HALL DIRECTOR

The residence life experience
Dear hall director candidate,

North Dakota State University Residence Life is gaining a national reputation for providing an experience for students that enhances their academic careers. You could be part of that success. It’s an exciting time to join the hall director team as we continue to make advancements in the student experience through the implementation of our residential curriculum.

Beyond student engagement, hall directors provide leadership within their halls and the department through committees. It’s essential for success. In addition, our staff gain experience and skills that will help set them apart in the job market.

NDSU has a strong focus on people and relationships. This carries into our values within Residence Life. When joining the hall director team, you will step into an exciting, supportive and welcoming environment.

Fargo’s population growth means new businesses, restaurants and entertainment. The community is a big city that feels like a small town. There is always something to do in Fargo, from street fairs to concerts and bike trails to shopping.

NDSU Residence Life seeks applications from all candidates. For information on our commitment to diversity, social change and staff as educators, visit www.ndsu.edu/reslife.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me with questions. I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bahe, associate director of Residence Life

The Department of Residence Life supports students by providing a vibrant, healthy place to live and learn.
“Being part of a larger community and department were huge reasons for coming to NDSU. There are so many professionals with a wealth of knowledge and experiences that they are more than willing to share with a new professional. The transition to a full-time position was made easier by a supportive group of peers who offer unending guidance. Through our residential curriculum, conduct theories and methods, and focus on student learning, I have grown so much as a person and professional in my time here. I am so proud to be a Bison!”

Amolia Schumacher
THOMPSON HALL DIRECTOR
Hometown: Genoa City, Wisconsin
The NDSU Department of Residence Life has people on its team from states across the country including Michigan, Florida, Missouri, Virginia, Massachusetts, California, Alabama, Iowa, New York, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota.

**Hall directors at NDSU**

Hall directors are the primary contact for their residence hall and serve as department and university liaisons. Customer service, teamwork and comprehensive administrative skills are necessary to be a successful hall director. Candidates need to have a strong work ethic, be professional, embrace positive change and be eager to spend time with students. Our hall directors also are expected to provide a welcoming environment where students from diverse backgrounds have an opportunity to learn from, grow with and be respected by one another.

**Hall director main responsibilities**

Hall directors are present and active in the halls, not only to support and develop students and staff, but to educate and enhance learning.

- Inclusive leadership and management
- Supervision
- Community development
- Advising
- Student conduct
- Facilities management
- Hall administrative duties
- Student support
- Special committee responsibilities
“In the hall director role at NDSU, I am given ample ownership of my hall and the community I can create. I train my staff, build relationships with students and am present to create a community that I envision. I also love that I get experience in so many areas of a residence life program. Whether that is advising, residential curriculum, conferences or more, hall directors play an important role in all those functions.”
Special committee opportunities
Each hall director can enhance their experience at NDSU based on individual preferences. Here are a few examples:

- Develop curriculum
- Advise student organizations
- Teach conduct and alcohol education
- Work toward diversity goals
- Recruit hall directors
- Marketing
- Supervise student staff including training and recruitment

Interview process
NDSU supports travel expenses for on-campus interviews incurred by hall director candidates. Unless a hall director candidate is offered a position and declines it, all candidates invited to on-campus interviews will be reimbursed for their travel expenses.

Benefits

- Apartments are wired for Internet access, air-conditioned and are partially furnished with living room, kitchen and bedroom furniture.
- Hall director offices are separate from their apartments.
- Professional development funding is available for conferences and training.
- After completing the six-month probationary period, staff members qualify for a tuition waiver up to three classes per calendar year. Waivers may be used the next semester after the end of the probationary period. Spouses and children receive a 50 percent reduction in tuition.
- NDSU provides a benefits package with TIAA-CREF retirement options, life insurance and fully paid health insurance premiums. Health insurance becomes effective one month after the official contract date. Dental and eye-care insurance can be purchased at additional cost.
- Hall directors receive up to 500 block meals during dining center operation.
- Staff members earn one vacation day and one sick day per month, plus 10 paid holidays per year.
- Office phones with voicemail are provided.
- Partner policy allows for partners to live together.
- Pets are limited to a domesticated dog or cat and/or fish as long as requirements have been met.
Derisa Collymore
BURGUM HALL DIRECTOR
Hometown: Brooklyn, New York

