2020-2021
Guide to Room Selection
Important Room Selection Terminology

1. Housing Contract Card (the “pink” card) – Pre-printed card provided to each room selection eligible student living on-campus Spring Quarter.

2. House Lottery Number – Number that is used to determine the order students select rooms in the House Lottery; based on number of quarters lived in current House and enrolled in the College.

3. Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number – Number that is used to determine the order students select rooms in the Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General lotteries; based on number of quarters lived in housing and enrolled in the College. The same lottery number is used for all three of these lotteries.

4. House Percentage – Our goal is to design House communities with a mixture of first year and returning students. If the number of returning students in a House exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the total available beds in the House, additional spaces may not be made available in these Houses for the Hall & General lotteries.

5. Proxy - A current on-campus student who has written permission from another on-campus student or a student studying abroad Spring Quarter authorizing them to reserve a room for them because they are unable to attend a particular lottery.

6. Puller - A current on-campus student who has a better lottery number and will be pulling in one or more other students as room/suitmates to a multi-occupancy room.

7. Pullee - A student who gets pulled-in by an on-campus student with a better lottery number. A pull-in may or may not be living on-campus or come from within the same House.
General Information

The annual room selection process, also known as "The Lottery," occurs in early May and allows current on-campus students, students studying abroad in University-sponsored programs and students on leave who are approved to return by the Dean of Students in the College, to select their rooms and roommate(s) for the following academic year. Students are guaranteed a space in their current House for the next academic year, if they select a room during their scheduled House Lottery.

Eligible students who do not select a room during the room selection process will be offered housing on a space available basis in late summer after the first-year room assignment process has concluded. If on-campus housing can be offered, options will be limited, including the opportunity to return to their current House and/or residence hall.

Room selection consists of four (4) major processes:

1. **House Lottery** - for students who wish to return to their current House
2. **Woodlawn Residential Commons Sibling Lottery** – for students who wish to live in their sibling House in Woodlawn Residential Commons
3. **Hall Lottery** - for students who wish to change Houses within their current residence hall
4. **General Lottery** - for students who wish to change residence halls

Eligible students may choose to participate in one or more of the processes delineated above.

The policies and procedures governing the room selection process are outlined within this guide. Students are strongly encouraged to read through the entire guide, as well as ask questions when needed, especially if they have not previously participated in the lottery.

Housing & Residence Life reserves the right to institute changes to room selection policies and procedures as deemed necessary.

Residency Requirement

The University of Chicago has a 6-quarter residency requirement. Beginning with the class of 2023, all traditional first year students (have never attended college previously) are required to live on campus for their first six (6) quarters of enrollment. Summer quarters do not count towards the fulfillment of the residency requirement.

First year students who do not participate in room selection will be assigned to any available bed, in any House or residence hall, by Housing & Residence Life at the conclusion of room selection.

Room Selection Schedule

**House Lottery – Wednesday, May 6**

The House Lottery is for students who wish to remain in their current House, and it is by the House’s Resident Head(s). The time and location of the lottery may vary from residence hall to residence hall but will generally be consistent for all Houses within the same residence hall and will be posted in each House. Students may only participate in one House Lottery.
Woodlawn Residential Commons East Sibling Lottery – Monday, May 11, 7 PM
Location: Campus North Residential Commons, Classrooms 154 & 158

The Woodlawn Residential Commons East Sibling Lottery is for students currently living in a House that has been linked with one of the new Woodlawn Residential Commons East Houses (see below). Students select rooms in order of their Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Houses</th>
<th>New Woodlawn House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rogers, Snell, Wendt &amp; Woodward</td>
<td>Gallo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamberlin, DelGiorno, Graham, Linn-Mathews &amp; Phoenix</td>
<td>Fama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alper, Behar, Booth &amp; Breckinridge</td>
<td>Rustandy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crown, Hitchcock, Hoover &amp; Trott</td>
<td>Casner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathey, May, Shorey &amp; Strongin</td>
<td>Baker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Woodlawn Residential Commons West Sibling Lottery – Wednesday, May 13, 7 PM
Location: Campus North Residential Commons, Classrooms 154 & 158

