This booklet provides information for students who will be studying at the Scottish Borders Campus.

If you are not sure where your course is based contact the admissions office: ugadmissions@hw.ac.uk

Contact details and address for correspondence
Accommodation Office
Jean Muir Student Village
Heriot-Watt University Residences
Tweed Road
Galashiels
TD1 3HE

t: +44(0) 1896 892273
e: bordershalls@hw.ac.uk
w: www.hw.ac.uk/accommodation

Office Hours:
9.00 am to 5.00 pm

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You’ve applied for your course and got your offer. Now you need to think about where you will live.

This is an exciting time to live at the Scottish Borders Campus. The Jean Muir Student Village opened in 2012 and provides first rate accommodation facilities. You will have the chance to live in our state of the art student accommodation thanks to this £12 million development.

You’ll find a really friendly, welcoming community on campus. It’s easy to get to know people and it’s very convenient for the main campus facilities including a coffee shop, catering outlets, shop and the Student Union. There is also a Muslim Prayer room on campus and Sports facilities nearby. Plus when you live on campus there are no monthly electricity bills or travel expenses to worry about and you are only minutes from your lectures!

Will I get a room on campus?
The University guarantees all new full time students (undergraduate and postgraduate) a place in accommodation on campus in their first year. You are covered by the guarantee if you are:

A new full time student
And you have an unconditional firm offer of a place at the University and apply for accommodation online by 1200 hours GMT on 19 August 2016.

This includes direct entrants to year 2 or 3.

However, this guarantee is based on the assumption that the number of applications for residences remains relatively consistent from year to year – please see the disclaimer on the back page. Sometimes we might find accommodation for you off campus.

Do exchange students get rooms on campus?
As an exchange student you are not covered by the guarantee. An exchange student is a student who has been nominated to participate on an Exchange programme established either through Socrates/Erasmus or between Heriot-Watt University and another institution. You should still contact the accommodation office by email and you may be offered campus places subject to availability. Where this is not possible, advice will be given about finding other accommodation.
How long is the accommodation contract for?
The accommodation contract is a legally binding contract for the duration of the contract period. When you accept your contract online, you are accepting that you are liable for the rent for the duration of the 40 week contract (51 weeks for postgraduate students) and that you will abide by the terms and conditions and the rules and regulations within the contract.

Students with disabilities or extra support needs
A number of rooms on campus have been purpose built and are fully accessible. Please contact the Student Adviser for further information – see the contacts page for details. If you are an international student, it is essential that you contact us in advance so that we can assess whether the University is able to meet your support and care needs in the residences.

What’s included in the rent?
The rent includes the internet connections (24Mbps as standard) heating and power. Bedding packs are not included but can be pre ordered when you complete your online application. Personal effects insurance for a maximum claim of £3,000 total is included, up to an individual item value of £1,000. Please note you may need to take out extra insurance to cover an expensive item or to cover your laptop on other parts of the campus.
We know how important good quality accommodation is to the student experience. That’s why we have invested millions of pounds to build a brand new, contemporary student village. Living in our amazing student village you’ll meet others from all over the world that share your interests, discover new activities, and make lifelong friends. And we’ll support you all the way, through a range of services and facilities that will ensure you can make the best of your time as a student.

All of the buildings were completed in 2012 and all the rooms are self-catered ensuite. Each ensuite bedroom is 15 square metres – a lot larger than others you may have seen, with a large three quarter sized bed, fantastic storage and a well designed study area. You will also have your own private bathroom and shower.

As well as your large bedroom, you will Share a kitchen/dining area with 5 to 10 students – these are bright, modern, fresh and well equipped.

What you’ll really notice throughout is the fantastic modern design and furniture, as well the amount of communal space for you to study and socialise in.
Study bedrooms
These rooms are all single occupancy with a private bathroom, are finished to a high standard and are fully fitted with a large study area. There is a three quarter size bed and comfy chair in each room.

These rooms cost £138.00 per week.
Deluxe rooms
These rooms are larger than the study bedrooms. They also have a private bathroom but are finished to a slightly higher standard and have more storage and a large study area. In addition they have a double bed, 2 chairs and a coffee table.

* These rooms cost £151.90 per week.

There are also a small number of individual studios available to rent with private kitchen, living space, bathroom and bedroom.

