



BERGEN COUNTY HOUSING, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CENTER

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POLICY ON HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS AT BCHHHC

The management of BCHHHC supports academic endeavors and embraces an individual's pursuit of higher education. As this shelter facility is licensed as an emergency shelter, individuals are expected to focus on a permanent housing placement within 90 days. The sheltering program cannot be utilized as a free dormitory for students while they pursue their educational degrees in lieu of a housing plan which for them may be a longer term goal.

In addition, all shelter guests are required under our county approved policies to apply for General Assistance (GA) through their local welfare offices. Regulations state that being a part-time or full-time student makes an individual ineligible to receive General Assistance and Emergency Assistance that in most cases they would need to move on from the shelter. Additionally, if an individual is staying in the shelter, is receiving GA/EA and has been attending college university classes without notifying Center staff, BCHHHC management will be required to report this immediately to the welfare office issuing the cash assistance and their shelter stay will be terminated.

Students are encouraged to speak with their college/university advisors to look into on-campus living arrangements, youth and shared housing options, family reunification or considering delaying their academic pursuits until after they are stably housed.