The Woodlawn Residential Commons West Sibling Lottery is for students currently living in a House that has been linked with one of the new Woodlawn Residential Commons West Houses (see below). Students select rooms in order of their Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Houses</th>
<th>New Woodlawn House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Halperin, Thangaraj, Thompson &amp; Vincent</td>
<td>Han</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boyer, Keller, Rickert &amp; Salisbury</td>
<td>Chenn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coulter, Flint, Jannotta &amp; Yuen</td>
<td>Liew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodd-Mead, Dougan-Niklason, Kenwood &amp; Wallace</td>
<td>Markovitz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hall Lottery – Monday, May 18, 7 PM
Location: Campus North Residential Commons, Classrooms 154 & 158

The Hall Lottery is for students who wish to change Houses within their current residence hall. Students select rooms in order of their Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number. Available spaces are determined based on House percentages - not all Houses may be available. A communication will be sent to on-campus students on Friday, May 15, listing the Houses that will have spaces available.

General Lottery – Wednesday, May 20, 7 PM
Location: Campus North Residential Commons, Classrooms 154 & 158

The General Lottery is for students who wish to change residence halls. Students select rooms in order of their Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number. Available spaces are determined based on House percentages - not all Houses may be available. A communication will be sent to on-campus students on Tuesday, May 19, listing the Houses that will have spaces available.
Housing Contract Card

All students living on-campus Spring Quarter, who are not expected to graduate and students living on-campus Winter Quarter who will be studying abroad Spring Quarter, will receive a pre-printed housing contract card (the "pink" card) in their on-campus mailbox by Monday, April 27.

If a student does not receive their contract card or misplaces it, they MUST email Housing & Residence Life. Students should check their on-campus mailbox prior to emailing Housing & Residence Life. The deadline for issuing a replacement card is 5 PM on Wednesday, May 6. Replacement cards are not available during any lottery. Cards are non-transferable between students.

Students are required to turn in their contract card at the time they select a room, this is a binding contract with the University. Students who plan to participate in more than one lottery will have their contract card collected at the first lottery where they select a space and the card will be available at future lotteries, should they desire to change the assignment they previously selected.

⚠️ We strongly recommend placing the card in a safe place where it will not be lost. The card is a student's access to participate in any portion of room selection and students will not be permitted to participate without it.

⚠️ Students who are not subject to the residency requirement and are unsure if they wish to live on-campus next year, should not submit their contract card. Eligible students who do not select a room during the room selection process will be offered housing on a space available basis in late summer after the first-year room assignment process has concluded. If on-campus housing can be offered, options may be limited, including the opportunity to return to their current House and/or residence hall. Students are strongly encouraged to establish a back-up plan in the event on-campus housing cannot be offered.

Eligibility

Current Resident Students

Current full-time enrolled College students living on-campus Spring Quarter who will be continuing their enrollment for the following Autumn Quarter may participate in room selection.

Students Under 18 Years of Age

The legal age of majority in the state of Illinois is 18 years of age. Any student who has not reached 18 years of age prior to the start of room selection is required to obtain the signature of their parent/guardian on their contract card to participate in room selection. Students who will be under the age of 18 during room selection will receive their contract card in their campus mailbox by Friday, March 6. Students who do not expect to have their contract card returned before the start of room selection, must email Housing & Residence Life no later than 5 PM on Monday, April 27. Failure to contact Housing & Residence Life by this deadline will result in the student being unable to participate in room selection.

Students Studying Abroad Spring 2020

Students studying abroad in University-sponsored programs who wish to live on-campus for the following Autumn Quarter must designate a proxy to select their room for them. Proxies must be current resident students. Housing & Residence Life staff, including RHs & RAs, may not serve as proxies. Students must provide their proxy with their signed contract card and completed proxy form prior to room selection. Proxies must be present at the lottery with both documents. Students studying abroad during Spring Quarter will receive their contract card in their on-campus mailbox by Friday, March 6.
Students Studying Abroad Autumn 2020

Students who are committed to study abroad during Autumn Quarter should not participate in room selection, as they will not be living on-campus. These students will be contacted mid-Autumn Quarter with details for on-campus housing for Winter Quarter.

