Selecting Your Housing for the 2017-2018 Academic Year

Complete Instructions & FAQs

Important!!! Spring 2017’s Room Selection process is very different from previous years. Please carefully review the process and ask questions well in advance of the deadlines.

Cornell University

Housing & Dining Contracts Office
Office of Residential & Event Services
206 Robert Purcell Community Center
Website: housing.cornell.edu
Contact: (607) 255-5368 or housing@cornell.edu
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm
Selecting your on-campus housing for 2017-2018

Students sign up for Housing (January 25 - February 28) to get their timeslot to participate in General Room Selection (March 13-16). Those applying to live in a Program House, in the Language House, in a University Co-op, or for Continued Occupancy (C/O) in their current upperlevel community have separate application processes. You must be a full-time, registered student to participate in any of the Room Selection processes.

Undergraduate students registered for spring 2017 have four on-campus housing options:

**General Room Selection**
West Campus House System – 1,010 beds available
Alice Cook House (including its four Gothic buildings, one housing the Language House, plus 122 McGraw Place, and 625 University Avenue); Carl Becker House; Hans Bethe House (including its one Gothic building); William Keeton House; and Flora Rose House (including its four Gothic buildings, one of which is women-only)

Upperlevel residence halls – 420 beds available
Cascadilla Hall; 112 Edgemoor; Schuyler House; and Sheldon Court

**Program House Selection** – approximately 500 available beds
Akwe:kon; Ecology House; Holland International Living Center (HILC); Just About Music (JAM); Latino Living Center (LLC); Multicultural Living Learning Unit (McLLU); Risley Residential College for the Creative & Performing Arts; and Ujamaa Residential College

**University Cooperative Houses** – approximately 160 available beds
660 Stewart; Prospect of Whitby; Triphammer Cooperative; Von Cramm Hall; Wait Avenue Cooperative (women-only); Wait Terrace; Wari Cooperative (women-only); and Watermargin

**Upperlevel Continued Occupancy**
West Campus House System – approximately 500 beds available through C/O
Upperlevel residence halls – approximately 155 beds available through C/O

**What information does this booklet cover?**

- Information about housing guarantees – page 1
- Instructions for participating in General Room Selection process – pages 2-4
- How to live with your friends (blocking, etc.) – page 6
- Options for mixed-gender housing – page 7
- How to apply to live in a Program House (& information for Language House applicants) – page 11
- How to apply to live in a University-owned Co-op – page 11
- How to apply for Continued Occupancy (C/O) in your current upperlevel community – page 11
- Information about housing tours and events – page 5
- Complete answers to frequently asked questions – pages 4-12

Find it online! Visit housing.cornell.edu, click on “Live on Campus,” and then on “How to Apply.”
Housing Guarantees

Rising sophomores:
If you are a rising sophomore (current first-year student), you are GUARANTEED on-campus housing next year in an Upperlevel Residence Hall, West Campus House, or Program House as long as you sign up for Housing and participate in General Room Selection. In the unlikely event that there are no more beds available during your timeslot, you can be placed on the Guaranteed Wait List (see page 9).

While you are guaranteed on-campus housing, please keep in mind that we cannot guarantee that your top-choice community, room type, or blocking configuration will still be available during your Room Selection timeslot. For example, only an estimated 50% of rising sophomores who participate in General Room Selection will be able to secure a room in the West Campus House System for 2017-2018 – and only those with the earliest timeslots will be able to reserve a suite – so please explore all of your housing options! A good place to start is by attending any of the events listed on page 5.

Upperlevel students:
Rising juniors and seniors are not guaranteed on-campus housing. To increase your chances of living on campus next year, we recommend participating in your current community’s In-Hall or In-House process for Continued Occupancy (C/O) – and/or applying to live in a Program House or Co-op – in addition to signing up for General Room Selection. If no beds are available during your timeslot, you can be placed on the housing Wait List (see page 9).

Room Reservation Statistics:
To help plan for General Room Selection*, we suggest referring to this year’s projected statistics. Please note that these are projected based on the predicted number of applicants and an average of past years. We will have more accurate statistics for future years.