“I chose NDSU because I felt at home when I came to interview. I was looking for an environment where my co-workers would be professional yet welcoming and kind, the department would feel like family, and the local people would be kind and community-focused. I came for a comfortable and positive place to work, and continue to stay because of the opportunity I have to do the necessary work to improve the lives of students at NDSU. Also, I am furthering my own expertise as a current student in NDSU’s education doctoral program. With my future career in diversity and inclusion matters and improving the college experience for marginalized students, I have been able to work both within the department and on committees around campus to sharpen my focus on the real issues, and how to best solve them at NDSU and beyond.”
**About NDSU**
With over 13,000 students, NDSU is a thriving university. Students find the campus large enough to meet new people and gain new experiences, but small enough to be friendly, convenient and safe. Established in 1890, NDSU has a reputation for research and academic excellence. With Division I athletics, about 300 student organizations and diverse cultural activities, it offers something for everyone.

**Fargo-Moorhead**
The university is located in Fargo, a thriving regional hub on the edge of the Great Plains and Minnesota lake country. Fargo, its sister city, Moorhead, Minnesota, and surrounding communities have a population of approximately 220,000. The Fargo-Moorhead community features three outstanding institutions of higher education: NDSU, Concordia College and Minnesota State University Moorhead, which contribute to an exciting list of things to do. The area combines big-city amenities – museums, arenas and fine arts events – with small-town convenience, safety and friendliness.
Jason Medders
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE LIFE OPERATIONS
Hometown: Trussville, Alabama

“I really enjoy working at NDSU. I have found Fargo-Moorhead to be a very family-friendly place, and I love the energetic atmosphere on campus. Having moved more than 1,200 miles to get here, I can honestly say it was worth it. This is where my family and I want to live and work (and play) for many years to come.”
Liz Campbell

HEAD OF STUDENT LIFE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
EMERGING DIGITAL ACADEMY, FARGO ND
NDSU hall director 2013-2017

“From teamwork to time management, from helping students find motivation to helping students through their toughest moments, the experience as a hall director shaped the student affairs professional I am today. Transitioning from housing to career services, I have similar conversations with students in crises, the crises are just different, and just as life changing for both the students and me. The Department of Residence Life provides incredible opportunities for both personal and professional growth through formal training, professional development funds and networking opportunities. Beyond the work with students, the HD position brought me to Fargo, a place I now call home. The community is strong and I can’t imagine living anywhere else!”

Michelle Sailor

ACADEMIC ADVISER/STUDENT SUCCESS SPECIALIST
CHIPEWEA VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NDSU hall director 2014-2018

“Being a hall director at NDSU provided valuable skills that I’ll need in my future professional endeavors. I was encouraged to look into opportunities across campus and introduced to professionals with key experiences. Outside of being an HD, I was a co-adviser for the campus International Student Association and used professional development funds to attend a regional NAFSA: Association of International Educators conference because I was interested in working in a study abroad and/or international student services office in the future.”
Guiding principles for residence life

The following principles help guide the future direction of the department:

- **Standards of service** Consistently deliver the highest quality in all residence life services and programs.
- **Living environment** Maintain, improve, plan and develop facilities to meet students’ basic needs.
- **Learning environment** Foster individual growth and development, academic success and a sense of community.
- **Quality and diverse staff** Attract, reward and retain quality staff in an organizational culture that values all individuals, promotes professional development and maintains ethical standards.
- **Responsible financial management**
- **Building and establishing relationships** Attract and retain students. Develop and sustain successful partnerships that market and foster a positive reputation.
- **Innovative use of technology**

Residence life experience

The Department of Residence Life strives to create a community of learning where our students can live and grow as neighbors now and in the future. All that we do is intentional and student focused.

Our educational priority is to help our residents embrace Global Citizenship. In order to guide our residents to become global citizens and quality neighbors in their community, we focus on following four learning goals.

- Creating connections
- Exploring identity
- Developing communities
- Making educated decisions

For more information, please visit [www.ndsu.edu/reslife](http://www.ndsu.edu/reslife).