

Commencement 2019 Housing Q & A

What is the commencement lottery and room selection process?

This is the reservation process by which degree candidates receive a lottery number so they can secure housing in the residence halls for their families for graduation weekend. This is an alternative to staying at a hotel, renting a local home, etc.

How does the commencement lottery sign up process work?

STEP 1 is for the student, using their NetID, to apply online for a lottery number and timeslot. (Completing Step 1 allows the student to then make the reservation at a later date (see Step 2).
→To complete Step 1, [apply online here](#) beginning 10:00am, Friday February 1 through 11:59pm ET, Thursday, February 28, 2019. This is random lottery process, not a first-come, first-served sign-up process, so there is no need to stress about signing up as soon as the site opens.

When is the room selection process for commencement?

STEP 2 of the reservation process takes place in person in the Wendy Purcell Lounge in Robert Purcell Community Center on Wednesday, March 6, 2019. Refer to the timeslot assigned to you in Step 1 (above). This is the time for you (the student) to make the actual reservation.
→To complete Step 2, arrive at RPCC Wendy Purcell Lounge 15 minutes before the timeslot assigned to you begins. Your number will be called and you will then proceed to the reservation desk to select the number of beds (only single twin beds available) needed (8 maximum) and location.

How many beds can I reserve through the room selection process?

You can reserve up to 8 single beds during the room selection process on March 6. If you still need more beds, you can sign up for additional beds starting at 10:00am, Thursday, March 7 at the Residential and Event Services office located in 206 Robert Purcell Community Center or by mailing your request to commencement_housing@cornell.edu

What buildings are available?

On Cornell's North Campus: Court-Kay-Bauer, Ecology House, High Rise 5, and Mews are available, along with a very limited number of Townhouses.

On Cornell's West Campus: Alice Cook House, Carl Becker House, Flora Rose House, Hans Bethe House, and William Keeton House are available.

What is the cost? How do I pay?

Commencement guest housing is charged at a weekend three-night package rate. The rate is the same for a 1-, 2-, or 3-night stay, and includes a breakfast buffet on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Payment is due at time of reservation. Students who are currently registered will be bursar billed. Non-registered students need to make payment by credit card.

Rates are as follows:

Residence Halls: \$220 per person (includes 3 nights housing plus Saturday and Sunday breakfast buffet).

Townhouses: A very limited number of four single bed Townhouses may be available at \$990 total (includes 3 nights housing plus Saturday and Sunday breakfast buffet for 4 people).

What nights does my commencement housing include?

Friday, May 24; Saturday, May 25; and Sunday, May 26, 2019.

What if my family will only be here for one night?

The cost is still the same. It is a 3-night package, whether you use all 3 nights or not. No exceptions.

What happens at the commencement room selection process on Wednesday March 6?

On March 6, you need to arrive at Robert Purcell Community Center 15 minutes before your assigned timeslot. Your number will be called and you will then proceed to the reservation desk to make your reservation (8 beds maximum).

What if I can't make my timeslot?

You can submit a reservation request form [online](#). The request deadline is Monday March 4, 2019.

What if I miss the lottery sign ups or my room selection timeslot?

Starting at 10am on Thursday, March 7, you may reserve any available housing at the office of Residential and Event Services, 206 Robert Purcell Community Center or send your request by email to commencement_housing@cornell.edu

What is the cancellation process?

All cancellations for confirmed reservations through Monday April 1, 2019 will incur a \$50 cancellation fee. No refunds will be made after Monday April 1, 2019. All cancellations must be made in writing to: commencement_housing@cornell.edu.

What is included in the room?

Rooms are furnished with bed sheets, blankets, pillows, and towels. All beds are single beds, and the majority of the residence halls have shared common bathroom facilities.

Becker House, Ecology House, and the Townhouses offer air conditioning.

Court-Kay-Bauer, Mews, Cook House, Bethe House, Keeton House, and Rose House are air-controlled buildings, but do not have individual air vents in each room nor thermostats. Of note, rooms in the West Campus House System have ceiling fans to complement the building's fixed temperature setting. All air-controlled buildings have a temperature setting between 71 and 74 degrees.

High Rise 5 is not air conditioned or air controlled.

Where can guests staying in residential halls park?

There is no charge or permit required for parking in the residence hall parking lots beginning at 9:00am Friday, May 24 through Monday, May 27 on a space-available basis. Special parking permits are not needed for the weekend.

On Saturday, there is no charge or permit required to park on campus.

On Sunday, there is no charge or permit required to park in outlying campus parking lots designated for Commencement parking.

Between 8:00am and 4:00pm on Sunday, all central campus roads will be closed. Park in outlying parking lots and take buses to Schoelkopf Stadium before, during, and after Commencement. Buses will run continuous routes across campus between A Lot and B Lot. Review information at commencement.cornell.edu.

RVs – Daytime RV parking on campus Saturday and Sunday will be in A Lot on North Campus. No overnight RV parking on campus is permitted. Please call the Park Service at 800-456-CAMP (456-2267) for more information about overnight camping in the Ithaca area.

How can I get a reservation confirmation?

Students need to confirm their reservation online. Once you have confirmed your reservation, you will receive an email confirming the details of your reservation. The student may add two additional email addresses for reservation notification when signing up for the lottery. Please ask your student to either add your email address then or forward the reservation confirmation email to you.

 **Where and when can I check-in?**

Check-in begins at 12pm Friday, May 24, 2019.

Guests staying in North Campus Residence Halls

(Court-Kay-Bauer, Ecology House, High Rise 5, Mews, and Townhouse Apartments) should check in at Robert Purcell service center during the following hours:

Friday	May 26	12:00pm	2:00am
Saturday	May 27	6:00am	2:00am
Sunday	May 28	6:00am	8:00pm
Monday	May 29	8:00am	Noon

Guests staying in West Campus Houses

(Cook House, Becker House, Bethe House, Keeton House, and Rose House) should check in at their building's house office main desk during the following hours:

Friday	May 26	12:00pm	8:00pm**
Saturday	May 27	7:30am	6:00pm**
Sunday	May 28	7:30am	6:00pm**
Monday	May 29	8:00am	Noon

**After-hour check-ins: The Cook House Office will be open 12:00pm to 2:00am on Friday, May 25, 6:00am to 2:00am Saturday, May 26, and 7:00am to 8:00pm on Sunday, May 27 for West Campus guests.

 **What if my guests plan to arrive after service center hours?**

The graduating senior needs to pick up the guest room keys during the service center hours. You can then give the keys to your guest when they arrive. If this is not possible, guests should use the posted on-call numbers for assistance.

Additional Questions?

Email: commencement_housing@cornell.edu

Phone: (607) 255-5368