- The last open West Campus suite (one with all beds available) will be reserved during the thirteenth timeslot on the first day of General Room Selection (this year’s equivalent = 9:00pm timeslot on March 13)
- The last single in all West Campus Houses will be reserved during the twenty-fifth timeslot on the second day (this year’s equivalent = 7:00pm timeslot on March 14)
- The last single in Upper Collegetown Residence Halls will be reserved during the twenty-fifth timeslot on the second day (this year’s equivalent = 7:00pm timeslot on March 14)
- The last single in all West Campus Houses, Upperlevel Residence Halls, and Program Houses will be reserved during the thirty-first timeslot on the second day (this year’s equivalent = 9:00pm timeslot on March 14)
- The last open West Campus double room (one with all beds available) will be reserved during the twenty-second timeslot on the second day (this year’s equivalent = 6:00pm timeslot on March 13)
- The last open double room in an Upper Collegetown residence hall (a room with all beds available in Cascadilla and Sheldon Court) will be reserved during the twenty-fifth timeslot on the second day (this year’s equivalent = 7:00pm timeslot on March 14)
- The last bed in all West Campus Houses will be reserved during the twenty-eighth timeslot on the second day (this year’s equivalent = 8:00pm timeslot on March 14)
- The last bed in all Upper Collegetown Residence Halls will be reserved during the twenty-eighth timeslot on the second day (this year’s equivalent = 8:00pm timeslot on March 14)
INSTRUCTIONS for General Room Selection — page 1 of 3

Does this step apply to me? Step 2 and Step 3 apply to those who hope to select a room in a West Campus House or an Upperlevel Residence Hall during General Room Selection, March 13-16 (see pages 5-6 for more information). It does NOT apply to those who are selected to live in a Program House, the Language House, a Co-op, or in their current building through C/O – these options have their own room selection processes (see page 11 for more information).

STEP 1: Sign up for Housing in the housing portal to get your General Room Selection timeslot any time between January 25 and February 28 by visiting housing.cornell.edu. See page 5 for more information.

STEP 2: Prepare for General Room Selection by following the steps below.

1. Learn about your housing options. See information about “housing options” on page 6. Attend any of the housing tours and events listed on that page.

2. Decide if you want to live with friends. Up to six students may choose rooms together. See pages 6-8 for information and rules about roommates and blocking. Note: You may only join one block at a time.

3. If living with friends:
   a. Establish a block leader who will create the block in the housing portal. The student who is planning on being the block leader will “create a new block” in the portal application. This will require them to set up a username and password when they create a new block. Please utilize a username/password that is unique and easy to remember. The block leader will give the username and password to other members of the potential block to join through the portal.
   b. Join your block with the username and password from your block leader.

4. Receive your timeslot. Timeslots will be emailed after 2:00pm on March 3. Timeslots are randomly generated, and there is no advantage or disadvantage to blocking. Everyone in the block will receive the same timeslot. Make a plan for your group to gather at one computer, if possible, during your block Room Selection timeslot so your group can choose your room(s) together.

5. Familiarize yourself with the General Room Selection system. Attend a Room Selection Demo, view the Room Selection tutorial PDF on housing.cornell.edu, and — immediately before your timeslot — refer to the Bed Availability Report on housing.cornell.edu. Learn more on page 6.

6. Review bed availability reports and floor plans. We encourage you to develop multiple housing plans.
STEP 3: During General Room Selection (March 13-16) ...

1. Log in to the housing portal (housing.cornell.edu) at the beginning of your General Room Selection timeslot. Block leaders: you should log in for your group at the beginning of your timeslot.

2. Navigate to the Rooms page by clicking on the housing “Application” tab at the top of the page and selecting the your “2017-2018 Academic Year” application.

3. Select a Room Search function and select your room(s):
   - Use “Search by Room Type” to select ONE ROOM — a single, double, triple, or quad for yourself and up to three roommates (in one room).
     Use the optional drop-down menus to filter results by location, room type, and/or number of available beds.
     Select your room from the list of available rooms**.
   - Use “Search by Building” to select MULTIPLE ROOMS — a suite or rooms anywhere within one building for yourself and up to five blockmates.
     Select a building (those with availability will be listed).
     Select “All Levels.” Next to “All Levels” will be the number of beds available in each room type.
     Select all your rooms for everyone in your block from the list of available rooms**.

4. Assign yourself to a bed, and if applicable, your roommates/blockmates to beds.
   You have four minutes to complete this step after which the room(s) selected in the previous step will be released to other students.
   Your screen name (created during the application process) will be listed, along with those of any accepted potential roommates/blockmates. Use the drop-down menu next to each screen name to assign each person to a bed/room.
   You may only assign men to male-designated rooms, women to female-designated rooms, and neutral to neutral-designated rooms.
   You do not need to reserve every bed in the rooms you select; you may reserve as few as one bed in each room. Any remaining beds will be available to other students selecting rooms.
   You do not need to assign everyone in your block a bed. However, you will not be able to do so later. Anyone not assigned may self-select a bed.
   Click “Reserve” to confirm the room assignments.

