the Bobcats Helping Bobcats tab. Applications are reviewed by the Dean of Students Office. Thanks to Culinary Services for making this program possible and donating meals to create the Meal Bank.

Career Closet
Put your best self forward at a career fair or in an interview by shopping the Career and Leadership Development Center’s (CLDC) library of professional clothing—the Career Closet. The closet provides students with business professional and business casual clothes for Interviews, career fairs, formal events or any career-related function, both on and off campus. The Career Closet is located on the 5th floor of Baker University Center. Check the website for the drop-in hours https://www.ohio.edu/student-affairs/career-and-leadership

Cap and Gown Loan Program
Due to the generosity of Event Services, a select number of caps and gowns will be available for loan to students who face a financial barrier to purchase their own. We invite faculty and staff to share this application with students who would otherwise not participate in this important event because they are unable to purchase regalia.

Students can apply on the Dean of Students website, www.ohio.edu/deansstudents under the Bobcats Helping Bobcats tab.

If a student has already purchased a cap and gown, we are not able to offer refunds.

Housing Help
Sometimes students find themselves housing insecure or in situations where they are at-risk for homelessness. Common examples include:

- Living in a shelter, on the streets, in a car
- Fourteen days from losing current housing and no safe alternatives – like an eviction, including from university housing
- Fleeting housing due to violence or threat of violence

Ohio University is here to help. Complete the online intake form on the Dean of Students website www.ohio.edu/deansstudents under the Bobcats Helping Bobcats tab and someone from the Dean of Students office will reach out to explore campus and community options. Faculty and staff are encouraged to reach out to Dean of Students office if they believe they have a student who is housing insecure or homeless. Some of the resources available include:

Break Housing
Not all students have a home to return to over the winter and summer breaks. Off-campus housing is offered at a daily rate and financial support is available for those that qualify through the intake process.

Temporary Emergency Housing
Students experiencing a housing crisis that results in homelessness should complete the housing intake form to see if they qualify for temporary emergency housing or community-based services.