



CONTINUING STUDENT HOUSING 2020-21 ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS UPDATED JAN. 08, 2019

STEP 1: SECURE

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

Submit Campus Housing Application

- **Starting Jan. 14:** 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.

Once a student has submitted their application, they can return to the system any time through Feb. 18 to **decide or change** their living preferences and request roommates.

Select an Apartment and a Room

- **Between Feb. 21-March 2 (Tentative):** Select an apartment and bedspaces by group size in late February. A room selection appointment will be emailed to students. All students who secure their housing before Feb. 18 (at 11:59 p.m.) will be included in the first round of room selection.

2. Where do continuing students live?

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

3. Will there be new first-year student in campus apartments?

No, first-year students live in residence halls.

4. Do I get priority if I submit my application early?

No, the day the application is submitted has no impact on your room selection date. Room selection appointments are based on your group size and a lottery. We've removed priority room selection so that all students have time to raise the \$500 initial payment.

5. How do I secure housing after Feb. 18?

You can apply anytime until all spaces on campus are filled. Late applicants will have an opportunity to select a room after students who met the Feb. 18 deadline. You will not be able to form roommate groups. Instead, please coordinate with any desired roommates to find empty rooms in the same apartment — if they are available — and assign yourselves into them independently.



6. Can I tour campus apartments before I apply?

A show apartment in Cerro Vista is available for viewing weekdays at 12:10. Additional afternoon tours are at 3:45 p.m. on Monday and Friday. Tours depart from the flagpole in front of Bldg. 1. If an apartment in Poly Canyon Village becomes available for tours, it will be included as an option to view.

ROOMMATES & LIVING OPTIONS

7. When do I choose roommates?

You can start selecting roommates as soon as all of you have submitted your applications. You must finalize your roommate group by Feb. 18. Be sure you are entering the correct Cal Poly email address in the system when attempting to add them. During room selection, students are only able to pull in the mutually confirmed roommates listed on the housing application.

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

Students may request **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.

9. 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.

10. Where do I request a learning community?

You can request Substance Free housing, Pride housing and Cultural & Identity housing in your application. All other Residential Learning Communities will be labeled and do not need to be requested. You will have an opportunity to assign yourself into them during room selection as space permits.

11. How do I request a disability-related housing accommodation?

You can request this in your housing application. Any accommodations, like an emotional support animal or a personal fridge in your room, must be approved through the DRC annually. We recommend that you reach out to the DRC as soon as you apply for housing, which you can do [here](#).

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

Yes. Students indicate their preference related to [Pride Housing](#) in the application. Students who request this option will be able to select a room from designated gender-inclusive Pride apartments available throughout the Pride Community or in clusters of apartments in all other Residential Learning Communities.



ROOM SELECTION

13. 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 Feb. 18, you will be provided 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.** Room selection will take place in stages, based on roommate group size. Larger groups select first, followed by smaller groups and singles. Students who miss their selection date or apply after room selection has occurred will have an opportunity to select a room after the first round of room selection concludes.

14. How are room selection appointments determined?

Appointments are determined first by group size and then by lottery. Six-person groups select rooms first, followed by five-person groups, four-person groups and three-person groups, pairs and singles. Groups that miss their appointment can divide 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- and 3-person groups (select 4-person apts.)	No limit	PCV & Cerro Vista
2-1 (Individuals & groups or 2)		PCV & Cerro Vista

15. What are the room types & configurations?

Most apartments feature private bedrooms. There are a few 6-person apartments with larger, 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



16. Will there be double suites?

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

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

There are 48 five-person apartments in Poly Canyon Village. Once those are filled by the lottery, any remaining five-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.

18. 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.

19. 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 or community 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.

20. 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 can exceed 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

21. 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.



22. 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.

23. 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, which can be found in the [housing portal](#). 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 do not suffice.

24. 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 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-days' notice will be charged a pro-rated lack of notice fee. See the terms and conditions of your Student Housing License Agreement for details.