5. Sign your housing contract.
**Each room listed will include information about whether the room is designated as a male, female, neutral* or dynamic* room, and the number of open beds left in that room. (Example: “SCHY 236 - F - 1/2” means that Schuyler House room 236 is a female-designated room, and has one bed available out of a total of two beds in the room because a female student has reserved the other bed.) Floor plans are viewable online in the Bed Availability Report updated every 5 minutes during General Room Selection.

* Dynamic rooms/suites have their gender changed to male or female based on the gender of the first person who reserves a bed in the room/suite.

* Neutral rooms/suites are mixed-gender rooms.

**Need help during General Room Selection?** During all timeslot periods (listed on page 6):

- Call the Room Selection Help Desk at (607) 255-5368.
- Visit the Room Selection Help Desk on the 2nd floor of Robert Purcell Community Center to ask questions, or to view floor plans.
- View the online tutorial of the selection process (housing.cornell.edu).

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**How do I sign up for Housing for the 2017-2018 academic year?**
You may sign up any time between January 25 and February 28 at housing.cornell.edu. Signing up for housing does not commit you to a contract or a room; it only gives you the option of participating in General Room Selection, or of signing a housing contract if you’re accepted to live in a Program House, in the Language House, in a University Co-op, or through your community’s Continued Occupancy process.

**Who should – and who may – sign up for Housing?**
Anyone who wants the option of living in on-campus housing next year, including those applying to live in a Program House, in the Language House, in a University Co-op, or for Continued Occupancy (C/O) in their current upperlevel community (see page 11 for details on those processes). You must be a full-time, registered student to sign up for the Housing Lottery; those who are not full-time registered students may apply for housing at housing.cornell.edu beginning at 5pm on March 30, 2017. **Note:** If you need to update your registration status with the University at the beginning of the spring semester, it may take up to two business days for the housing system to recognize the change and allow you to sign up for housing.

**Does it matter when I sign up for Housing?**
You may sign up any time between 10:00am, January 25 and 11:59pm, February 28. Timeslots will not be randomly assigned in each class code until after 2pm on March 3, 2017 (see “When will my Room Selection timeslot be?” on page 6), so there is no benefit to signing up earlier in the process rather than later. However, signing up earlier will help the housing office better understand this year’s demand for on-campus housing, and allow us to give more informed guidance to students at the Room Selection Demos on January 26 and March 1.

**Is assigning of timeslots fair?**
Yes. All timeslots are randomly generated within class codes (see timeslots on page 6) by a computerized system. Individuals and every block have the same chance of getting an early timeslot within their class code as they do a later timeslot. The earlier your timeslot, the better your chances of securing your top-choice housing.
What happens if my class code is listed incorrectly?
When you sign up for housing, the housing portal will show your current class code (freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior) as assigned by the Registrar’s Office. If you are classified incorrectly in the housing portal, please contact the housing office immediately at housing@cornell.edu or (607) 255-5368. If you do not let us know that your class code is incorrect, you will have to keep the first timeslot you receive. (If you are a current first-year student with enough credits to change your class code, please contact us by February 19. Note that if we reclassify you as a current sophomore, you will lose your guarantee for on-campus housing.)

How can I find out more about my housing options?
Start by visiting housing.cornell.edu and clicking on “Live on Campus” in the menu bar at the top of the page, and then on “Where to Live” in the drop-down menu. Navigate to the individual community webpages for full descriptions and photographs. We also encourage you to tour buildings and learn more about the different communities by attending any of the following events:

Co-op Mosey — Sunday, February 5, 1:00pm-5:00pm
Tour and learn about the University Cooperative Houses. Details will be available at housing.cornell.edu/cooperatives.

West Campus Informational Session and Tours — Saturday, March 4, 3:00pm-5:00pm
Tours of the West Campus Residence Halls, with Housing staff members on hand to ask about General Room Selection. Details can be found at housing@cornell.edu.

Collegetown Open House — Sunday, March 5, 1:00pm-3:00pm
Tours of the Upperlevel Residence Halls, with Housing staff members on hand to ask about General Room Selection. Details can be found at housing@cornell.edu.

Where can I find housing rates for 2017-2018?
Rates will be available in February, 2017. Visit the “Contracts, Rates, & Amenities” section on housing.cornell.edu.

