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Housing Options 2016-2017

PennState
The contract process for on-campus housing is managed through the University’s eLiving system www.eLiving.psu.edu

Only current on-campus students at University Park and students attending a Commonwealth Campus are eligible to participate in the lottery process. Students living off campus at University Park are NOT eligible to participate, but can add their name to the Supplemental Housing Waitlist when it opens at noon Friday February 3 in eLiving.

Students who are freshman right now are considered upper-class students for next year’s process.

Additional information about the process is available at www.UPcontracts.psu.edu
The timeline is available at http://housing.psu.edu/housing-contract-process-timeline
The housing process consists of 6 steps:

- Reviewing available housing options. Upper-class students have more options than first-year students.
- Estimate room and board charges.
- Submit a request by the deadline date.
- Check eLiving during the contract offer period
- Accept offer before it expires
- Follow process for room assignment
Housing Options - there are 9 options, which are broken out into 2 groups:

**BLUE GROUP**
- Nittany Apartments: 4 students, either 2 two-bedroom or 4 single-bedroom apartments. [http://housing.psu.edu/nittany-apartments-suites](http://housing.psu.edu/nittany-apartments-suites)
- White Course Apartments: 4 students, 4 single-bedroom apartments. [http://housing.psu.edu/white-course-undergraduate-apartments](http://housing.psu.edu/white-course-undergraduate-apartments)
- Eastview Terrace: single room with private bathroom, AC [http://housing.psu.edu/eastview-terrace](http://housing.psu.edu/eastview-terrace)
- Nittany Hall Suites: 4 students, 2 two-bedroom suite with shared bathroom [http://housing.psu.edu/nittany-apartments-suites](http://housing.psu.edu/nittany-apartments-suites)
- North Hall Suites: 4 students, 2 two-bedroom suite with shared bathroom (limited suites for 2 people in single rooms) [http://housing.psu.edu/north-halls](http://housing.psu.edu/north-halls)
- Single Room, Traditional Residence Hall: single room, share common floor bathroom, located in traditional residence halls in West, South, and Pollock Halls
- Double Room, Renovated Residence Hall: double room, share private bathrooms with floor (each bathroom is private-use), located in South Halls. [http://housing.psu.edu/south-halls](http://housing.psu.edu/south-halls)

**WHITE GROUP**
- Double room, Traditional Residence halls: double room, share common floor bathroom, located in traditional residence halls in West, South, and Pollock Halls. NOTE: there are a limited number of triples and quads also available. Students would participate in this lottery option to be considered.
- Supplemental Housing By Request: students would select this option if they only want to live in a supplemental housing (a great option financially or for a large group of friends). If student accepts this type of HFS Contract, the student will NOT be reassigned!

Each housing option is a separate lottery process – your student will submit a request for the housing option(s) that interest them. When each round of offers are made, only students who requested that option will be considered for a contract offer.
Room and Board Rates

- Room and board rates for the 17-18 year will be approved in March 2017 by the Board of Trustees.
- Review the current 16-17 year room rates at [www.hfs.psu.edu/rates](http://www.hfs.psu.edu/rates); estimate an increase between 4-5% for next year.
- Your student should NOT participate in a housing option lottery if they are not willing to pay the room rate. For instance, the cost of a double room, traditional hall, for 16-17 is $2970/semester – just for room. Eastview Terrace is $5180/semester – just for room. Double the cost.
- Nittany and White Course Apartments do not require the purchase of a Campus Meal Plan – but all other housing options require the meal plan!
- Consider your financial aid package – is there a cap on what is provided for room?
eLiving is open NOW to submit requests, but requests must be submitted by:

- NOON Monday November 28 for housing options in the blue group
- NOON Thursday January 19 for housing options in the white group

NOTES:
- The lottery process is NOT first-come, first-serve. It’s a random lottery process. It does not matter when a request is submitted, no one has a better a chance of receiving an offer than another student
- If a student does not receive any offers for housing options from the blue group, they still have the opportunity to submit a request for the white group

ROOMMATE PAIRING
During the request process, the system does permit students to “pair up” with a potential roommate. This provides the student a double-chance of receiving an offer for a HFS Contract, but also ensures that if 2 people who want to live together both receive offers.

NOTES:
- It must be a MUTUAL request – student A must request student B/student B must request student A. The system will NOT link students up if the request is not mutual!
- If 3-4 students are interested in living together, then the group needs to breakout into two groups of 2.
- Students interested in Nittany and White Course apartments have the opportunity to list up to 3 students, but it’s not required.
- Any groups that are assigned to a space but do not fill the space – Housing will assign additional students to fill the vacancies.
Timeline for housing options in the Blue Group

- November 28, Noon: request process CLOSES
- November 28, by 5pm: 1st round of offers made for each of the housing options
- December 1, Noon: 1st round of offers expire
- December 1, by 5pm: 2nd round of offers made for each of the housing options
- December 5, Noon: 2nd round of offers expire
- December 5, by 5pm: 3rd round of offers made for each of the housing options – IF SPACE IS STILL AVAILABLE!
- December 8, Noon: 3rd round of offers expire

Each housing option lottery is run independently of the others.

If a student participates in the lottery process for any of the housing options in the blue group but does NOT receive an offer, they will still be able to submit a request for a double room, traditional residence hall – that request process closes at Noon January 19.
Timeline for housing options in the White Group

- January 19, Noon: request process CLOSES
- January 19, by 5pm: 1st round of offers made for double rooms, traditional residence halls
- January 23, Noon: 1st round of offers expire
- January 23, by 5pm: 2nd round of offers made for double rooms, traditional residence halls AND supplemental housing
- January 26, Noon: 2nd round of offers expire
- January 26, by 5pm: 3rd round of offers made for supplemental housing
- January 30, Noon: 3rd round of offers expire

January 28: Housing Fair

During this round of offers, students may receive a “Supplemental Housing” contract offer. By accepting this contract, students understand that, at a minimum, they would be assigned to supplemental housing. However, students will have the opportunity to add their name to internal Waitlists in eLiving for other housing options. As vacancies occur throughout spring/summer, Housing will reassign students.
ALL OFFERS EXPIRE AT NOON!

Students must login AND accept the offer prior to the Noon deadline! If a student logs in at 11:58am, but does not accept the contract before the deadline, the offer will expire.

**EXPIRED OFFERS WILL NOT BE RE-OFFERED!** *Please do not even ask if a contract can be reoffered* – we will not re-offer an expired contract!
HFS Contract offers will include one of these options for Room Assignment:

- **Self-Select:** the student will be provided the date/time to return to eLiving to self-select their room from available rooms at that time. The student will be able to identify one roommate, and if the request is mutual, both will be assigned to a room. If there is a group of 4, the students would break out into two groups of 2 students. Housing is not able to guarantee that a full suite/apartment will be available. Students will be able to use the “direct room change” process to request students to swap assignments.

- **Preference:** the student will be able to indicate housing preferences – area/building/room type/roommate, and Housing will process the assignment. Preferences can be updated until Noon April 14.
The University holds 2 off-campus housing fairs for students.

The January Housing Fair is held on Saturday January 28, and coincides with the last round of supplemental housing offers. Students who receive a supplemental housing offer can attend the housing fair to weigh the options available to make a decision about what type of housing to pursue.
CONTACTS

Assignment Office/Housing
www.housing.psu.edu
814-865-7501 | AssignmentOffice@psu.edu

Office of Off-Campus Living
www.studentaffairs.psu.edu/offcampus
814-865-2346

Student Legal Services
www.studentaffairs.psu.edu/legalservices
814-867-4388