



POLICY TITLE: GBC Student Housing Support Policy

POLICY CATEGORY: COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE

POLICY NUMBER: A21

POLICY OWNER: Ian Wigglesworth, AVP, Student Success

POLICY APPROVER: Ian Wigglesworth, AVP, Student Success

APPROVAL DATE: 12/16/2024

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REVIEWED: N/A Click or tap to enter a date.

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1. Purpose

George Brown College (GBC) affirms its commitment to providing students with access to dedicated resources and supports to finding suitable on-campus and off-campus housing.

We understand that securing and maintaining stable, safe, affordable housing is critical to student success as well as inclusion in college life, and positively contributes to the overall vibrancy of the Toronto community. We are committed to:

- Providing housing information that is relevant and easy to access including on- and off-campus housing resources
- Providing a range of housing options with the goal of offering housing that is inclusive of the diverse needs of all students
- Providing housing support to domestic and international students in their search for suitable accommodations
- And continuing to engage the community and work with partners to address student housing challenges

The policy aligns with the requirements of the Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 (Bill 185).

2. Scope

The policy is applicable to GBC employees and students with respect to student housing activities.

3. Definitions

“Third-party service providers” refer to external platforms to GBC that facilitate, manage, oversee and provide support in the matching of housing options with students in need of off-campus accommodations. Third-party service providers play a key role in connecting students to housing options including, home share, home stay, and off-campus listings.

“Home share” provider connects students with individuals or families who have rooms in their residence and may wish to rent them out.

“Home stay” provider connects students with host families who would provide accommodations, meals and/or other amenities in their residence in exchange for a fee. The option is particularly popular for international students seeking to experience the local culture in a supportive living environment.

“Off-campus listings” provider connects students to rental options outside of on-campus residence. Examples may include apartments, shared houses, rooms for rent.

4. Policy

4.1. Ease of Information Access

4.1.1. GBC ensures that information and services pertaining to student housing are easy to access. Students can find readily available information on student housing services, supports and resources through the [Housing Information](#) page, as well as on the [Student Residence](#) page.

4.2. Range of Housing Options

4.2.1. GBC works to provide a range of options through the [Student Residence](#) and [housing collaborations and resources](#) (e.g., third-party service providers: off-campus listings, home share and home stay options).

4.3. Inclusive Housing Options

4.3.1. GBC is dedicated to offering housing services, supports and resources that are inclusive of diversity and accessibility needs, cultural backgrounds, personal circumstances such as family status and the intersectional identities of its students. We are committed to ensuring that any future partnerships to provide housing support for students will be informed by these same inclusive principles.

4.4. Community Engagement and Partnership

4.4.1. As a downtown Toronto College, GBC ensures that it considers the local community environment, engages the Toronto community and develops appropriate partnerships in support of housing options for students.

4.5. Institutional Support

4.5.1. GBC provides student housing services through advisement, guidance, information and supports via the Student Life and Housing Advisor. Detailed information to access this service and additional resources, including multiple ways to connect (e.g., email, phone, virtual platforms, appointments) are available through the [Housing Information](#) page.

4.6. Incoming International Student Support

4.6.1. GBC provides support to incoming international students to find suitable housing on campus or in the community. There are dedicated resources and readily accessible supports via online resources and the Student Life and Housing Advisor, who also acts as point of contact to assist with the navigation of relevant services tailored for international

students (e.g., International Student Services, Student Residence). International students have additional supports through the International Student Services Hub.

5. Resources

[Housing Information](#): Webpage that provides dynamic, interactive and up-to-date information regarding on-campus residence, off-campus options including endorsed third-party service provider partnerships (e.g., off-campus listings, home share and home stay options), student/tenant rights, legal services support, safety tips, short-term housing, finance opportunities/assistance and additional information (e.g., apartment hunting guide, types of accommodations across the city/locations, budgeting and necessities considerations). The site also provides ways to connect with GBC Student Housing Services and college partners.

[Student Residence, The George](#): Webpage that provides application information; interactive virtual tour/video tours; resources about the residence and living in downtown Toronto, residence life, rates and payment options; contact information, [frequently asked questions](#); and dedicated [information for international students](#).