What is General Room Selection? Are there different room selection processes?
General Room Selection (March 13-16) is the online process through which most current undergraduate students will select their rooms — and their roommates/blockmates (if applicable) — in a West Campus House or an upperlevel residence hall for the next academic year, and then electronically sign their housing contracts. You may only participate in General Room Selection if you have received a Room Selection timeslot by applying for housing. See pages 2-4 for detailed General Room Selection instructions.

Individual community-specific room selection processes also exist for those who have been accepted to live in a Program House, in the Language House, in a University Co-op, or in their current community through C/O. These processes take place before General Room Selection (and also require signing up for Housing). See page 11 for more information.

If I sign up for Housing, do I have to participate in General Room Selection?
No. If you are unsure of your plans for next year, you should sign up for Housing and get a Room Selection timeslot to give yourself as many options as possible. If you are selected to live in a Program House, in the Language House, in a University Co-op, or in your current community through C/O, your room selection process will be handled individually by each community, and you will not need to participate in General Room Selection; simply do nothing during your timeslot. Similarly, you do not have to do anything during your timeslot if you decide not to live in on-campus housing next year.
When will my Room Selection timeslot be?
You will receive your exact timeslot after 2:00pm on Friday, March 3, 2017. You/your block will receive a timeslot during one of the following periods:

Rising sophomores: Monday, March 13, 5:00pm-11:00pm
& Tuesday, March 14, 5:00pm-11:00pm
Rising juniors: Wednesday, March 15, 5:00pm-8:00pm
Rising seniors: Thursday, March 16, 5:00pm-7:00pm

University-owned Cooperative Houses ("Co-ops") are considered on-campus housing. Fraternities and sororities are considered off-campus housing.

Which housing options are available during General Room Selection?
During General Room Selection, you may select a room (if spaces are still available during your timeslot) in one of the West Campus Houses or in one of the Upperlevel Residence Halls. Some Program Houses may also have spaces available during General Room Selection, although most spaces will already be reserved through the Program House application process (see page 11), which precedes General Room Selection.

How many students receive each Room Selection timeslot?
It depends on how many people sign up for General Room Selection. Last year, at the time of General Room Selection, there were approximately 55 on-campus rising sophomores per timeslot on the days they selected rooms, and 10-15 upperlevel and off-campus students per timeslot on the days they selected rooms.

Can I trade Room Selection timeslots with another student? Or let another student use my timeslot if I'm not going to use it?
No. Students will only be able to log in to the housing portal once their own Room Selection timeslot begins. A timeslot can only be used by the student to whom it was issued. Unused timeslots simply go unused.

What happens during General Room Selection?
At the beginning of your timeslot, go to housing.cornell.edu to sign in to the housing portal and pick your room, and your roommates/blockmates if you plan to live with friends (see details about “blocking” on pages 6-8). NOTE: Please do NOT attempt to log in before your timeslot begins, or log in from more than one computer, as multiple attempts may result in system failure. Once you select a room (or rooms, if you're blocking with friends), you will be asked to electronically accept the housing Terms and Conditions and sign your housing contract. Please note that all signed housing contracts are legally binding.

How should I prepare ahead of General Room Selection?
Follow the steps listed on page 2. We also recommend that you attend a Room Selection Demo on January 26 or March 1 (details are posted at housing.cornell.edu), and that you go through the General Room Selection tutorial PDF (to be posted at housing.cornell.edu before Room Selection). Before your timeslot, we also suggest that you refer to the Bed Availability Report — also to be posted ahead of General Room Selection at housing.cornell.edu — to view which beds are still available, and to view floor plans, before you log in to the housing portal to search for available rooms.

How do I live with my friends?
“Blocking” allows you to live with one to five of your friends, for a total group of up to six students. When you sign up for General Room Selection, the Block page will allow you to create or join a block. Each block has one designated block leader that is responsible for assigning everyone in the block to any space within the same building. If your block consists of three or more students, at least one person in your block must be assigned to a double, triple, or quad. (i.e., two students blocking together may select two singles, but three or more students blocking together may not select all singles).
**Who can be in my block?**
All students must have a housing application to be eligible to join a block. Rising sophomores can only block with other rising sophomores. Rising juniors and rising seniors can only block with other rising juniors and rising seniors. To join a block, all potential roommates and blockmates must have signed up for Housing by February 28. All blocks will need to be formed by the February 28 deadline.

