



HOUSING FAQs

WHAT DOES HOUSING PRIORITY MEAN FOR FRESHMEN? TRANSFER STUDENTS?

If you are a newly admitted student, you will receive a housing offer, if you 1) complete the housing application before the application deadline and 2) indicate “any room, any location” as one of your preferences.

WHEN DO I APPLY?

You apply after you accept your offer of admission and before the application deadline using your CalNet credentials, according to the following:

- Fall Freshmen/FPF.....May 2
- Fall Transfer Admits.....June 2
- Global Edge/Global Management/January Start Students.....Oct. 1

WHEN DO I SIGN UP FOR A FALL MOVE-IN TIME SLOT?

Please select your move-in time slot through the Housing portal by these deadlines:

- Fall Freshmen/FPF.....June 15
- Fall Transfer Admits.....July 15

Information about how to sign up for your move-in time slot will be emailed a few days before the deadline above.

ARE MY CHANCES BETTER IF I APPLY RIGHT AWAY?

No, your chances are the same if you apply right away or by the deadline. Students who apply by the deadline are entered into a housing lottery, which is used with the top five preferences to determine housing assignments.

ARE FRESHMEN REQUIRED TO LIVE ON CAMPUS?

No, there is not a residential requirement, but more than 96 percent of freshmen choose to live on campus.

WHAT IF I DON'T LIKE MY ROOMMATE(S)?

We encourage all students to work out any problems they may have with their roommates. If resolutions cannot be found, you have the option of requesting a residence hall transfer only after consulting with your Resident Assistant and/or Resident Director to discuss opportunities to resolve the conflict.

IS IT SAFE TO LIVE ON CAMPUS?

We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for students in the residence halls. The residence halls have psychological and security services to help ensure your well-being and safety. The Residential Life Health and Safety web page has details on services like BearWALK, safety shuttles, Residential Security Patrol program, and Security Monitor programs, as well as additional tips for staying safe on campus: reslife.berkeley.edu/health-and-safety

HOW DO I GET A SINGLE?

Single rooms are reserved for students with ADA/disability accommodation requests. Most first-year students are not eligible and will not receive a single.

HOW DO I REQUEST A SINGLE-GENDER FLOOR ASSIGNMENT?

On the housing application, there is an opportunity to request a single-gender living environment.

I'M STARTING IN JANUARY. DO I STILL RECEIVE THE SAME HOUSING PRIORITY?

Yes, if you 1) complete the housing application before the spring application deadline and 2) indicate “any room, any location” as one of your preferences.



DO I HAVE TO HAVE A MEAL PLAN?

Yes, if you live in the residence halls. (Students living off campus or in university undergraduate apartments can purchase meal plans designed just for them.) The Blue Meal Plan is included in the cost of the residence hall contract. Upgrade options are also available. See the Cal Dining website for details: caldining.berkeley.edu

WILL I BE ABLE TO LIVE IN BLACKWELL, UNITS 1, 2, OR 3?

Blackwell and the Units are very popular and very competitive to get into. You can list them in your housing application preferences, but because of popularity, getting assigned to one of these locations may be difficult. If you are assigned to one of the Units, you will likely be in a triple.

I NEED A CUSTOMIZED LIVING ENVIRONMENT BECAUSE OF MY DISABILITY OR GENDER/RELIGIOUS/CULTURAL IDENTITY. CAN HOUSING ACCOMMODATE MY REQUEST?

If you have any type of housing accommodation request (based on an identity listed above), the housing office will work to accommodate those requests. Please indicate your request on your housing application (on the accommodations page). You may learn more information at housing.berkeley.edu/accommodations or by emailing housingaccommodations@berkeley.edu

WHAT IS A THEME PROGRAM?

Theme Programs are residential communities co-sponsored by an academic department and Residential Life. Theme Programs allow you to enjoy the opportunities of a large university while benefiting from being part of a smaller and close-knit residential community of students who share a common academic interest. Many of UC Berkeley's Theme Programs are founded on concepts of identity exploration and equity. For more information about the seven theme programs offered, visit: themeprogams.berkeley.edu

HOW DO I APPLY TO A THEME PROGRAM? ARE THERE ANY EXTRA FEES FOR LIVING IN A THEME PROGRAM?

The Theme Program application is a section within the housing application. You can apply for up to three Theme Programs. For each Theme Program, you must submit a short essay about your interest in the program. There are no additional fees for living in a Theme Program.

IF I APPLY FOR THEME HOUSING BUT DON'T GET IT, WILL THAT TAKE ME AWAY FROM THE REGULAR LOTTERY?

If you apply for theme housing but are not assigned to it, you will still be given housing priority and processed through the housing lottery.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT MARK "ANY ROOM, ANY LOCATION" AS MY HOUSING PREFERENCE?

If you do not mark "any room size, any location" as one of your preferences, you may not receive a housing assignment. This may happen if you have a high lottery number and we are unable to offer you one of your housing preferences due to a lack of space in your preferred locations.

If your preferences are not available when your lottery number is reached, we will not make you an offer at that time. Your name will remain on the waiting list for future contract offerings, but you will no longer have priority housing.