Allocation of housing for international students

Background
Lund University’s strategic plan highlights a number of objectives which are important for the University’s development. One of these focuses on the necessity of an international spirit and a global commitment. As part of our internationalisation efforts, the University established LU Accommodation which works to facilitate leasing of housing to international students. To promote the establishment of new international students at the University, an efficient and strategically correct process for the allocation of housing is needed.

The most recent vice-chancellor’s decision concerning the allocation of housing for international students was taken in February 2010 (Reg. no SE 2010/13). Since then, the number of international students has increased and several new student groups have been introduced. A new decision on the matter is therefore necessary.

Decision
In order to streamline the allocation of housing within the University, three prioritisation categories are introduced:

Housing guarantee: students in this category shall be offered accommodation, provided that they meet the requirements below.

Priority: students in this category shall be offered accommodation once all students who are guaranteed housing have been offered accommodation.

Standard: students in this category shall be offered accommodation once the students who are guaranteed housing and the priority students have been offered accommodation.

The housing guarantee applies, provided that:

– the student has applied for housing within the specified period
– the student is looking for housing for their first semester of study at Lund
University (the guarantee does not apply if the student has already studied a semester at Lund University on the same study programme)

– the student accepts the housing offered within the specified period
– the student pays a deposit and other associated fees in accordance with applicable rules
– the student is applying for housing with a lease beginning at the start of the semester

General rules with regard to the housing guarantee:

– the student is covered by the housing guarantee throughout their normal period of study, in accordance with their admission decision
– a student who terminates their lease has thereby forfeited their right to guaranteed housing
– students shall have the opportunity to go on an exchange or perform a similar activity associated with the study programme, without having to forfeit their right to guaranteed housing
– students who have been granted a U.S. student loan or full scholarship (e.g. from the Swedish Institute) are not required to pay a deposit in advance, but can wait until they have arrived at Lund University, provided that they have accepted the offer of accommodation within the specified period.

Allocation

The University decides on the allocation of housing within the following categories:

Housing guarantee:

– fee-paying students admitted to full-time studies of at least 30 credits
– international students, admitted to a full-time course of at least 30 credits, contracted by a higher education institution. Only applies to agreements signed by the vice-chancellor.
– international contract education students, admitted to a full-time programme of at least 30 credits, or the equivalent. Only applies to agreements signed by the vice-chancellor.
– students covered by an agreement with the University of California (UC)
– students with a scholarship from the Linnaeus-Palme programme

Priority:

– first- and second-cycle students within the International Credit Mobility (ICM) programme
– exchange students from non-European universities through Universitas 21 (U21)
– students within Joint Programmes and Double Degree Programmes

Standard:

– primarily, students covered by other agreements prioritised by the respective faculties
– secondly, non-fee paying international programme students

This decision replaces the previous decision, reg. no SE 2010/13, concerning the allocation of housing for international students.
The decision in this matter was made by the undersigned vice-chancellor in the presence of acting university director Cecilia Billgren, after a briefing by international manager Richard Stenelo. Head of division Margareta Nordstrand also participated in the processing of the matter.

Torbjörn von Schantz

Richard Stenelo
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