

Why MSU Decided to Eliminate the Waiver to the Sophomore Year Live-On Requirement

1. Correlation: There is a correlation between living on campus for two years and higher rates of persistence and graduation (~2.5 percentage points).
2. Disproportionate Impacts: Groups of students who have the largest opportunity gaps also experience the largest gains by living on campus two years (up to 20+ percentage points).
3. Timing: The entire difference in persistence rates for those who do and don't live on campus a second year emerges in during the second year.
4. Causality: Matched analyses of student who do and don't live on campus a second year demonstrated a causal relationship between a second year on campus and student success.



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5. It's Not Their Grades: The average cumulative GPA's of students who do and don't live on campus a second year are very similar.
6. Alignment with Published Research: A large body of peer-reviewed published research demonstrates the positive impacts of on-campus living.
7. Alignment with Peers: Two other Big10 schools already have a two-year live-on requirement and two others are moving in that direction. 20% of U.S. colleges and universities require two or more years of on-campus living.
8. New Inputs: The two-year live-on requirement provides MSU the opportunity to extend its highly successful model throughout the first two years. Research on OSU's second-year program demonstrated that students were five times more likely to persist into their third year (99.2% to 94.7%).