Students who have not finalized their decision to study abroad at the time of room selection and would like to live on-campus (or are subject to the residency requirement), must participate in room selection. Students who select a room and later commit to studying abroad will have their housing assignment automatically cancelled and re-assigned to another student by Housing & Residence Life.

Off-Campus Students

Current full-time enrolled College students living off-campus Spring Quarter may be pulled into a multi-occupancy space by another student who intends to live on-campus next year (click here for pull-in policies) or may submit a housing contract and will be assigned by Housing & Residence Life in late summer, if space is available. Off-campus students who intend to be pulled into a space by another student must complete and submit a housing contract to Housing & Residence Life no later than Friday, May 29. Students may obtain a contract by sending an email to Housing & Residence Life. Failure to return a completed housing contract by the above date will result in the cancellation of the student’s housing assignment.

Students on a Leave of Absence or Suspension

Students currently on a leave of absence or suspension may not independently participate in room selection. Students who have been approved to return by the Dean of Students (DOS) in the College for the following Autumn Quarter by Monday, March 30 may either be pulled into a multi-occupancy space by another student who intends to live on-campus next year (click here for pull-in policies) or elect a proxy to select a room on their behalf.

In order to select a housing assignment during room selection, the student on leave must:

1. Complete and submit a housing contract to Housing & Residence Life no later than Monday, March 30. Students may obtain a contract by sending an email to Housing & Residence Life.
2. Be approved to return for Autumn Quarter by the Dean of Students (DOS) in the College by Monday, March 30.
3. Coordinate with other students to be pulled into a multi-occupancy space or designate a proxy to select their room. More information about proxies can be found here.

Students currently on a leave of absence or suspension who have not been approved to return by the Dean of Students (DOS) in the College by Monday, March 30 may only be pulled into a multi-occupancy space by another student who intends to live on-campus next year (click here for pull-in policies).

In order to maintain their assignment, the student on leave must:

1. Complete and submit a housing contract to Housing & Residence Life no later than Friday, May 29. Students may obtain a contract by sending an email to Housing & Residence Life.
2. Be approved to return for Autumn Quarter by the Dean of Students (DOS) in the College. If Housing & Residence Life does not receive confirmation from the DOS by Friday, September 4, the student’s assignment will be automatically cancelled and re-assigned to another student by Housing & Residence Life.

Students who select a room during room selection and then take a leave of absence may retain the assignment they selected, provided they are approved to return for Autumn Quarter by the Dean of Student (DOS) in the College. If Housing & Residence Life does not receive confirmation from the DOS by Friday, September 4, their assignment will automatically be cancelled and re-assigned to another student by Housing & Residence Life.
Seniority Guidelines

Room selection order is determined by seniority. Please refer to the following section for how seniority calculations are determined.

House Lottery Seniority

Each student’s seniority is determined by 2 values: Number of Quarters in House & Number of Quarters in College. These values create House Lottery Cohorts or groups of students with the same seniority. Only regular academic year quarters are used to determine seniority – summer quarters, quarters earned while in high school, etc. are not applicable.

Housing & Residence Life will email eligible students on Monday, April 6 with a link to their House’s unrandomized seniority list. Each student is responsible for reviewing their seniority calculations for accuracy and communicating any questions or errors by sending an email to Housing & Residence Life. The deadline for submitting seniority calculation errors is Friday, April 10. Any errors identified after this date will not be corrected.

Housing & Residence Life will randomize the House Lottery Cohorts and assign each student a House Lottery Number which will be used to determine the order in which students select rooms during their House Lottery. Housing & Residence Life will email students on Monday, April 13 with a link to the House Lottery Number list. House Lottery Numbers are non-transferrable between students.

Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Seniority

Each student’s seniority is determined by 2 values: Number of Quarters in Housing & Number of Quarters in College. These calculations create Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Cohorts or groups of students with the same seniority. Only regular academic year quarters are used to determine seniority – summer quarters, quarters earned while in high school, etc. are not applicable.

Housing & Residence Life will randomize the Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Cohorts and assign each student a Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number, which will be used to determine the order in which students select rooms during the Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General lotteries. The same lottery number is used for each of these lotteries. Housing & Residence Life will email students on Monday, April 13 with a link to the Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number list. Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Numbers are non-transferrable between students.