**How can we change a block leader if necessary?**
The block leader can reassign block leader responsibilities to another student in the group through the portal at any time before General Room Selection begins.

**Are you able to change blocks once you have joined?**
A student may remove themselves from a block via the portal through February 28. After this time, students are no longer able to remove themselves from a block to join another block. After timeslots are released, your block timeslot is your timeslot even if you do not wish to continue with that block of friends. You may only be in one block at a time.

**Can I live with someone of a different gender?**
Yes, you can share a room or suite with someone of a different biological sex, gender, or gender identity. When you sign up for General Room Selection, you may opt in to mixed-gender housing after viewing a video and agreeing to the rules. Note that everyone wishing to share a room or suite with someone of a different gender must opt in when signing up for General Room Selection. Students participating in Program House selection, Language House selection, and C/O processes are also able to select mixed-gender housing.

**What happens if I decide that I no longer want mixed-gender housing?**
If you opt in to mixed-gender housing when you apply, you will be able to change your opt-in status through February 28, 2017. If you opt in to mixed-gender housing and change your mind after February 28, you must contact the Housing Contracts Office to have your status changed.

**What happens if our block selects mixed-gender housing, but during General Room Selection we do not fill the suite/double/quad/triple and there is a vacant space?**
That vacant space can/will be taken by another student who has also selected mixed-gender in the system. This student could be of any gender.

**Are rooms / suites pre-designated for male and female students?**
During General Room Selection, rooms / suites are pre-designated as male (“M”), female (“F”), or dynamic (“D”). A dynamic room / suite has its gender designation changed to male or female based on the gender of the first person who reserves a bed in the room / suite. Rooms / suites are available to any student, regardless of biological sex, gender, or gender identity, through the mixed-gender options described in the previous question.

**Which room configurations are available for blocking?**
Each building is a blocking section. You may block any combination of beds/rooms in a single section, but cannot block beds/rooms located in separate sections. Blocking sections will be viewable before General Room Selection through the Bed Availability Report and during General Room Selection through the “Search by Location and Section” function when you select your room(s).

**When blocking with friends, can we choose all single rooms?**
If your group consists of three or more students, at least one room in your block must accommodate more than one person (i.e., two students blocking together may select two singles, but three or more students blocking together may not select all singles). Please keep in mind that singles are popular and go quickly during Room Selection, so there may not be any available during your timeslot (see page 1).
When blocking with friends, do we have to “fill” each of the rooms, or the suite, that we block?
No. You may leave vacant beds in any room or suite, which will become available for other students to select. We do encourage to fill if you are able, especially if you are blocking mixed-gender.

What if I’m not planning to live with a friend, or block with a group?
You can choose a single (if any are still available during your timeslot), or choose a free bed in a partially occupied room, or choose a bed in an empty room (understanding that other students can select any remaining beds in your room).

Can I select a free bed in a room or suite in which other beds have already been reserved?
Yes. You may select any free bed that’s available to your gender during your timeslot. If blocking with friends, you may assign - or be assigned to - any free bed in the same blocking section as your friends’ beds.

How much time do I have to choose a room?
You may sign in to the housing portal as soon as your timeslot begins, or any time afterwards until General Room Selection ends (Thursday, March 16 at 7:00pm). You have until the end of General Room Selection to choose your room. But once you choose your room, you must reserve your room within four minutes of choosing it, and sign your contract within five minutes to confirm and reserve your room choice. Please keep in mind that every 20 minutes, a new group of students will have access to the housing portal to select their rooms, so it is to your advantage to choose your room and sign your contract as early as you can.

When do I sign my housing contract?
As soon as you select your room online, you must accept the Terms and Conditions and electronically sign your housing contract. If you do not sign your housing contract within five minutes, the room will NOT be held for you, nor will rooms for any roommates/blockmates who you may have assigned. If you are assigned by another student, you will receive a confirmation email as soon as your block leader assigns you to a room/bed and signs his or her contract. Within two hours of this email being sent, you must log in to the housing portal at housing.cornell.edu to electronically sign your own housing contract. If you do not, your room will NOT be held for you. Please note that all signed housing contracts are legally binding.

Can I view the Terms and Conditions of my housing contract before I sign my contract?
We encourage you to read the Terms and Conditions before Room Selection by visiting housing.cornell.edu and clicking on “Live on Campus” and then on “Contracts, Rates, & Amenities.” When you choose your room, you will be asked to accept the Terms and Conditions (also viewable in the housing portal during General Room Selection) before signing your contract. Your signature on the contract indicates knowledge and acceptance of the stipulations listed in this instructional booklet and in the Terms and Conditions for Single-Student Housing, Academic Year 2017-18.

