CONTINUING STUDENT HOUSING 2018
ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
UPDATED JAN. 3, 2018

WHERE STUDENTS WILL LIVE

1. Where can continuing students live?
   Continuing students will live in campus apartments, Poly Canyon Village and Cerro Vista.

2. Will freshmen be assigned to Poly Canyon Village?
   We don’t anticipate assigning freshman to Poly Canyon Village next year. There may be some freshmen in Cerro Vista Apartments, depending on demand.

3. Will there be single bedrooms this year? What is the chance of getting a single or double room vs. a double suite?
   Yes, we will be offering more single bedrooms this year. We will also offer standard double rooms. The availability of room types depends on demand for campus housing and availability at the time of self-selection.

4. Will there be double suites?
   The State Fire Marshall has not approved double suites in campus apartments for 2018-19. We would like to offer a small number of 6-person double suites – one per floor, perhaps - as another option for students and have requested approval for this configuration. We will notify students if this option becomes available.

5. Will there be rooms set aside for third and fourth year students?
   We don’t "set aside" apartments for groups of continuing students - all students can apply to live on campus starting Thursday, March 8. As in the past, current freshman will have priority to apply to live on campus a second year starting March 1.

SECURING HOUSING

6. When can continuing students apply to live in campus housing?
   Current freshmen apply to live on campus starting Thursday, March 1, 2018.
   All continuing students can apply to live on campus starting Thursday, March 8, 2018.

7. How do continuing students secure housing?
   To secure housing, continuing students need to complete the online housing application, accept/agree to the terms of the license agreement, and pay the non-refundable $500 initial payment. Housing is “secured” upon the completion of all steps.
8. I cannot locate the Housing Tab. How do I secure Housing?
   Secure housing through **University Housing single-click access** on the Cal Poly Portal. The Housing Tab is no longer active.

9. What is the deadline to edit the continuing student application?
   March 30, 2018.

10. March 30, the last day to edit the continuing student housing application is 5 weeks earlier than last year. Why do students have less time to do this?
    To ensure students’ campus housing plans are set before they leave for summer, self-selection will occur in April. Applications need to be finalized before self-selection begins, hence the March 30 deadline.

11. I heard the initial payment is $500. Is that correct?
    Yes. Since the initial payment is non-refundable, the fee was lowered from $1,125 to lessen the financial impact on students.

12. Why is the initial payment non-refundable?
    Similar to off-campus housing, it provides an accurate idea of true demand for campus housing to plan for and serve the students who will live with us in the fall.

13. Will there be an increase in the cost of housing?
    Yes, there are new rates. To view the 2018-19 fees, visit our Continuing Student Fees webpage. Planned increases will support necessary facility upgrades across University Housing, including maintaining campus apartments and modernizing our older living communities. The new rates are in line with other university housing programs. All fees are subject to approval.

    A portion of the increase will be set aside for grants to support low-income students who have the greatest financial need. The grant to these students is $1,000 towards the academic year’s housing.

14. Why isn’t there a larger price differential between private and shared rooms?
    Two factors revealed to us the need to raise fees: a market study and an assessment of costs associated with future maintenance and facility upgrades. The price differential was adjusted to ensure all students contribute equitably for shared common space privileges and amenities. A lower differential accounts for the primary difference, which is the privacy of a single room. The new rates are in line with other university housing programs.
15. When does the application close?
   The application is closed when we have reached capacity based on projected demand. After the application closes, students can add their names to an interest list. Students on the interest list have not secured campus housing until they are offered a bedspace and accept it in the time frame noted in the email offer. See FAQ #7 to secure housing.

16. Is there a lottery to get a space on campus?
   Not to secure a space, but there is a lottery to self-select a space once housing is secured. Students who apply while the application is open to them and complete all steps, will “secure” a space in campus housing.