* These cost £160.65 per week.
The kitchen and dining areas are spacious and furnished with modern, stylish furniture. No cooking utensils, crockery or cutlery is provided.

Shared kitchen and dining area
The study bedrooms and the deluxe rooms both have a shared kitchen next to the room. These are spacious and furnished with contemporary, stylish furniture and are shared between 5 to 10.
Each building has several communal lounges. These are light, modern and airy, providing you with a fantastic space to relax, study or socialise in.
All new students must apply for accommodation online.

When to apply
You can apply between 14 April 2015 to 19 August 2016. Applications can be made after 19 August 2016 but you will not be covered by the guarantee; we will do our best to offer you accommodation but we can’t guarantee it. We can only make one offer of accommodation.

Are you sitting A levels?
You will receive your results around the 15 August. There is still plenty of time for you to apply online before the closing date and we hold back some of each room type especially for A level students. As soon as you get your results you can log on and apply.

Your login
Your login is your UCAS Personal ID number (a 10 digit number) for undergraduates or your application number for postgraduates. You also need to put in your date of birth in the format dd-mm-yyyy, e.g. 15-06-1985 or 01-11-1990, or you click on the calendar icon.

Who can apply online?
You can only apply if you have an Unconditional Firm (UF) offer. The system will not accept your application if you are conditional. Keep in touch with the Admissions Office (or if you are a Postgraduate, your school) if you think your status should have been changed to UF.

What happens after I apply?
You will receive an email confirming that we have received your application.

What if I don’t receive email confirmation?
Please contact us on bordershalls@hw.ac.uk to let us know.

How long will it take for me to get an offer of accommodation?
We will process your application as soon as we can and we aim to email you an offer within 10 days of your application so keep checking your email. If you are an A level student we aim to email you a contract at least 7 days before the start date of the contract of 6 September 2014.

What do I do when I receive an offer?
You can accept or decline your offer online. Follow the instructions in your offer email. If you do not go online to accept the offer, the contract will not be valid.
Do I have to pay my Reservation Fee before I arrive?
Yes, there is a £300 Reservation Fee, which should be paid within 7 days of the offer. Your contract may be cancelled without this payment.

How do I pay my Reservation Fee?
You will be sent a web link in the email with your contract or you can check the University web pages. You may have to wait for 24-48 hours before you can pay your Reservation Fee. This is because there are two different computer systems which need to interface. As long as you pay within 7 days your offer is valid. Always select the Applicant Option, not the student one. If you can’t pay online, you can contact the Student Service Centre on 00 44 (0) 131 451 3000.

You must accept your offer of accommodation online before paying your reservation fee. Payment of the reservation fee alone does not secure your offer.

If your circumstances change and you will no longer be taking up your place at University please remember to let the accommodation office know so we can cancel your contract, otherwise you may be charged for the rent on the room.

How long do I have to pay my Reservation Fee?
If a Reservation Fee is not received within 7 days of the offer of accommodation made to you by email, your offer may be cancelled. We do not notify students when this action is taken.

It is your responsibility to contact the office to let us know if you are having problems paying your Reservation Fee.

What if I want to cancel my contract before I arrive?
It is your responsibility to inform us if you no longer want your room on campus. Please email us bordershalls@hw.ac.uk to advise us as soon as you can.

Will my Reservation Fee be refunded?
If you cancel before the start date your Reservation Fee will be refunded. If you fail to arrive your Reservation Fee will not be refunded.

Payment options
Once you have enrolled, you will receive an invoice for your accommodation. You can either settle each semester in full by credit card, cash or debit card or you can set up a payment plan called recurring card by going online: www.hw.ac.uk/payments This will allow you to split the payment over 8 payments.
Disclaimer

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this booklet is correct, facilities and other arrangements for the allocation of accommodation to students described here are subject to change. The University accordingly reserves the right, without notice, to modify as seems appropriate, those arrangements.

The University also gives notice that it will not accept liability for any loss or injury sustained by a student whether in connection with his/her studies or not and would suggest that all students seek advice on the adequacy of their insurance cover.

Contact Us

Accommodation Office
Student Support and Accommodation
Heriot-Watt University
Scottish Borders Campus
@bordershalls@hw.ac.uk
@www.hw.ac.uk/sbc/accommodation