Can I view the floor plans of buildings I’m interested in before Room Selection?
You may view printed floor plans by stopping by the housing office at 206 Robert Purcell Community Center, Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm. Floor plans will also be viewable before and during General Room Selection through the Bed Availability Report (see “How should I prepare ahead of General Room Selection?” on page 4). During Room Selection, you may view printed floor plans at the Room Selection help desk in Robert Purcell Community Center, open during all timeslot hours (see page 6 for hours). For the security of our residents, we do not post floor plans online for the general public to view.
What happens if you run out of rooms during General Room Selection?
Any rising sophomore who signs up for General Room Selection, but finds no more on-campus beds available during their timeslot (an extremely unlikely possibility) can be placed on the Guaranteed Wait List (see page 9), and is guaranteed an offer of on-campus housing for 2017-2018. Other rising sophomores, plus rising juniors and seniors, can be placed on the Regular Wait List, and we may be able to make you a housing offer (although we cannot guarantee it) as spaces become available through the spring months due to students changing their plans. While we do our best to accommodate your preferences when making housing offers, please be aware that options will be limited and you may not get your top choice.

What if I don't like any of the rooms left during my timeslot?
You may decline to choose a room during General Room Selection, and may instead sign up for the Regular Wait List to see what rooms become available through the spring semester and summer months (see below). Rising sophomores: If rooms are still available during your timeslot and you do not select a room, you will be placed on the Regular Wait List instead of the Guaranteed Wait List, and will forfeit your right to guaranteed housing.

NOTE: Historically, housing offers are only made to 10-15% of students on the Regular Wait List.

What happens if I forget to sign up for Housing?
If you do not sign up for Housing by Sunday, February 28 at 11:59pm, you will not be able to participate in General Room Selection OR be pulled in as a roommate/blockmate during General Room Selection, and rising sophomores will lose their guarantee of on-campus housing. But you may sign up for the Regular Wait List (see below).

What happens if I'm not available during my General Room Selection timeslot?
You may sign in to the housing portal to choose your room any time after your timeslot, as long as it's before Room Selection ends (Thursday, March 16, at 7:00pm). Or you may have a friend serve as your proxy (see question below) to choose your room for you during your timeslot, after which you will have 24 hours to log in to the housing portal to electronically sign your housing contract.

How does the housing Wait List work?
Sign up for the housing Wait List between March 20 at 10:00am and March 29 by 12:00pm noon by visiting housing.cornell.edu. Please read below to find out whether you qualify for the Guaranteed or the Regular Wait List.

Guaranteed Wait List:
Any rising sophomore who signs up for the Housing Lottery but finds no more on-campus beds available during their timeslot (an extremely unlikely possibility) will be placed on the Guaranteed Wait List, and is guaranteed an offer of on-campus housing for 2017-2018. Order on the list is determined by your Room Selection timeslot. Note that you must accept the first housing offer you receive from the Housing & Dining Contracts Office or forfeit your right to guaranteed housing.

Regular Wait List:
Rising juniors and rising seniors, in addition to rising sophomores who did not select an available space during their Room Selection timeslot, will be placed on the Regular Wait List. Order on the list is determined by Room Selection timeslot, followed by students without timeslots (those who did not sign up for the Housing Lottery) in order of Wait List sign-up.

What happens if I sign a housing contract for a room, and then decide I don’t want the room?
Or my plans change, and I won’t be on campus next semester/year?
All housing contracts are legally binding. As a general rule, contract releases will not be granted, so you will have to keep the room you chose. However, exceptions are made for students who will be studying abroad, studying in absentia, graduating, or taking a leave from the University. The Housing & Dining Contracts Office must approve all contract releases. All leaves are verified by the Colleges and/or University Registrar.
If you are studying abroad, studying in absentia, or taking a required leave from the University next year, and you inform the Housing & Dining Contracts Office of your plans by July 1, 2017, you will be released from your housing contract free-of-charge. If you inform us after July 1, you will be released from your contract with a $250 cancellation fee. If you are taking a voluntary or non-required leave from the University next year, and you inform the Housing & Dining Contracts Office of your plans by August 15, 2017, you will be released from your housing contract with an $800 cancellation fee, plus a prorated daily charge.