Students Who Have Studied Abroad

Students who have studied abroad in a University-sponsored program during the current academic year will accrue one quarter each of House/housing and College seniority for each quarter they were abroad.

Students who were unable to return to their previous House due of lack of available space must email Housing & Residence Life no later than Monday, March 30 if they wish to be included on their previous House’s seniority list. In these cases, students will retain all seniority accrued in their previous House, including the quarters they lived in their current House. Failure to contact Housing & Residence Life by this deadline will result in student only being able to participate in their Spring Quarter House Lottery and only accruing seniority for their current House.

Students Who Have Taken a Leave of Absence

Students who return to their previous House after a leave of absence will retain all previously accrued House and College seniority prior to the start of their leave.

Students who were unable to return to their previous House due of lack of available space must email Housing & Residence Life no later than Monday, March 30 if they wish to be included on their previous House’s seniority list. In these cases, students will retain all seniority accrued in their previous House, including the quarters they lived in their current House. Failure to contact Housing & Residence Life by this deadline will result in student only being able to participate in their Spring Quarter House Lottery and only accruing seniority for their current House.

Off-Campus Students

Students who return to housing after living off-campus, for any length of time and for any reason, lose all previously accrued House/housing seniority.
Room Selection Policies

Housing Contract

Once a student submits their contract card during room selection, they are bound to the Terms & Conditions of Residency. Housing contracts are for an entire academic year (Autumn, Winter, and Spring Quarters). More information about housing contracts can be found here.

Assignment Confirmation

A student's housing assignment is not confirmed until they select a room and submit their housing contract and re-application card to your Resident Head or a Housing & Residence Life staff member during a lottery.

Changing Assignments

Students may change their housing assignment by participating in more than one process. Students may only hold one assignment at a time, therefore if a student selects a different room during a subsequent lottery, their previous housing assignment will be released and re-assigned to another student. The official record of assignments is the house chart used by Resident Heads and Housing & Residence Life staff to record student assignments during room selection. If there is a discrepancy between a contract card and the house chart, the assignment on the house chart will be considered to be the accurate assignment.

Proxy

Students unable to attend room selection in person may designate a proxy to select a room on their behalf. Proxies must be current resident students. Housing & Residence Life staff, including RHs & RAs may not serve as proxies. Students must provide their proxy with their signed contract card and completed proxy form prior to the lottery. Proxies must be present at the lottery with both documents. Housing & Residence Life will not accept proxy forms from prior years, nor handwritten notes, emails, text messages or other documents.

Non-Reservable Rooms

There are rooms in each residence hall physically designed for students who require specific housing accommodations. These spaces are not available during room selection but may be released and used for students who add themselves to the Summer General Waitlist, beginning Monday, June 8. Housing & Residence Life reserves the right to determine non-reservable rooms, which change from one academic year to the next.

Housing Accommodations

Housing & Residence Life will not provide specific accommodations to any student who does not have an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Students who have accommodations that are specifically for one academic year must have their accommodation reviewed and formally approved by Student Disability Services by Monday, March 23. Students who have accommodations that are standing or approved for the duration of their enrollment do not need to have their accommodations review prior to room selection, unless they are requesting a modification or revision of the accommodation.

Students with approved accommodations may only select from available spaces during room selection. Non-reservable rooms may not be selected by students with approved accommodations, but rather may be used if a student is unable to select a space that meets their approved accommodation(s). In cases where a student has approved housing accommodations and there is not a space that meets said accommodations, the student should select any available space and then email Housing & Residence Life to discuss options for changing their assignment to one that meets their approved accommodation(s). In some cases, this may result in a change of Houses or residence halls, depending on a student’s accommodation(s) and space availability.
Residence Hall & Room Type Guidelines

The following policies are applicable for specific buildings and room types:

Max Palevsky Residential Commons

Students must fill one side of double occupancy suites prior to being able to fill the other side. A student may not select a bed in one bedroom of the suite and pull-in a suitemate to the second bedroom without first having filled both beds in the first bedroom.

Apartments

Students must fill all beds within an apartment at the time they are selecting their assignment.

