

Living Learning Application Process

The following provides Living, Learning Communities programs with 1) providing a formal process for the Ferris State community to propose a new Living, Learning Communities and 2) a formal review of the existing Living, Learning Communities programs to ensure they are meeting the goals of the Ferris State Community. This Living, Learning Communities Review Process requires each Living, Learning Community to be reviewed every three years by the Office of Housing and Residence Life. Each year, Living, Learning Communities will complete an informal review for the years between formal reviews.

In summary, the Living, Learning Community Application and Review Process will:

- Each year, the Ferris State community may submit an application for a new Living, Learning Community program.
- Each Living, Learning Community is formally reviewed by the Office of Housing and Residence Life every three years.
- During the years a Living, Learning Community is not formally reviewed, the Living, Learning Community conducts an informal review with the Office of Housing and Residence Life to identify areas for growth as well as areas of achievement.
- A Living, Learning Community review consists of queries meant to gather information about the program. Information is gathered from many stakeholders including: residents, faculty/staff advisors, custodial staff, Office of Housing and Residence Life staff, and the Ferris State community.
- At the conclusion of the formal review, the Office of Housing and Residence Life will determine if a Living, Learning Community program will be renewed, conditionally approved, or not renewed.

Application Process and Timeline

Proposals for new Living, Learning Communities should contain educational goals for its residents, Ferris Community engagement goals, a draft of their Community Standards, a letter of support from their Academic Dean, and a letter of support from the faculty advisor including their commitment to serve as an advisor. The educational goals for the community should outline learning objectives for the residents of the Living, Learning Community. The Ferris community engagement goals should outline how the Living, Learning Community will engage, educate, and meet a need within the Ferris community. The Community Standards document outlines basic governance for the community to aid in community accountability and communication. Finally, a letter of support and commitment from a faculty/staff member will express their support for the community proposal, what resources they or their department plans to commit, and their education goal for the community.

Review Process

The Living, Learning Community review process is a re-application process for an existing Living, Learning Community. This re-application consists of two parts:

1. A program proposal which contains the same information as a new Living, Learning Community application.
2. A program evaluation, which is a compilation of what the program has accomplished since the last review.

During the years of informal review, which closely reflects the application process, the Office of Housing and Residence Life will informally review to allow a program to improve and prepare for the formal review.

The outcome of a formal review by the Office of Housing and Residence Life will be one of three things:

1. **Renewed:** These Living, Learning Communities are scheduled for another official review in three years performing informal reviews each year with the Office of Housing and Residence Life.
2. **Conditionally Renewed:** These Living, Learning Communities will be granted a specific period of time (usually one year) to demonstrate why they should be renewed. If a Living, Learning Community is conditionally reviewed, the Living, Learning Community can only be renewed or not renewed during their next review.
3. **Not Renewed:** These Living, Learning Communities will develop a transition-out plan with the Office of Housing and Residence Life and plan to turn the housing facility to a new Living, Learning Community that has been accepted by the Office of Housing and Residence Life.

Review Timeline

Formal review of Living, Learning Communities programs will begin in the fall semester of the three-year review.