



Fall '26 Housing: Frequently Asked Questions

Updated for the Revised Fall Plan

July 6, 2026

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Why are some first-year students being housed in Cerro Vista Apartments?

As Cal Poly prepares new housing for future occupancy, first-year students will be housed in either residence halls or Cerro Vista Apartments for the upcoming academic year. This housing plan ensures students continue to receive a high-quality campus residential experience.

Can first-year students live in Cerro Vista?

Yes. For Fall 2026, Cerro Vista Apartments are part of the first-year housing plan.

Will I get to choose where I live?

Yes. During first-year online room selection June 29-July 15, you will select your preferred room and bed space from the available options in your Residential Learning Community (RLC) at your assigned room selection time.

Am I guaranteed a residence hall?

No. Students may choose from the available spaces when their room selection appointment begins. Depending on availability, options may include residence halls, Cerro Vista Apartments, Residential Learning Communities, or open housing.

What is the difference between the residence halls and Cerro Vista Apartments?

Residence Halls

- Shared bedrooms (primarily triples, with some doubles and quintuples)
- Community bathrooms

- Community kitchens
- Traditional first-year residential experience

Cerro Vista Apartments

- Six-person apartments
- Three bedrooms with bunked beds (two students per bedroom)
- Shared bathrooms and living room
- Full kitchen
- Dedicated study room
- Apartment-style living with opportunities to build community

Will I still have a dining plan if I live in Cerro Vista?

Yes. All first-year students will have a dining plan regardless of whether they live in a residence hall or Cerro Vista Apartments.

Have first-year students lived in Cerro Vista Apartments before?

Yes, Cal Poly has housed first-year students in campus apartments in past years. First-years will be housed with and near other first-year students. Cerro Vista Apartments is adjacent to the first-year residence halls.

Will I still be part of a Residential Learning Community?

If you select an available space within a Residential Learning Community during room selection, you will participate in that community regardless of whether it is located in a residence hall or Cerro Vista Apartments.

Will I still have opportunities to meet other first-year students?

Yes. Both residence halls and Cerro Vista Apartments are designed to support community building and provide opportunities to connect with other first-year students through programs, activities and campus life.

Are Cerro Vista Apartments furnished?

Yes. Apartments are furnished and include bedrooms, a shared living room, bathrooms, a full kitchen and a dedicated study room.

Will I be with my requested roommates?

University Housing makes every effort to keep roommate groups together.

Where can I learn more about the housing options?

Students are encouraged to visit the Housing website to review floor plans, amenities, community information and room selection resources before making their selection.

What are the fees for first-year housing options?

Fees are posted on the [University Housing webpage](#).

I heard some students are getting a credit. Who does that apply to?

University Housing is providing a credit to students assigned to the new suite-style housing. This does not apply to first-year students as they will not be living in the new building.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Questions about room selection or housing assignments should be directed to University Housing at housing@calpoly.edu. Additional information will be shared in advance of the room selection process.

TRANSFER STUDENTS**Why are some transfer students being assigned to temporary housing? Who is being assigned there?**

Cal Poly is opening a new suite-style residential community later this academic year. Transfer students who chose spaces in that community during online room selection will begin the year in temporary housing in Poly Canyon Village until the new building is ready for occupancy. Temporary housing will not be viewable during room selection to ensure students do not select into these spaces for their permanent assignment.

Are there any transfer spaces in Cerro Vista and Poly Canyon Village? If I select one of these spaces will I need to move to temporary housing?

Yes, there are transfer spaces in our apartment communities also. If you choose viewable spaces in Cerro Vista or Poly Canyon Village during room selection, you will not be moved to the temporary housing spaces. Temporary housing will not be viewable during room selection to ensure students do not select into these spaces for their permanent assignment.

When is transfer student room selection?

Transfer room selection is July 16. You will be emailed the appointment date and a time to log into your Housing Portal and choose a room.

