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While students can check washer and dryer availability through an app, they often arrive at the laundry room only to find someone already waiting, leading to wasted trips and time. A queue system could better organize this process.

For many students living in college dorms, doing laundry can be a major hassle. While it seems to be inevitable for laundry machines to break, the machines that are working are almost always in use. Finding the right time to go and do laundry seems like winning the lottery. Colleges such as the University of South Carolina provide apps to see when machines are in use, which can be incredibly helpful. However, these apps are far from perfect, with a main flaw being they do not account for students waiting by the machines for one to be done.

For example, a common move for students to make is to check how much time is remaining on each machine from the app, and plan their trip to the laundry room accordingly for when the next machine will be done. However, it can be very frustrating when a student gets to the laundry room to see the machine they were planning on using had someone waiting in line the entire time. For students with a tight schedule and not a lot of time to wait around for a machine, this can be very costly in terms of their schedule.

A queue being implemented on these apps would greatly decrease the likelihood of scenarios like these occurring. If students were able to use their phone to check into a queue for the machine, so when it was done they could ensure they are the next to use the machine, it could help laundry fit into tight schedules much easier.

To combat students queueing for machines and never going, one option would be to set a time limit for the queue without using a machine. For example, if a student entered the queue for a machine, and did not use it within a five minute time period of the machine becoming available, they would be removed from the queue and it would be made available to the next person in line.