

Email communication to all eligible students who created an application for 2020-2021

Subject: 2021-2022 Returning Student On-Campus Housing Information

We are only 5 weeks into classes for Spring 2021 and it is already time to think about next year's housing. This email has important information. We've made some changes to our returning student process due to timing and COVID measures so please be sure to read carefully and save this email for future reference. In this email you will find:

- Important Highlights for 2021-2022
- Information about when to apply
- An outline of the application process
- Important next steps

Important Highlights for 2021-2022

You may have heard that in the past any returning student who applied by our deadline was guaranteed housing. It is important to note that this year **not every student who applies by the deadline will be guaranteed housing for the coming year**, but all students will be notified on April 20, 2021 of their housing status.

- Priority for receiving a space on campus for 2021-2022 as a returning student will generally be based on when a student was admitted to UD with **rising sophomores receiving highest priority**, (rising sophomores are students who were first admitted during the 2020-2021 academic year).
- The University of Delaware believes that first- and second-year students have the most to gain by living in our on-campus housing communities.
- We are not able to provide a guarantee to all returning students due to limited housing overall, and as we reduce density in our first-year buildings due to COVID.
- We will continue to guarantee all entering first-year students for 2021-2022.
- We will house juniors or seniors, but there will be fewer spaces for those students relative to new students and second year students.

When to Apply

The application for housing in the My Housing Portal will be available **beginning at noon Tuesday, March 23 and closing promptly at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13**. Housing is not first-come, first-served, so there is no need to fill out the application the moment it opens. However, you do need to complete it before the deadline to be considered for housing.

The Application Process

- Returning students will apply for 2021-2022 housing through the My Housing Portal.
- The most important step in the application process requires you to sign electronically the 2021-2022 Undergraduate Student Housing Contract and agree to the Housing Cancellation Policy. Your application is not considered complete until this step has been accomplished.
- The contract is much like a lease and once signed, it is a legally and financially binding contract as described in the 2021-2022 Undergraduate Housing Contract. We highly encourage that you to review the contract and become familiar with terms like "binding date" and "release fees" as they are enforced.

- You'll have the opportunity to sign up for one of our optional [Living Learning or Theme Housing Communities](#) while the application is open. It is important to note that if you are guaranteed housing by signing up for an LLC, you must remain in your selected LLC. If you refuse your spot in an LLC, you will lose your guarantee for housing and be placed at the end of the non-guaranteed wait list.
- **On April 20, 2021, you will be notified by Residence Life and Housing if you have been guaranteed housing for the coming year or have been placed on the non-guaranteed wait list.** If you are guaranteed, you will receive additional information in the same email about next steps including selecting roommates and potentially selecting your own room.

Important Next Steps

The room assignment process will begin in May. Most students who are guaranteed housing will be provided a date and time prior to finals to go into the "My Housing Portal" to select their room. Some students may be manually assigned by our staff.

We know you have many questions and we're here to assist. Below you will find answers to a number of questions, and we welcome you to connect with us Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 302-831-4663(HOME) or send an email to reslife-housing@udel.edu. We do our best to answer all messages within 2 business days and thank you for your patience during this busy time.

Sincerely,

JT

(Questions anticipated and will be included as addendum to distributed letter and posted on RLH website)

When will I know if I'm guaranteed housing or not?

We expect to send emails on April 20 to all students who applied to let them know if they are guaranteed housing or placed on a non-guaranteed wait list. Please remember that a guarantee for housing is for a space on campus, **we are unable to guarantee a particular location, room type or roommate.**

How do you determine who gets guaranteed?

Current first-year students who did not live on campus during 2020-2021 and Associate in Arts program students transitioning to the Newark campus for Fall 2021 will fall into the first priority group to be guaranteed.

Current first-year students who lived on campus during 2020-2021 will be the next group to receive priority to be guaranteed.

Transfer students who were admitted during 2020-2021 will be the next group to be considered for priority to be guaranteed.

Priority is then given to current sophomores, then juniors, and then seniors based on the year the student was admitted.

When can I create a roommate group with my friend(s) who I want to live with?

Only students who are guaranteed housing will be able to create or join roommate groups. The Roommate Manager will open within the housing portal to those students for a brief window of time after guarantee notices go out via email.

What if I am guaranteed housing but the person I want to live with is on the waitlist?

We have no way of knowing when or if someone on the waitlist will be guaranteed housing and you will not be able to create a roommate group later. You will need to make a decision at this time to either not live with that person but stay on-campus or to cancel your housing opportunity and find off-campus housing with that person.

What if I no longer want to live in the Living Learning Community (LLC) or Theme Housing Community I applied for?

If you make the request via email to our department to be removed from the LLC prior to the application closing date (April 13), we will remove your LLC application and place you back in the general priority order. If you make that request after you have been accepted into the LLC, you will lose your housing guarantee entirely and will be placed at the end of the non-guaranteed waitlist.

What fees are involved if I want to cancel my application?

There is no fee to apply for housing. Students may cancel within the My Housing Portal at any time up until the date they have been guaranteed housing without any fee. After you have been guaranteed through June 14, 2021 at 11:59 PM, there is a \$200 cancellation fee. Beginning June 15, students who have been guaranteed housing will be subject to release fees per the Student Housing Contract. You should keep an eye on your UD email in the days after the application closes to find out if you have been guaranteed.

If you decide to live off-campus, be sure to cancel your application, as you don't want to be responsible to both our contract and a lease for another location.

What if I don't get assigned to the room that I wanted?

We only guarantee a space on campus, we do not guarantee a specific location, room type or roommate. We likely will not be able to accommodate room change requests. You can review our cancellation process to determine if you want to cancel your contract and look for off-campus housing. Be sure to pay attention to when you can cancel without fee and when fees apply.