

SAMS GUIDE TO

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION



Welcome

We are delighted you are considering studying at SAMS.

Students who study at SAMS reside in either on-campus accommodation or rent from private landlords in the area, usually staying in Oban.

Following the global coronavirus pandemic and the ongoing related restrictions, we are currently revising our accommodation offering.

We shall be able to offer accommodation for up to 11 students in the Margaret Barnes Building on campus. We are also in discussion with the local housing association to secure some additional housing in the new development nearby but cannot guarantee that this will be available.

This guide therefore offers information on the Margaret Barnes Building and places to refer to if approaching a private landlord as well as answering the most frequently asked questions.

Frequently Asked Questions

What accommodation is offered?

SAMS offers self-catering accommodation for up to 11 students in the Margaret Barnes Building on campus. More information on the Margaret Barnes Building is included in this guide.

How do I apply for on-campus accommodation in the Margaret Barnes Building?

In mid-May, SAMS Accommodation Team will email all applicants who are holding an offer to see if they wish to apply for SAMS Accommodation in the Margaret Barnes Building. The most up-to-date information will be emailed to the address you gave in your application.

Can I apply for student accommodation now?

If you wish to apply for the Margaret Barnes Building accommodation, please wait until mid-May and reply to the email you will be sent. If you wish to arrange accommodation privately, you can apply at any time.

How much does accommodation cost and how is it paid?

Accommodation in the Margaret Barnes Building is £480 per calendar month plus an initial deposit of £400. Payment is in £GB pounds sterling payable by bank transfer or via the SAMS payment portal; full details will be provided.

The accommodation contract is for the academic year but can be paid either monthly or quarterly. You can specify which payment schedule you wish to follow and you must make all payments in line with the contractual terms.

Even if you are allocated accommodation, it will not be guaranteed until you have accepted an unconditional firm offer for your course and paid your deposit and first instalment.

Can I bring my pets?

Sorry, no pets are allowed in SAMS student accommodation.

NB, assistance dogs are permitted with prior agreement by the Accommodation Team.

Can I have my bedding, pillows, towels delivered in advance of my arrival?

Yes but please advise the SAMS Accommodation Team to expect them. Delivery must be made during normal working hours to the following address (failure to add your room and your name may mean parcels cannot be delivered to you)

Can I smoke in my accommodation?

No smoking, no e-cigarettes, no vaping is allowed in student accommodation nor in the doorway or grounds. Residents in the MBB can use the designated outdoor smoking area nearby.

Do you offer accommodation for couples?

No, this is not available.

Can I bring my own fridge if I have to store medication?

If you have to store medication you are permitted to bring a fridge but it does have to be PAT tested. The accommodation does contain shared fridges for use by residents.

What if the Margaret Barnes Building is full, where else can I apply?

SAMS Accommodation Team is revising the accommodation offering at this time so details will be issued once they become available.

Where can I find information about private rentals?

SAMS maintains an accommodation listing that is regularly updated at this link: [online accommodation folder](#)

Alternatively, contact local estate agents: West Property, Dawsons, Bell Ingram.

I still have a question, who can help me?

If you cannot find the answer in this guide, please do get in touch with the SAMS Accommodation Team at accommodation@sams.ac.uk

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Margaret Barnes Building



Margaret Barnes Building (MBB): Key Facts

The MBB offers single-story self-catering student accommodation for up to 11 students. Each bedroom has its own private ensuite bathroom. Residents share the well-equipped laundry, kitchen and lounge. There are 8 single beds and 3 double beds but all rooms are single occupancy.

Key benefits

- On campus and only a 10 minute walk to Dunbeg village
- No daily travel charges to get to University and back home again
- Near the beach, Dunstaffnage Castle, Dunstaffnage Marina
- Free car parking
- Free bicycle racks
- £400 deposit with requirement to pay rent monthly in advance
- Share the building only with other SAMS students
- Central heating throughout
- SAMS Accommodation Team to assist if required
- SAMS Facilities Team available for routine repairs
- Out-of-hours security team available
- Council tax exemption for full time students
- Local bus services
- Utility bills included

Rent includes

- Fully furnished bedroom (bed, desk, chair, built-in wardrobe)
- Ensuite bathroom (bath, shower, toilet, basin)
- Use of laundry room, communal lounge with TV and kitchen
- WiFi
- Utility bills – all heating, electricity and lighting
- TV Licence for the TV provided in the lounge

Tariff for a room in the MBB

£400 one-off refundable deposit (subject to contract – held by Safe Deposits Scotland)

£480 per calendar month

Rates payable in GBP (British Pound Sterling)

For further Information about the MBB visit the [SAMS website](#)