Your Home at UC Berkeley

UC Berkeley Housing Overview: First Year Students
WELCOME HOME!
Benefits of Living on Campus

In the past five years, 96 percent of entering freshmen have chosen university housing and the benefits that come with it.

Thrive at Berkeley with:

► Academic Advantages
► Community Connection
► Value and Convenience
Academic Advantages

On-site support and resources:

► Computer stations with printers
► Tutoring and exam review sessions
► Flexible, late-night study spaces
► Complementary technical support
► Dedicated academic programs and staff
► Resident Faculty
Community Connection

Community at your doorstep:

► On-site activities create opportunities to make lifelong friends and explore new experiences
► Live-in Resident Assistants provide support and encouragement
► Leadership opportunities and residential student organizations
Community Connection: Theme Programs

What are Theme Programs?
Optional living-learning communities for students who share an identity, interest, or academic area.

Enjoy all the opportunities of a large university with the benefits of a small, close-knit community.

Apply in the housing application!

themeprograms.berkeley.edu
Theme Programs

- African American (AATP)
- Asian Pacific American (APATH)
- Casa Magdalena Mora (CASA)
- Global Environment (GETH)
- Native American (NATP)
- Unity House (UNITY)
- WISE: Empowering Womxn in STEAM*

* WISE welcomes all who experience life through the lens of womxn in body, spirit, and identity—past, present, future, and fluid.
Why Theme Programs?

“You will make lifelong friends. You will have a sense of community and feel at home all year long. You will always be reminded of how important your voice and presence is.”

– Elleasse Taylor, Political Science major, African American Theme Program (AATP)
“I have met an amazing group of people who I consider some of my closest friends. I have been inspired every week to do the most I can to change the world.”

– Gabriela Jeliazkov, Environmental Science major, Global Environment Theme House (GETH)
Value and Convenience

- Short walking commute to central campus
- Dining options at each residence hall
- Financial aid awards can be applied
- Contracts are for the academic year
- Payments auto deducted from student account
- No large upfront deposit
- Meal plan, utilities, and more included

Berkeley Housing
What else is included with your housing contract?
Your Housing Contract

Amenities are included:

- High speed Wi-Fi & Xfinity streaming
- Utilities: gas, electric, water, garbage, recycling, compost
- Flexible meal plans with dining options at each residence hall location
- Furnished rooms & living spaces
Your Housing Contract

Services and facilities are included:

▶ On-site fitness centers, recreation rooms, kitchens, and study spaces
▶ Professional live-in staff available 24/7 for urgent needs
▶ Laundry centers, mail services, bike storage
▶ Facilities & custodial staff
Committed to Your Health and Safety

- Three tiers of 24-hour secured entry & access for buildings
- Security Monitors or Security Officers at each hall in evenings
- Blue Light emergency phones located on all properties
- Bear Walk: UCPD escort service to your car, residence hall, or public transportation (510-642-WALK)
- On-site staff perform building safety walks every evening and serve on call
Room Types
Standard Room

Traditional residence hall room with community hallways, bathrooms, and study spaces.

Room shared with one to four other students.
Mini-Suite Style

Two rooms sharing semi-private bathroom and community study spaces.

Room shared with one to three other students.
Suite Style

Rooms sharing semi-private bathroom and living area with small group of other rooms.

Room shared with one to four other students.
Room Occupancy

Single Room
1-person occupancy
*prioritized for ADA requests and upper division students.

Double Room
2-person occupancy

Triple Room
3-person occupancy
*most students receive housing in a triple room

Quad Room
4-person occupancy
*not pictured
Residence Halls
Residence Halls on Campus

- Units 1, 2, and 3
- Blackwell Hall
- Clark Kerr
- Foothill
- Stern Hall
Units 1, 2, and 3

Environment: Southside; very social atmosphere; near many local restaurants and shops in Berkeley’s busy urban center

- Standard double & triple rooms
- Mini-suite & suite-style rooms
- Single-gender & all-gender floors
Blackwell Hall

Environment: Southside; very social atmosphere; near many local restaurants, shops, and Recreation Facility

- Standard double rooms
- Single-gender & all-gender floors
Clark Kerr

Environment: South-eastside; quiet; near hiking areas, track, and swimming pool

- Standard double, triple, & quad rooms
- Suite-style rooms
- Single-gender suites
- All-gender floors
Foothill

Environment: North-eastside; quiet; near science and engineering buildings and Memorial Stadium

- All suite-style rooms
- Smaller suites = single gender
- Larger suites = all gender
Stern Hall

Environment: North-eastside (located beside Foothill); quiet; near science and engineering buildings and Memorial Stadium

- Standard single, double, & triple rooms
- Suite-style rooms
- Women-identified hall
- Houses WISE: Empowering Womxn in STEAM
Cal Dining

- Dine in or grab and go at locations across campus
- Fresh, organic ingredients from local farms to your fork
- Innovative menus highlighting California's diverse cultures and flavors
- Vegan, kosher, halal, gluten-free, and allergen-safe choices
Meal plans include a combination of meal swipes and flex dollars.

