



CONTINUING STUDENT HOUSING 2019 ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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STEP 1: SECURE

1. What do continuing students need to do to get housing?

Step 1: Secure

- To **secure** housing, students must complete the online housing application, agree to the terms of the license agreement, and pay the non-refundable \$500 initial payment. The application is located on the Cal Poly Portal under University Housing.

Step 2: Decide

- Starting Feb. 14, students who secured housing can return to the system to **decide** their preferences, including roommates, residential learning communities and accommodations.

Step 3: Select

- **Select** an apartment and bedspaces by group size in April.

2. When can continuing students apply?

The application opens to **current apartment residents**, Friday, Feb. 1, 2019.

It opens to **all students** Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019.

It closes when we have reached capacity based on projected demand.

3. Where do continuing students live?

Continuing students live in Cerro Vista and Poly Canyon Village Apartments.

4. Will there be new first-year student in campus apartments, also?

No, new first-year students live in residence halls.

5. In the past, current first-year students got priority to apply and self-select. Why the change?

Some of our continuing students have shared with us that they would like to remain on campus. This short four-day priority window gives continuing students whose first choice is to live with us the opportunity to secure housing early. A small percentage of juniors and seniors historically choose to stay on campus. We do not anticipate offering this priority will limit the number of current first-year students who are able to secure housing.

6. How do I secure housing if I missed the application window?

After the application closes, students can add their names to an interest list. Students who secure housing from the interest list will be assigned a room by University Housing and will not participate in room selection.



7. Can I tour campus apartments before I apply?

Yes, tours of campus apartments are available Tuesday, Jan. 22 – Friday, Feb. 1. Tours start daily at 12:10 p.m. A second afternoon tour is offered at 3:40 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 25, on Monday, Jan. 29, on Friday, Feb. 1. All tours meet at the flagpole in front of Administration (Bldg. 1).

STEP 2: DECIDE

8. When do I choose roommates?

From Feb. 14 to March 1, you will decide on roommates. All roommate requests and learning communities must be confirmed and all roommates should request the same learning communities. During room selection, students are only able to pull in the mutually confirmed roommates listed on the housing application.

9. How many roommates can I add to the application?

Students may list **up to five confirmed roommates** on the application. That said, 85% of our apartments are four-person apartments, so most students will be accommodated as four-person groups.

10. I don't have a roommate. Am I required to list roommates on the housing application?

You do not need to list roommates. As an individual, you will select your rooms after larger roommate groups, filling in vacant rooms of apartments.

11. I've tried adding roommate(s), but they don't show up in the system. Am I doing something wrong?

In order for you to add roommates, they must have secured housing. Be sure you are entering the correct Cal Poly email address in the system when attempting to add them.

12. Where do I request a learning community or accommodation?

You can request these at Step 2. This year, our Residential Learning Communities are Substance Free, Returning CP Scholars, iCommunity 2.0 and Gender-Inclusive. Any accommodations, like an emotional support animal or a personal fridge in your room, must be approved through the DRC annually.

13. Is there gender-inclusive housing in campus apartments?

Yes. Students indicate their preference related to [gender-inclusive housing](#) in the application. Students who request this option will be able to select a room from designated gender-inclusive apartments.



STEP 3: SELECT

14. Do I get to choose my apartment or am I assigned to one?

Most students will get to select their apartment and their room.

After you finalize your group of roommates on or before March 1, you will be assigned a date and time to select room(s) from available apartments that fit the size of your roommate group (if you have one.) **Appointments are determined by lottery, based on group size and the earliest date housing is secured within the group.** Students who miss their selection date and time or apply after room selection has occurred will be assigned by University Housing.

15. How does room selection work?

New this year, the room selection lottery will take place in stages, based on roommate group size. Larger groups select first, followed by smaller groups and singles. Students who participate in the 6, 5 or 4 group lotteries and do not select (or there is not an available apartment that fits their group size) may participate again in a later stage by dividing up their roommate groups.

16. How are room selection appointments determined?

Appointments are determined first by group size and then by lottery, based on the earliest date housing was secured in the roommate group. Six-person groups self-select first, followed by five-person groups, four-person groups and three-person groups, pairs and singles. Groups that don't select with their group can divide up into smaller groups and select later.

Group	Number of groups	Community
6-person groups (select 6-person apts.)	77	PCV
5-person groups (select 5-person apts.)	48	PCV
4-person groups (select 4-person apts.)	Until filled	PCV & Cerro Vista
3-2-1 (Individuals & groups or 2 or 3 fill vacancies)		PCV & Cerro Vista

17. What are the room types & configurations?

Most apartments feature private bedrooms. There are a few standard shared bedrooms in Poly Canyon Village. Here are the configurations:



	4- bedroom, 4-person apts. (4 private rooms)	5-bedroom, 5-person apts. (5 private rooms)	4-bedroom, 6- person apts. (2 private rooms & 2 shared rooms)
Cerro Vista	198	-	-
Poly Canyon Village	489	48	77
TOTAL APTS.	687	48	77

18. Will there be double suites?

We don't anticipate offering double suites (rooms with bunked beds) in campus apartments.

19. There are six of us in our roommate group. What if every six-person apartment is full before we select rooms?

There are 77 six-person apartments in Poly Canyon Village. Once those are filled by the lottery, any remaining six-person groups will be notified in advance of room selection that they can select during any of the other stages by dividing their roommate group into smaller ones.

20. Doesn't self-selection by group size penalize smaller groups and individuals?

Last year, students told us that *who they lived with* was more important than *the building they lived in*. Yes, small groups will have fewer apartments to choose from, but —in the end — fewer groups will have to split up to fit available spaces. If securing a space in a particular building is very important to you, your best shot is to be part of a larger group.

21. 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. During room selection, have a couple of options planned for both Poly Canyon Village and Cerro Vista so you can adjust quickly.

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

One member will assign the entire group into an apartment and assign individuals to rooms. When you select and what size apartment you can choose is based on the size of your group and a lottery.

Room selection by group size is intended to reduce the number of students who are faced with dividing their groups. However, apartment and room configurations are limited. Since the demand for six- and five-person apartments typically exceeds the supply, you may be contacted to divide your roommate group up and select during subsequent stages. Even if you have to divide into multiple groups, keep in mind that you can always look for apartments near each other!



PRICING & CANCELLATIONS

23. Why is the initial payment non-refundable?

Similar to off-campus housing, it provides an accurate idea of true demand for campus housing — so we can plan for and serve the students who will live with us in the fall.

24. Will there be an increase in the cost of housing?

Yes, there are new rates. Planned increases will continue to 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.

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.

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. The \$500 initial fee is not refundable. Please, refer to the appropriate University Housing License Agreement for the terms of cancellation. Students must notify University Housing directly of their intent to cancel. Notifications to University Housing from other departments does not suffice.

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 your contract/license start date. Cancellations without 30-day notice will be charged a pro-rated lack of notice fee. See the terms and conditions of your Student Housing License Agreement for details.