November 3, 2026

Statement from Dillard University: Gentilly Gardens Relocation Process

Following an incident in Gentilly Gardens earlier this semester, the university engaged a general contractor to assess the interior of every apartment. Based on those findings, the university decided to relocate students living in Gentilly Gardens to the Innovation Collective and Williams Hall in phases.

Students in Phase I, the units of greatest concern, have been relocated, and the university provided assistance to help them move. Students in Phases II and III will complete their moves by the end of the fall semester. The university is communicating directly with each affected student about their individual relocation process and timeline and is working to minimize disruption to their academic progress.

The university has also received a report submitted by student leadership regarding housing, safety, and communication. The Board of Trustees and university leadership are reviewing it carefully and taking the concerns raised seriously. Student safety is Dillard University's highest priority.

The university will continue to share updates with students, families, and the broader Dillard community through official channels.

For further questions, please contact:

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Director, Office of Communications and Marketing
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Subject: Update on student housing at Dillard University

Dear Dillard Alumni,

I am writing to share an important update on student housing at Dillard University and to let you know that we are addressing it with the care our students deserve.

Following a recent incident in Gentilly Gardens, the university engaged a general contractor to assess the interior of every apartment. The assessment identified conditions that require action, including ceiling concerns in some units. Out of an abundance of caution, and because the safety of our students is always our priority, we have decided to relocate students living in Gentilly Gardens to the Innovation Collective and Williams Hall. Relocation will be completed in phases, with students in the most urgent units moving first and all remaining units closing by the end of the fall semester.

We recognize that moving in the middle of the semester presents challenges, and we know some students would prefer to stay. Even so, this is the right decision to ensure that every student lives in a safe and comfortable home.

We are taking the following steps to support our students:

- Direct communication to every affected student, with individual relocation processes and deadlines
- A meeting with the parent community to explain the plan, the reasoning behind it and the path forward
- A revised shuttle route for the increased number of residents at the Innovation Collective
- Measures to keep classes and academic progress from being disrupted

We will keep you informed as the transition moves forward. Thank you for your continued commitment to Dillard and to our students.

Sincerely,

Monique Guillory, Ph.D.
President, Dillard University