Will I know before I select my room if I need to move to a temporary assignment?

Yes. Selecting a space in the new suite-style housing means you will begin the year in a temporary assignment in Poly Canyon Village before moving into your permanent room.

What is the configuration of temporary housing?

The temporary spaces are three-bedroom, six-person apartments. The rooms are double suites (bunked beds). See: [Floorplan: Layout D](#). Every student will have their own bed, dresser, wardrobe and desk.

How long will I remain in temporary housing?

Students who selected the new suite-style community will move into the building when it is ready for occupancy. We anticipate opening it mid-semester or mid-year.

Can I avoid temporary housing?

Yes. Students who prefer not to participate in the temporary assignment may select an available space in Cerro Vista or Poly Canyon Village during room selection, if available. They also have the option to cancel their campus housing with no financial penalty.

Will I receive compensation?

Yes. Transfer students assigned to temporary housing will receive a 50% credit of their Housing fees posted to their Student Account while they remain in temporary spaces.

Will my roommates stay together?

Housing will make every effort to keep roommate groups together in the same room.

Will I have to move my belongings on my own when I move to new housing?

Additional details about the move process will be shared closer to the transition. Housing will provide guidance to make the move as smooth as possible.

Will my mailing address change?

Students will receive updated information regarding mailing addresses and package delivery before moving to the new community.

Why is the university opening the new building after the academic year begins?

Opening the building during the academic year allows Cal Poly to safely welcome students while expanding campus housing.

What are the benefits of living on campus during this time?

Students continue to enjoy convenient access to classes, dining, recreation, campus resources, and opportunities to connect with fellow transfer students and participate in campus life.

Where can I learn more?

Students should visit the Fall 2026 Housing webpage for updates. Additional information about room selection, move-in and the transition to the new community will be provided in the coming weeks.

Can I cancel my housing if I am not interested in this arrangement?

Yes, new transfer students have option to cancel their campus housing with no financial penalty.

Who should I contact if I have concerns?

Students who have questions or concerns should email housing@calpoly.edu.

CONTINUING STUDENTS ASSIGNED TO NEW HOUSING**Why are some continuing students being assigned temporary housing spaces at the start of the academic year. Which students will be assigned there?**

Continuing students who chose spaces in the new suite-style housing community during room selection last spring will begin the year in temporary housing in Poly Canyon Village until the new building is ready for occupancy.

What is the configuration of temporary housing?

The temporary spaces are three-bedroom, six-person apartments. The rooms are double suites (bunked beds). See: [Floorplan: Layout D](#). Every student will have their own bed, dresser, wardrobe and desk.

How long will I remain in temporary housing?

Students who selected the new suite-style community will move into the new building when it is ready for occupancy. We anticipate it opening mid-semester or mid-year.

Will I receive compensation?

Yes. Continuing students assigned to temporary housing will receive a 50% credit of their Housing fees posted to their Student Account while they remain in the temporary spaces.

Will my roommates stay together?

Housing will make every effort to keep roommate groups together in the same room.

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Where can I learn more?

Students should visit the Fall 2026 Housing webpage for updates. Additional information about your temporary assignment, move in and the transition to the new community will be provided in the coming weeks.

Who should I contact if I have concerns?

Students who have questions or concerns should email housing@calpoly.edu using their Cal Poly email account.

CONTINUING STUDENTS IN PCV RECEIVING TEMPORARY ROOMMATES**Why is my apartment being reconfigured?**

Temporary adjustments in a limited number of existing apartments allow the university to house students who selected new housing while the new community is completed.

Where will temporary spaces be located?

Temporary spaces are located in designated four-bedroom apartments, four-person in Corralitos (Bldg. C), Estrella (Bldg. E), and Foxen (Bldg. F) at Poly Canyon Village.

How many additional students will be living in my apartment?

Two additional students will be temporarily assigned to your apartment.

How will the apartment be reconfigured?

