



Senior Erin Bishop unpacks after finally being allowed to live in her Park Place apartment, which she was removed from due to mold and mildew.

MARITZA GONZALEZ | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students begin returning to Park Place after moldy displacement

All of the affected apartments are expected to be ready for residency by Sept. 30

Grace Morris, Maggie Cornejo and Ariana Reyes

Contributors | @elonnewsnetwork

Students displaced from their Park Place apartments have started to move back in.

According to University Communications, eight of the 19 apartments impacted by the mold and mildew have been cleaned and approved for use, and by Sept. 30, all of the affected apartments will be ready to live in again.

Elon University will reimburse the rent of all 55 students who had to move out. University Communications did not provide Elon News Network with the total cost for relocated students, but based on reimbursement rates provided by University Communications, the maximum payout for a three-person apartment is more than \$14,000. That covers rent, gas and hotel room costs, but many residents are expected to see less because they were able to return sooner.

Some students say the process of moving in again three weeks into the semester is a huge hassle.

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JUNIOR, PARK PLACE RESIDENT

days doing that at the beginning of the school year, it's really overwhelming," said junior Taylor Cassidy, one of the 55 students who had to move.

Other students are concerned about inconveniences larger than some boxes and furniture.

"The mold had caused my asthma attack and it was making me worse," said senior Erin Bishop. "My dad's worried at least that it's in the hallways still ... Even if I'm in for a short while, if I'm continuously walking through the hallways throughout the year, I mean, that adds up."

Bishop said she hopes that in the future, problems like these will be addressed sooner.

"There are always worries that this could happen again, and I just hope that those small signs aren't brushed off next time," Bishop said.

"The school needs to pick up its monitoring of mold issues. ... The right actions have to be taken, and people need to be listened to when they have humidity issues."

While the students haven't been reimbursed yet for the rent of their Park Place apartment, the university has provided phoenix cash to the students, as well as transportation from the hotel to Elon.

Bishop was relocated to a hotel fifteen minutes away from campus, and just this week was able to return to her permanent housing.

"I had to get up earlier," Bishop said. "I couldn't go home as often because if I had an hour walk, I couldn't just go back to my apartment."

"[Elon] has taken the time to clean everything, but this was not the greatest way to start senior year."

New underage alcohol policy result of Honor Code change

Students will no longer be required to complete community service following violations

Paul Leblanc
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New changes to Elon University's Honor Code restructure the punishments for undergraduates cited for alcohol consumption.

In the past, underage students caught consuming alcohol would face community service hours, potential impacts on leadership roles and study abroad opportunities and a short online program.

Under the new policy, students cited for underage consumption for the first time will have to complete a longer education program, but won't have to participate in community service and won't be charged with a code of conduct violation for seeking treatment for excessive alcohol consumption.

"We want to remove any message that service is a 'punishment,' Assistant Dean of Students Whitney Gregory told Elon News Network of the decision to remove community service as a punishment for underage drinking. "[We want to] avoid situations where the student or hosting organization has a negative experiences associated with the required service."

Gregory also called the decision to not charge any student with a code of conduct violation for seeking medical assistance a way to "encourage students to seek help for themselves or for a friend."

Before this year, the only students exempt from punishment were students who sought medical assistance on behalf of someone else, called the 'Innocent Bystander policy,' but it was not extended to the person in need of treatment.

Opinions on the policy change vary across campus. Senior Rohit Naidu praised the new policy as a better consequence for students.

"I think that providing more informational sessions over community service is a more beneficial punishment for a few reasons," he said. "These sessions actually teach you about the causes of alcohol whereas just do-

NEW POLICIES FOR UNDERAGE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

1. Students cited for underage consumption will be required to complete a longer education program
2. Community service is not required for students who receive a citation
3. Students will no longer be charged with a code of conduct violation for seeking treatment for excessive alcohol consumption

ing manual labor doesn't at all."

Naidu added reviewing any sanctions against study abroad opportunities is a smart decision for a school that is trying to become "more global."

But not every student favors the new policy. Senior Ryan Pelosi said keeping any component of online educational training would be "useless."

"People do that without much effort and try to skip through as much as possible."

He added cutting the mandatory community service requirement was a right move for the school to take.

"I believe giving back to your community through service is very important," he said. "However, it shouldn't be forced for people to do. I think the punishment should be a choice of either an in-person class or the ability to do community service."

Despite disagreement among students about the new policy, Gregory said the changes were a result of thorough research from students and faculty over the summer to ensure the best scenario for everyone.

"Our goal in any code of conduct review is to ensure our policies and processes are aligned with our honor code, reflect our shared university values and expectations and seek to protect the safety and well-being of all students," she said.