- Use meal swipes at any *all-you-care-to-eat* dining commons nearby residence halls
  - may also use a “meal equivalency” swipe at *The Golden Bear Café* or *Brown’s*
- Use flex dollars at campus restaurants, convenience stores, concession stands, and late night, and at the dining commons if you run out of meal swipes for the week
Cal Dining Meal Plans continued

Blue Plan
- Included in residence hall contracts
- 12 meal swipes per week
  - Any unused meal swipes expire on Saturday at midnight and reset for the upcoming week
- 600 flex dollars (300 per semester)
  - Up to 100 flex dollars roll over from fall semester to spring semester
Cal Dining Meal Plans continued

**Gold Plan**
- Upgrade for $350 ($175 per semester)
- 10 meal swipes per week
- 1,000 flex dollars (500 per semester)

**Ultimate Plan**
- Upgrade for $950 ($475 per semester)
- Unlimited meal swipes per week
- 1,000 flex dollars (500 per semester)
FinAid and Housing

- FinAid Cost of Attendance Estimate
  - equates to around the cost of a Standard Double Room
- Save by sharing space with roommates
- Price includes meal plan
- Choose the option that aligns with your budget

housing.berkeley.edu/rates
## Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Application Portal Opens</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Receive Housing Offer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Freshman Fall Admits</strong></td>
<td>After accepting admission</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Late May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring Admits</strong></td>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Starting in November</td>
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Housing Application Process

**Step 1:** Accept your admission offer and obtain your CalNet credentials

**Step 2:** Apply by May 2nd!

**Step 3:** Check your Berkeley email regularly for updates about your application.

[portal.housing.berkeley.edu](portal.housing.berkeley.edu)

*Application Tutorial Available*

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**Key Notes to Remember:**

- First year students receive housing priority!
- Assignment process is strictly lottery based
- Make housing preferences broad and meet all application deadlines to ensure you receive an offer
Other Application Notes

**Roommates:** Roommate Profile to provide your lifestyle habits and find the right roommate for you

**Requesting Roommates:** Know someone coming to Cal? Create a Roommate Group on the App!

**Note:** Under normal operations, all new students receive priority for housing. It is not possible to know at this time whether the COVID-19 pandemic will allow for normal operations in 2020-2021, so we cannot guarantee housing priority at this time.

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**Housing After 1st Year:**

- Do not guarantee continuing students housing
- However, past few years have been able to provide a housing offer to all continuing students who applied on time
Accommodation Requests

*Cal Housing wants all students to have safe, affirming, and inclusive spaces to find community.*

We work to provide reasonable accommodations to students based upon their ability and identity statuses, including:

- Students with Disabilities
- Gender identity or expression
- Sexual orientation
- Religious, cultural, and spiritual identity
Accommodation Requests *continued*

**Students with Disabilities.**
- Submit an Accommodations Request Form with appropriate medical documentation
- Documentation will be reviewed to determine a reasonable accommodation

**Gender-inclusive and LGBTQIA+ affirming requests. Religious and cultural identity-based requests.**
- Note your needs in your application
- Submit the identity-based request form

[link](housing.berkeley.edu/accommodations)
Take a Virtual Tour!

To access our Video Tours, please visit our website: housing.berkeley.edu/video-tours
Important Resources

Housing Web Page
housing.berkeley.edu

Application Portal
portal.housing.berkeley.edu

Theme Programs
themeprograms.berkeley.edu

Accommodation Requests
housing.berkeley.edu/accommodations

Cal Housing
reshall@berkeley.edu
(510) 642-4108

Family Housing
apts@berkeley.edu
(510) 642-4109
Key Takeaways

► There are personal and academic benefits to living in an on campus community.

► **Apply by your Housing Deadline: *May 2nd***

► Follow ALL application instructions to ensure your housing priority.

► For questions, please contact the Cal Housing Assignments Office at: Reshall@Berkeley.edu
GO BEARS!