**Are meal plans required for residents of any communities?**
Meal plans are not required, except for those residents living in the West Campus House System (Alice Cook House, including Language House, 122 McGraw Place, 625 University Avenue; Hans Bethe House; Carl Becker House; William Keeton House; and Flora Rose House), which includes a commitment to purchasing a House Meal Plan. You may sign up for a House Meal Plan during Room Selection, or by visiting [dining.cornell.edu](http://dining.cornell.edu).

Those who will be living in the House System who have not signed up for a meal plan by July 1, 2017 will automatically be assigned the House Choice meal plan.

**I have a disability or medical issue for which I need special accommodations. How do I apply?**
First, we recommend that you sign up for Housing in the event that you don’t get approved for disability/medical housing. Next, register with Student Disability Services for special housing needs by February 17; visit [sds.cornell.edu](http://sds.cornell.edu) for details. (If you currently have a disability record on file with SDS for the 2016-2017 academic year, you must renew it with SDS for the 2017-2018 year.) If approved for disability/medical housing, you will be offered a room to accommodate your needs. If you choose not to accept the assignment you are offered, you can decline to participate with friends in General Room Selection. However, you will not be offered another room if you are not able to contract during selection. SDS will not honor roommate requests as an upperlevel student.

**I’m interested in living in the West Campus House System. What are my chances of securing a room – or a suite – in one of the Houses?**
There are 1,851 beds in the House System: 1,244 in the five newer buildings, and 607 in the nine associated Gothic buildings, 122 McGraw Place, and 625 University Avenue. Approximately 1,010 of these beds will be available during Room Selection; the rest will be allocated to accommodate transfer students, upperlevel students taking part in the Houses’ Continued Occupancy processes, and students assigned housing through Student Disability Services.

Historically, rising sophomores have had approximately a 50% chance of securing a room in the House System during General Room Selection. Please see page 1 for more information about our room reservation statistics. Rising juniors and rising seniors who currently live in the House System have the chance to maintain their occupancy through their House’s Continued Occupancy (C/O) process (see page 9). Other rising juniors and seniors have only a very small chance of living in the House System in 2017-2018.

**What are the differences among the West Campus Houses? How many suites are available?**
Programmatically, the Houses are all similar in that they are faculty-led with high student engagement. Physically, each House has its own dining room, programming spaces, and accommodations for about 350 student residents (Keeton House is smaller with about 300 students). Becker House and Keeton House are each made up of a single main building. Cook House, Bethe House, and Rose House are each made up of a main building plus affiliated Gothic buildings, 122 McGraw Place, and 625 University Avenue.

There are 152 suites spread among the new buildings on West Campus: Cook House has 16 suites; Becker House has 45 suites; Bethe House has 38 suites; Keeton House has 37 suites; and Rose House has 16 suites. The vast majority are 5-person suites with 3 singles, 1 double, a bathroom, and a sitting area, although there are also a handful of suites accommodating 4, 6, 7, and 10 students. Not all of these suites will be available during General Room Selection; many will be reserved through the Houses’ Continued Occupancy processes. Please see page 1 for information about our room reservation statistics.
Can I continue living in my current residence?
The West Campus Houses and the Upperlevel Residence Halls hold their own In-House / In-Hall processes for Continued Occupancy (C/O) before General Room Selection to allow a percentage of current residents to live in the same building the following year. Applications and deadlines are available from your Residence Hall or House leadership. You must also sign up for Housing (January 25- February 28) so your information is in our system, and because you will sign your housing contract in the housing portal. Those who are selected for C/O choose their rooms and sign their housing contracts during their building’s individual room selection events. The West Campus Houses hold their room selection events are February 13 and 16; Upperlevel Residence Halls hold their room selection events on February 27.

I’m a rising junior or rising senior. What are my chances of securing on-campus housing for 2017-2018?
If you want to live on campus next year, it is highly recommended that you participate in your current residence’s Continued Occupancy (see previous question), or apply to live in a Program House or a University Co-op (see questions at the top of this page). If you participate in the General Room Selection process, it is likely that most – and possibly all – on-campus housing options will already be filled by the time you go to select a room. If no beds are available during your General Room Selection timeslot, you can be placed on the housing wait list and we may be able to make you a housing offer, although we cannot guarantee it.

