

## Appeal for Release from the Housing License Agreement Financial Reasons

The Housing Agreement Appeals Committee generally denies appeals for release from the License Agreement based on financial reasons unless students are in a state of compelling need. This is a situation where all possible resources (e.g., parents, your earnings, scholarships, need-based financial aid, etc.) have been utilized and you are still unable to meet housing costs and remain at Mason without relocating to less expensive housing. Educational loans are considered to be a reasonable means to meet the responsibilities of the License Agreement. Without compelling financial need, the Committee will not consider your appeal for release from the License Agreement based solely on the availability of less expensive housing.

The Appeals Committee will not consider your appeal if you have not completed and submitted a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** for the current academic year (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>). Most students, regardless of family financial circumstances, are eligible for some amount of need-based financial aid. If you have not yet filed a FAFSA for this year, you should do so **BEFORE** submitting an appeal. Financial aid that might be available to you may solve your financial concern, making an appeal unnecessary. If you have questions about filing a FAFSA during the academic year, please contact the Office of Student Financial Aid (703-993-2353 or <http://financialaid.gmu.edu>).

If...

- 1) You have filed a FAFSA for this year, **AND**
- 2) Your financial circumstances have changed since doing so, **AND**
- 3) You have used all offered financial aid,

...you should contact the Office of Student Financial Aid, before submitting an appeal, to request a reevaluation of resources. Additional financial aid may be available to you to solve your financial concern, making an appeal unnecessary.

### Student Requirements

Please type and deliver your appeal statement, with your completed *Housing and Residence Life License Agreement Appeal Form* and independently verifiable documentation supporting the reasons for your appeal to the Office of Housing and Residence Life on the first floor of Potomac Heights. Your statement should answer the following questions:

- 1) How have your financial circumstances changed since signing the License Agreement? Why is this problem significant?
- 2) Have you filed a FAFSA for this year? If not, why? If yes, have you used all financial aid offered to you?
- 3) If you have already filed a FAFSA for this year and your financial circumstances have changed since doing so, have you contacted the Office of Student Financial Aid to request a reevaluation of resources? If not, why? If yes, what was the outcome?
- 4) If you are released from your License Agreement, where do you intend to live?
- 5) What will be the monthly costs to you while living there?