

Husky2Husky Homesharing

FOR HOME SEEKERS

W OFFICE OF STUDENT ADVOCACY & SUPPORT
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON | TACOMA



Introducing **Husky2Husky (H2H)**, an innovative Homesharing Program that offers Tacoma residents the opportunity to help a UW Tacoma student obtain affordable housing by utilizing that 'spare room' in a their home. This program offers housemate matches based on lifestyles and personalities.

H2H IS AN INNOVATIVE RESOURCE FOR A MASSIVE PROBLEM:

Students often grapple with the rising costs of living, tuition and meeting basic needs. This can create barriers that undermine their ability to academically succeed. UW Tacoma has begun a partnership with **Associated Ministries** to provide UW Tacoma students with safe, stable, and affordable housing to assist in their ability to pursue their educational goals.

WHAT IS HOMESHARING?

H2H is a safe, low-cost screening and referral service that processes applications, completes background checks, and builds compatibility profiles for qualified **Home Providers** (those who wish to rent out rooms in their house in exchange for an agreed level of support such as assistance with household tasks and/or a financial exchange) with qualified **Home Seekers** (UW Tacoma students needing affordable housing). The **H2H** Homesharing program benefits Home Providers and Home Seekers by facilitating a home share situation that is mutually helpful to each side. *It's a win-win!*

WHO IS ASSOCIATED MINISTRIES?

Associated Ministries is a non-discriminatory, equal opportunity 501(c)(3) non-profit, serving Tacoma and Pierce County since 1969.



HOW DO I QUALIFY?

You must meet all of the following conditions to qualify:

- Be currently enrolled at UW Tacoma.
- Complete an application, background check (\$30 fee) and an intake appointment with Shared Housing Services.
- While participating in the H2H program, you must maintain your enrolled student status and regularly check-in/follow-up with the Office of Student Advocacy and Support.

5 EASY STEPS:

- Step 1: Complete an online application** located on the Shared Housing Services' website: www.associatedministries.org/supportive-services/home-sharing/ Go page and scroll to "home seeker". Please put "**UW Tacoma.**" under the section that asks "**How did you hear about Shared Housing Services?**"
- Step 2: Complete the criminal background check.** Background checks are completed at Associated Ministries' offices and must be done within 30 days of submitting the application.
- Step 3:** Associated Ministries will conduct an intake on all Home Providers/Home Seekers to determine needs, requirements and compatibility of lifestyles to begin the home share referral process.
- Step 4:** When a referral is made, the Provider and Seeker begin a dialogue to get to know each other.
- Step 5:** If a home share match is made, the Provider and Seeker negotiate their living arrangements and document the negotiated arrangements on a Homeshare Agreement form (provided by Associated Ministries).

Husk2Husky FAQs for Home Seekers

How long does it take?

The application process including the application, background check, and intake takes a minimum of seven days. Referrals for potential home share matches are criteria-based, and is dependent on the needs of both the Home Provider and the Home Seeker as well as the availability of homes with open rooms.

If immediate housing is needed, please contact the Office of Student Advocacy and Support for resources for emergency/transitional housing in the area.

Is Homesharing safe?

For over 17 years, Associated Ministries' Adult Homesharing program has been providing safe, comfortable, and beneficial home share situations throughout Pierce County. Conducting multi-state criminal background checks and one-on-one, in-person interviews allow for proper vetting and referring of potential home sharers and is much safer than answering a listing online or an ad in the newspaper.

If I am an international student, can I still apply?

Yes, all enrolled UW Tacoma students are eligible to apply.

Who determines the rent?

All arrangements, financial and/or rendered services are negotiated between the Home Provider and the Home Seeker based on the individual needs of each party.

Can Home Providers have a spouse, partner, other roommates or other family members living in the home?

Yes, but each person that lives in the home will need to complete a separate background check form before referrals can be made.

As a Home Seeker can other family members move in with me?

Most Home Providers only have one room in their home that they are looking to rent out in exchange for services and/or rent. Occasionally, a Home Provider will be open to having two people home share in a room such as spouses, partners, or a single parent and child, but this is the exception and is decided by the Home Provider. Since the Homesharing program is criteria based, applying as two people may pose a barrier that could lengthen, or prevent a referral for home sharing. Those looking for family housing are encouraged to contact Shared Housing Services or other housing organizations directly.

What if the referral for a home share situation seems like it WON'T be a good fit?

The referral is just an introduction for a home share situation based off submitted criteria to be mutually beneficial to both sides. If a Provider/Seeker does not feel safe or comfortable with the each other, they can ask to receive another referral. If another referral is not available at that time, you will be placed on the active list to wait for a new referral when one becomes available.

What if I experience a problem while sharing a home?

If you experience a conflict with the person you are home sharing with, contact the Office of Student Advocacy and Support staff at UW Tacoma or the staff at Shared Housing services for guidance and possible conflict resolution.

Looking for a room?

Apply to become a Home Seeker:

[www.associatedministries.org/
supportive-services/home-sharing/](http://www.associatedministries.org/supportive-services/home-sharing/)



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For additional questions about the Husk2Husky Homesharing program and/or homesharing in general please contact:
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