I’m interested in living in a Program House. How do I apply?
You should start by signing up for Housing (January 25 - February 28) so your information is in our system, although the actual application and selection process for Program Houses is handled individually through each house. Next, submit a Program House application (available at housing.cornell.edu/programhouses) — indicating the house(s) in which you have interest — by February 1. If you are offered a spot in a Program House and choose to accept the offer, you will select your room and sign your housing contract during Program House Room Selection (March 1-2), and will not need to take part in the General Room Selection process (March 13-16). (Some Program Houses may still have rooms available after Program House Room Selection; these rooms will be made available through General Room Selection.) To learn more about the Program Houses, visit housing.cornell.edu/programhouses or send email to programhouses@cornell.edu for ways to get involved.

I’m interested in living in the Language House. How do I apply?
Applications for Language House, part of Alice Cook House in the West Campus House System, were due December 12. Visit alicecookhouse.cornell.edu/languagehouse/ for more information.

I’m interested in living in a University Co-op. How do I apply?
First, sign up for Housing (January 25 - February 28) so your information is in our system, and because later in the process you’ll sign your Co-op housing contract online. The actual application and selection process for Co-ops is handled individually through each house. To apply to a Co-op (or Co-ops), please contact the house(s) in which you have interest — contact information can be found at housing.cornell.edu/cooperatives. To learn more about the Co-ops, take part in “Co-op Mosey,” a day of open houses on Sunday, February 5. Details will be posted at housing.cornell.edu/cooperatives.
What happens if I’m not available during my Online Room Selection timeslot?
You may sign in to the housing portal to choose your room any time after your timeslot, as long as it’s before Room Selection ends Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 7:00pm. Or you may have a friend serve as your proxy (see question below) to choose your room for you during your timeslot, after which you will have 24 hours to log in to the housing portal to electronically sign your housing contract.

What is a proxy, and how do I submit a proxy request?
A proxy is a person who can act in your place during Room Selection, if you are unavailable for academic reasons during your timeslot. To submit a proxy request, you must go to the Housing & Dining Contracts Office (206 Robert Purcell Community Center) to complete an application by Friday, February 24, 2017 at 12:00 pm noon. If approved, you will be given a special web address and password for your proxy to use during your timeslot. Note that proxies may pull in other students as roommates in their room, but may not block multiple rooms.
Important Dates ~ Spring 2017

Housing Sign-up.............................................................January 25-February 28
Sign up at housing.cornell.edu to get your randomly generated timeslot to participate in General Room Selection. This step is also necessary for those applying to live in a Program House, in the Language House, in a University Co-op, or for Continued Occupancy (C/O) in their current building.

Room Selection System Demos.................................................................January 26
Step-by-step demonstrations of the General Room Selection process and online portal: 7:30pm & 8:30pm in Robert Purcell Community Center.

Program House Application Deadline....................................................February 1
Apply to live in a themed residence hall by visiting housing.cornell.edu/programhouses.

Co-op Mosey.....................................................................................................February 5
Tour and learn about the University Co-ops, 1:00-5:00pm: visit housing.cornell.edu/cooperatives.

West Campus C/O Room Selection.........................................................February 13 & 16
Current West Campus residents who participate and are selected through their community’s In-House process for Continued Occupancy (C/O) choose their rooms and sign their housing contracts. See your House leadership for dates and details.

Housing Accommodation Request for Students with Disabilities Deadline .........................................................February 17
Deadline to register with Student Disability Services for special housing needs: visit sds.cornell.edu.

Upperlevel Residence Hall C/O Room Selection............................................February 27
Current residents of the Upperlevel Residence Halls who participate and are selected through their community’s In-Hall process for Continued Occupancy (C/O) choose their rooms and sign their housing contracts. See your RHD for lottery deadlines and processes.

Room Selection System Demos...........................................................................March 1
Step-by-step demonstrations of the General Room Selection process and online portal: 8:30pm & 9:15pm in Robert Purcell Community Center.

Program House Room Selection....................................................................March 1 & 2
Students who apply and are accepted to live in a Program House select their rooms and sign their housing contracts.

West Campus Information Session and Tours................................................March 4
Tour west campus residence halls from 3:00pm-5:00pm and get answers to your room selection questions from Housing Staff.

Collegetown Area Open House...........................................................................March 5
Tour upperlevel residence halls from 1:00pm-3:00pm and get answers to your room selection questions from Housing Staff.

General Room Selection............................................................................March 13-16
Select your room online during your General Room Selection timeslot at housing.cornell.edu.

Wait List Sign-Up...........................................................................................March 20-29
Sign up at housing.cornell.edu. See page 11 for details.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit housing.cornell.edu, click on “Live on Campus,” and then on “How to Apply.” Or contact the Housing & Dining Contracts Office at housing@cornell.edu or (607) 255-5368.