All first- and second-year students are required to live in university housing. Housing and Residential Life teams are dedicated to working with Northeastern University students to help them build strong community living environments that support personal development and academic success.

The residential experience created for both first- and second-year students has two main goals: to create opportunities for social connection, support, and belonging and to provide opportunities for learning and development. The core outcome is to prepare students to become lifelong learners who are holistically formed, experience growth alongside others, and are responsible contributors to local and global communities. A central component of the residential experience for first-year students is Living Learning Communities. LLCs bring together students with a shared personal or academic interest to learn and grow as a community during their first year at Northeastern.