

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a diverse group of approximately 15 students huddled together in a circle. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a dense canopy of green trees, with sunlight filtering through the leaves. The students are wearing various casual clothing, including t-shirts, hoodies, and a baseball cap. The overall mood is positive and collaborative.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

## I.D.E.A.L. Residential Portfolio

Individualized Developmental Experiences And Learning

*Office of Housing & Residential Life*

# Eastern I.D.E.A.L. - Portfolio

## What is an I.D.E.A.L. Residential Portfolio?

A liberal arts education focuses on well-rounded, holistic learning where students are intentional about the education they receive, both inside and outside of the classroom. The I.D.E.A.L. Residential Portfolio encourages students to sample a variety of Eastern's offerings, exposing them to useful resources and activities of interest.

## Who Can Participate?

All first-year, sophomore and junior residential students are eligible to participate.

## How to Participate

To participate, sign up by Friday, September 19, 2025. Students will then complete the required check-list and provide proof of attendance (i.e. pamphlet, flier, ticket stub, or program) to indicate their participation. For each item on the list, students will also write a brief reflection essay discussing their observations, what they learned and their feelings about the experience. These reflections and proof of attendance will be compiled in a portfolio binder and submitted to the Office of Housing and Residential Life by Wednesday, February 18, 2026.

## Benefits

All students who complete the I.D.E.A.L. Residential Portfolio automatically earn 30 Priority Points, in addition to any points they accumulate while attending events to complete the portfolio (e.g. UROC & RHA Meetings, RA educational programs, CCE events).

Students are eligible for merit-based awards on their portfolio's creativity, reflection, and overall content. The submitter of the most outstanding portfolio for the freshmen, sophomore, and junior class will win one of the top three picks in the housing selection process.

# Individualized Developmental Experiences And Learning

## Portfolio Requirements

- Attend four (4) Residence Hall Association (RHA) meetings.
- Attend a RHA Event.\*
- Attend at least two (2) University Residential Outreach Council (UROC) meetings.
- Attend a UROC event.\*
- Attend an educational RA program in your hall.
- Participate in a Center for Community Engagement event.
- Attend an Eastern Athletic event.\*
- Participate in a SGA recognized Student Organization (you must appear on their roster submitted at the end of the fall semester)
- Attend a University Hour event.\*
- Attend a University theatrical or musical performance.\*
- Visit an event or local business/establishment in the town of Willimantic.
- Submit a copy of your completed Four-Year Plan.
- Find a job that you would like to apply for upon graduation and submit a copy of the job description, your cover letter and your resume before and after having it checked by the Center for Internships and Career Development staff.
- Include an essay on how you have grown in your time at Eastern, what Eastern's core values mean to you and how you attempt to incorporate the core values into your Eastern experience.

## Bonus Activities

Complete items from the optional list below to earn additional bonus points in the merit-based award scoring rubric.

- Complete a Roommate Expectation Form.\*
- Take and include a photo of your favorite residence hall bulletin board and explain why you chose it as your favorite.
- Include five (5) photos of some of your favorite memories at Eastern with a description of each.
- Start a Peer Success Group in the fall in your hall through your hall director and write a brief reflection.
- Create a 30 second to five (5) minute video about your experiences at Eastern and share the link/file with us. In the event of a tie, this video will be used as a tie breaker when giving awards.

*\* Please include programs, fliers, or a photograph to verify your completion of this requirement.*

## Important Information

### Sign Up

To participate sign up by  
completing the [on-line survey](#)  
by **Friday, Sep. 19, 2025 at 4 p.m.**

### Due Date

Portfolios will be due by **Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2026 at 4 p.m.**  
in the Housing Office, Wood Support Services, Room 241

## Questions

If you have any questions please contact the  
Office of Housing & Residential Life at (860) 465-5297

## Contact Person

Troi Branham

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for Residential Engagement

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## For More Information Visit

<https://www.easternct.edu/housing/campus-life/ideal.html>



EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

*Office of Housing & Residential Life*  
*Division of Student Affairs*