Pull-Ins

The following policies govern the pulling in of room/suitemates to multi-occupancy spaces. Students may pull in any student(s) eligible to live on-campus. Students being pulled in should be confident in their puller’s housing plans. If a puller changes their room at a subsequent lottery or otherwise leaves the College, the pullee’s housing contract is still valid and their room assignment may be changed. In these cases, it is the responsibility of the student being pulled in to contact Housing & Residence Life to verify if any changes will be made.

In cases where a current resident wishes to pull-in a student not already living in the same House, they are limited to pulling in one student.

Current Resident Student Pull-Ins

Pullees that are current resident students must be present with their puller and signed contract card at the lottery. If a pullee cannot attend, the must designate their puller as a proxy by providing their signed contract card and completed proxy form to their puller.

Leave of Absence Pull-Ins

Students who wish to pull-in another student who is on a leave of absence must notify their Resident Head or Housing & Residence Life staff at the time they are selecting their room. Pull-ins that are on a leave of absence must submit a signed housing contract to Housing & Residence Life by Friday, May 29. Students may obtain a contract by sending an email to Housing & Residence Life. The pullee’s assignment will not be confirmed until Housing & Residence Life has received their housing contract and notice from the Dean of Students (DOS) in the College approving their return. If Housing & Residence Life does not receive confirmation from the DOS by Friday, September 4, the pullee’s assignment will automatically be cancelled. In these cases, the vacancy will be re-assigned to another student by Housing & Residence Life.

Study Abroad Pull-Ins

Students who wish to pull-in another student who is studying abroad Spring Quarter must notify their Resident Head or Housing & Residence Life staff at the time they are selecting their room. The puller must present the pullee’s signed contract card and completed proxy form.

Off-Campus Pull-Ins

Students who wish to pull-in another student who is living off-campus must notify their Resident Head or Housing & Residence Life staff at the time they are selecting their room. Pulleees that are living off-campus must submit a signed housing contract to Housing & Residence Life by Friday, May 29. Students may obtain a contract by sending an email to Housing & Residence Life. The pullee’s assignment will not be confirmed until Housing & Residence Life has received their housing contract.

Remaining Vacancies

Any remaining vacancies in multi-occupancy rooms after the House Lottery will be offered at the Hall & General lotteries, where practical, before fully empty spaces. Available spaces are determined based on House percentages - not all Houses and residence halls may be available.
Open Housing

Open housing is the term used to refer to gender inclusive housing, where students regardless of biological sex reside within the same room/suite/apartment. This housing option is available to all students. Student must opt-in to open housing, meaning that no student will be required to live in open housing. Open housing is an option for all multi-occupancy rooms, except for those that are part of a designated single sex floor/wing.

The following guidelines govern open housing rooms:

1. Housing assignments are defaulted to single biological sex unless the students living in a specific room have specifically requested open housing and submitted an Open Housing Declaration to Housing & Residence Life.
2. The number of open housing spaces may change throughout the academic year as students change rooms or leave housing. Students living in a room that experiences a vacancy will be provided an opportunity to change the room from single sex to open housing or vice versa. All students living in the room must agree on any change to the designation of the room.
3. Students selecting rooms during the lottery who wish to designate their room as open housing must fill bed spaces at the time they are making their reservation and submit an Open Housing Declaration.
4. If a vacancy occurs in an open housing room between the end of the lotteries and the start of the next academic year, the remaining students will be contacted by Housing & Residence Life and given five (5) business days to fill the vacancy with another student. If they are unable to fill the vacancy, Housing & Residence Life reserves the right to re-assign any or all the remaining students to single sex rooms and/or convert that space to a single sex space.

Room & Board Rates

The 2020-2021 room and board rates are typically posted to the Housing & Residence Life website shortly before the start of room selection.

Meal Plans

Participation in the residential dining program is one of the fundamental cornerstones of community development in the Houses. A dining plan is required for all students who live on-campus. Students will be automatically be assigned the default meal plan for the room type they select during room selection:

- Single, double and triple occupancy rooms and suites: Unlimited Meal Plan
- Apartments: Apartment Meal Plan

Second, third, and fourth-year students may make changes to their meal plan during the first week of each quarter only. Meal plan upgrades or purchases of additional Maroon Dollars may be made at any time. All meal plan changes must be made through UChicago Dining. First-year students are required to be on the Unlimited Meal Plan.

