Mansion Hill Closing – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

When do Mansion Hill residents need to move out? Current contracts end on May 31, 2023.

Are new residents still moving into Mansion Hill for Spring 2023? Yes, we are currently still operating a waitlist and some new students will be moving in on January 3rd for the spring 2023 semester. These students have been told about the Mansion Hill closure.

What if I find another place to live prior to the end of my contract at Mansion? As shared in the email announcement, Residential Life and Housing will do monthly prorations for student leaving their lease between January 3, 2023 - April 30, 2023. (For example, if a resident vacates Mansion and returns keys on March 30th, they will be refunded their April and May rent. If a resident vacates on April 15th, they will be refunded their May rent, etc.)

I need summer housing. Is Mansion Hill an option? Yes, but only for current/Spring 2023 Mansion residents. Residential Life and Housing is currently collecting a list of interested students until the summer housing ap launches at the beginning of March. Mansion residents can email umslreslife@umsl.edu to express their interest/need for summer housing. Summer housing contracts will run June 1, 2023 - August 31, 2023. Residential Life and Housing will pro-rate a student’s summer housing costs after they have moved out and they leave prior to the end of the summer contract.

When will summer housing be billed? Charges for summer housing will be added to students’ accounts in April/May and will be billed to the summer term. Please be advised financial aid may not be able to cover these costs, so please chat directly with Student Financial Aid about your specific situation.

Will summer storage be offered at Mansion in summer 2023? Yes. Residential Life and Housing acknowledges that some students may travel great distances to attend UMSL and need a place to store their items over the summer. The charge will be $200 for storage (for any duration of time between June 1st-August 31st) and this will be billed to Spring 2023. Residential Life and Housing will issue directions in March on how to sign up for Mansion summer storage.

What other housing is available on campus? Oak Hall is a 6-story residence hall that is suite style: 4 private bedrooms and 1 shared bathroom. Oak Hall has 421 beds available, offers gender-inclusive housing, and is billed straight to a student’s account on a semesterly basis. If students want/need to live in an apartment, University Meadows is located on campus. Rent at the Meadows is collected monthly and must be paid directly to the Meadows (i.e. it cannot be charged to a student’s UMSL account). University Meadows offers studio, 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom/2 bath, and 4 bedroom/2 bath apartments.

How do I apply for housing at Oak Hall? Residential Life and Housing utilizes the Triton Housing Portal and it can be accessed with a student’s SSO id and password. Applications for the 2023-2024 Academic Year are LIVE. If you have any questions, you can email housing at umslreslife@umsl.edu or call at (314)516-6448.

How do I apply for housing at University Meadows? You can lease units via this website. You can reach the Leasing Team at (314)516-7504.
When do leases begin at Oak Hall and University Meadows? Oak Hall contracts will begin on August 17, 2023 and will accept early arrivals starting in early August. The leases at University Meadows will begin on August 18, 2023.

Can I move into the Meadows in summer of 2023? Students must speak directly to the University Meadows staff about their availability to accommodate early move-in requests.

I cannot afford to live at Oak Hall or University Meadows- what other options can the university offer me? Unfortunately, the university does not have other housing options to offer at this time. Staff within Student Advocacy/CARE are able to help students explore other options off campus.

Why is Mansion Hill closing? Mansion Hill requires substantial infrastructure work in order to continue operation. The continuing operation of the facility does not align with the Campus Master Plan and has been slated for closure as a result.

Is Mansion Hill being sold and can students rent their apartment from another company? The University does not plan to sell or lease the apartments to another entity.

Will maintenance still be done in resident's units? Yes, maintenance responsiveness and care should continue at the same level. Our facilities team is committed to maintaining great service through August 2023.

Can I buy some of the furniture at Mansion? The sale of the furniture will be coordinated through the UM System Surplus department. Once more info becomes available, ResLife will share findings via email.

I currently have a scholarship that pays for my housing – can I still receive this? Yes, if you choose to live at Oak Hall the scholarship expectations are the same between Oak Hall and Mansion Hill. If you are planning to live at the Meadows, you will want to chat with Student Financial Aid and/or your scholarship provider to determine what, if any, stipulations apply to your scholarship.

Is there enough housing for all current on campus residents? Yes, there are enough beds to accommodate all Mansion Hill residents into Oak Hall and/or University Meadows. Based on our long-term planning, we expect excess capacity for at least the next four-five years. We encourage students to be as proactive as possible in identifying their housing needs and submitting applications in a timely manner.

Some administrators have shared the decision was made to close MH years ago-why was this just shared with residents/staff? This is untrue. Conversations regarding the future of Mansion Hill began in the spring semester after a thorough assessment of deferred maintenance for the campus, including residential complexes. Staff and students were notified once all internal discussions were completed and plans were finalized by the University in conjunction with UM System.

Why did the campus not build more apartments if they knew Mansion could not continue? The Campus Master Plan included analysis of enrollment and on-campus population trends for the past decade. Findings of this analysis project UMSL's in-person enrollments to remain flat and increases in enrollment growth to occur primarily in online programs. The university anticipates existing on-campus housing to be appropriate to meet the needs of its students with in-person enrollment.
When does campus plan to add additional housing? The University would consider adding additional university-owned, apartment-style housing to the campus when both in-person enrollment growth indicates the need and Oak Hall and University Meadows are at 100% capacity for multiple academic years.

How is the university addressing a major need for affordable housing for students? The University is currently exploring public-private partnerships as part of the redevelopment of South Campus to provide additional affordable housing options for UMSL students. A timeline for these projects is not currently available.