ROOMMATES & SELF-SELECTION

17. Do I need to list roommates when I apply for housing or can I just pull them in during self-selection?
   Yes, students must list confirmed roommates on the housing application in order to pull them in during self-selection. Edits can be made until March 30, 2018. All requests must be mutual, meaning all roommates must request one another. Students may list up to three confirmed roommates on the application. During self-selection in April, students are only able to pull in mutually confirmed roommates listed on their housing application.

18. I don’t have a roommate. Am I required to list roommates on the housing application?
   You do not need to list roommates unless you have plan to live with specific individuals. Mutually confirmed roommates are required on the housing application if you plan to pull others in or be pulled in by others during self-selection.

19. When do continuing students self-select into their apartments and bedspaces?
   Students who have secured housing will self-select by the end of spring quarter so that their housing plans are set prior to summer.

20. How are self-selection appointments determined?
   Appointments are determined based on priority window and a lottery. Freshmen who applied during the first priority window (March 1-7) are in the first group of students to self-select. The appointment date and time for students who applied in the same application window and on the same day is based on a lottery.

   Example: If you secured housing on March 1, you will self-select before students who secured housing on or after March 8, but your specific date will be based on a lottery with others who secured housing on the same day you did. Note: Students who secured housing later may be
pulled in by students who secured housing earlier if they are mutually confirmed roommates.

21. **There are six of us in our roommate group. Why can’t we list up to five roommates on the housing application? If we can only list up to three confirmed roommates on the housing application, how can we make sure all six of us can live in one of the six-person apartments?**

There are 78 six-person apartments. In past years, demand for this configuration has been higher than availability. Students who didn’t secure a six-person apartment at self-selection were faced, at that point, with determining how to split their roommate groups.

Allowing up to three confirmed roommates on the housing application supports students who have roommate groups in determining in advance how they will divide their group in the event the six-person rooms are full, i.e. a group or four and a group of two, two groups of three, three groups of two, etc.

If there is availability at self-selection, the groups can self-select into a six-person apartment, provided they have all secured housing. If there is no availability, they will be prepared to self-select into other available options because they have planned for this in advance.

22. **If I have a specific apartment or apartment type in mind, what are the chances I will get it?**

During your assignment selection time, you will choose from available bed spaces in campus apartments, similar to choosing an available seat on an airline. There is no guarantee that your preferred space will be available. Popular apartment types and locations fill quickly.

The high demand apartments are typically those with private bedrooms, especially 5-bedroom, 5-person apartments (QTY. 48). Apartments with six-person, single and shared bedrooms (QTY 78) are also in high demand.

23. **My friends and I want to room together. There aren’t enough available bed spaces for our roommate group in our desired apartment due to another student having assigned there. Can you move the student already assigned to the apartment we want so that my roommate group can be together?**

Assignments are first-come, first served, and roommate groups are not exclusive to an apartment. If another student is already assigned to a bed space in your desired apartment, they will not be reassigned to accommodate your roommate group so that you can live together. Be sure to check all available spaces for another option that may work for you.

24. **Will my roommates and I be able to assign in the same apartment?**

There is no guarantee you will be able to assign yourself and your roommate(s) to your desired apartment. Apartment and room configurations are limited. Since the demand for six- and five-person apartments exceeds the supply, please be prepared to split your roommate group up if
you cannot self-select into the same apartment. An alternative is to look for two apartments near one another, i.e. on the same floor or in the same building.

CANCELLATIONS

25. What if I need to cancel?
   If you need to cancel your campus housing application prior to move in, please use our online cancellation form. Include your full name and date of birth. Refer to the appropriate Housing License Agreement for the terms of cancellation.

26. Does it matter if I cancel or when I cancel since the fee is non-refundable?
   Yes, it’s important to notify us if you decide to cancel your housing since we do reserve a space for every student who “secures” housing. To avoid additional fees, be sure to cancel 30 days prior to move-in (Friday, Aug. 10). Cancellations without 30-day notice will be charged a pro-rated lack of notice fee. See the terms and conditions of your Housing License Agreement for details.