The apartment will be converted from a four-bedroom, four-person configuration to a three-bedroom, six-person apartment. The rooms are double suites (bunked beds). See: [Floorplan: Layout D](#). Every student will have their own bed, dresser, wardrobe and desk.

Will I have to move to a different bedroom?

You may. Housing will communicate any room changes before move in.

Why was my apartment selected?

Housing identified apartments that could accommodate temporary occupancy while minimizing impacts across Poly Canyon Village. The four bedroom, four-person apartments are lower occupancy than other configurations.

How long will this arrangement last?

The arrangement is temporary and is expected to end once the new residential community opens mid-semester or mid-year. Housing will keep residents updated.

When will the apartment return to normal occupancy?

Once students in temporary assignments move into their permanent spaces in the new residential community, your apartment will return to its original occupancy and configuration.

Will I receive compensation?

Yes. Students in impacted apartments will receive a 50% credit of their Housing fees posted to their Student Account while their apartment is used for temporary housing.

Can we request which of us double up?

Can we change rooms within our apartment after move-in?

If you change rooms within your apartment after move-in, email housing@calpoly.edu to notify University Housing of the change so assignments within the apartment can be updated. Copy all roommates in the apartment on the message. This ensures Housing has an accurate roster of resident assignments for operations, maintenance notices, and most importantly, in case of an emergency.

Your assigned keys will also need to be exchanged to match your new assignment. This is important in case of lockouts and for key return at the end of the year. If you return keys to an apartment or room you are no longer assigned to at the end of the year, charges apply. (\$75 for brass keys, \$25 for access cards.)

Will the temporary residents be continuing students?

Yes. The temporary residents will be other continuing and /or transfer students.

I have concerns about sharing a room, due to individual circumstances.

Housing will work with you to resolve concerns around issues such as health, allergies, or other extenuating circumstances on an individual basis.

Will Housing help with room changes?

Housing will communicate room assignments and any required bedroom changes before move in. Additional information will be shared if residents need to relocate within the apartment.

Where can I find more information?

Additional details are available on the Fall 2026 Housing webpage.

Who should I contact if I have concerns?

Students should contact University Housing at housing@calpoly.edu using their Cal Poly email account.

Community Stakeholders

Why are some students being assigned to temporary housing this fall?

Cal Poly is expanding campus housing with a new residential neighborhood. As the university prepares the first building for occupancy later in the academic year, some students will begin the year in temporary assignments within existing campus housing communities before moving to the new neighborhood.

Will students need to find housing off campus because of this change?

Cal Poly has developed a housing plan that accommodates all students who have secured university housing. Students affected by this transition will remain in university housing and will not need to seek housing in the local community as a result of the delayed occupancy of the new residential neighborhood.

How is the university accommodating these students?

The university is temporarily utilizing available capacity within existing campus housing communities. Students in temporary assignments will continue to have access to campus residential programs, services, dining, academic support and other resources while they await their permanent assignments.

When will students move into the new residential neighborhood?

The university anticipates students in temporary assignments will move into the new residential neighborhood once the first building is ready for occupancy later in the academic year. Students will receive advance notice and move assistance when permanent assignments are available.

Will this increase demand for housing in surrounding neighborhoods?

Because students with university housing contracts will remain in campus housing throughout the transition, the university does not anticipate this plan will increase demand for off-campus housing.

Why is the university opening the new building after the academic year begins?

The new residential neighborhood is a significant capital project that will provide additional on-campus housing for current and future students. The phased occupancy approach

allows Cal Poly to complete construction while continuing to provide housing for students who have committed to living on campus.

How does this project benefit the community?

The new residential neighborhood represents a long-term investment in expanding campus housing capacity. By providing more students with the opportunity to live on campus, the project helps reduce pressure on the local rental market while supporting student success and strengthening the campus residential experience.

Where can I learn more?

Additional information about Fall 2026 housing and the new residential neighborhood is available on the University Housing website.