More information on meal plan options, including information on how to change your plan can be found online.
Summer General Waitlist

Students who select a room during room selection, but wish to change their assignment, may add themselves to the Summer General Waitlist for potential moves during the summer months. The Summer General Waitlist will open on Monday, June 8 and close on Friday, June 28. Students may add themselves to the waitlist by logging into the myHousing portal.

Spaces used for waitlist moves may come from rooms that become available from students selecting another assignment during a phase of room selection, release of non-reservable rooms or vacancies from other students who take a leave of absence, transfer or withdraw from the University during the summer months. The seniority process used during room selection and previously outlined in this guide will be used to determine the re-assignment of spaces over the summer months. There is no guarantee that submitting a waitlist form will result in a change of assignment.

During the summer months, Housing & Residence Life will automatically re-assign waitlisted students, therefore students should regularly check the myHousing portal for any assignment changes. Students may not to a previous housing assignment back once an automatic move has been made. Room rates will automatically be updated for assignment changes made during the summer months.

The Academic Year General Waitlist will open Monday, September 28 and remain open until week 7 of Winter Quarter. The Summer General Waitlist will not carry over to the Academic Year General Waitlist.

Students may change their waitlist housing preferences at any time between June 8 and June 28. Once the waitlist has closed, edits cannot be made. If a student submits a waitlist form and later decide to remove themselves, they must email Housing & Residence Life.
Preparing for the Lottery

Below is a list of helpful tips to prepare for room selection:

 ✓ Read this guide.

☐ Put the dates and times of the lotteries in your calendar. House Lottery times and locations vary and will be posted in each House. Depending on the number of students participating, each lottery can be several hours long – plan accordingly. The lotteries begin on time and students who arrive late go to the end of the process, regardless of their lottery number.

☐ Plan for room selection by determining where and with whom you’d like to live. Have a few options going into room selection in case your preferred room or room type isn’t available. Now is also the time to talk with friends about their plans and pull-in options.

☐ Make sure you have received your housing contract card. This card will be put in your on-campus mailbox by Monday, April 27.

☐ Sign your contract card and put it in a safe place (we recommend leaving it in your mailbox). If you do not receive a contract card or misplace your card, you must email Housing & Residence Life. The deadline for issuing a replacement card is 5 PM on Wednesday, May 6. Replacement cards are not available during any lottery and you will not be able to select a room without your card.

☐ Give proxy your signed contract card and proxy form. For students studying abroad Spring Quarter or who are unable to attend a lottery.

For Each Lottery Process

☐ Be on time with your signed contract card. No contract card – no room assignment! If you plan to participate in more than one lottery, your contract card will be collected at the first lottery where you select a space and will be available at future lotteries, should you desire to change the assignment you previous selected.

☐ Check-in. Be sure you are accounted for by touching base with the staff member managing check-in. Remember that if you are pulling in other resident students they must be present too (or you must have their signed contract card and proxy form).

☐ Select your room. Once your lottery number is called, you will be given up to 2 minutes to select your room. You must submit your contract card when selecting a room. If you plan to participate in more than one lottery, your contract card will be collected at the first lottery where you select a space and will be available at future lotteries, should you desire to change the assignment you previous selected. Remember that submitting your contract card means you are entering into a legally and financially binding contract with the University for the entire academic year.

☐ Breathe a sigh of relief & celebrate. We’re happy you’re living on-campus again – we hope you are too!

Over the Summer

☐ Check the myHousing portal for confirmation of your assignment. This is especially important if you add yourself to the Summer General Waitlist.
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What do I need to do to live on-campus next year?**
   - Make sure you have your contract card (the “pink” card)
   - Create a plan for selecting your room – where do you want to live, who do you want to live with? Have a few options going into room selection in case your preferred room or room type isn’t available
   - Attend one or more of the lotteries

2. **I am a first-year student. Am I required to live on-campus next year?**
   
   Yes. The University of Chicago has a 6-quarter residency requirement. Beginning with the class of 2023, all traditional first year students (have never attended college previously) are required to live on campus for their first six (6) quarters of enrollment.

   First-year students who do not participate in room selection will be assigned to any available bed, in any House or residence hall, by Housing & Residence Life at the conclusion of room selection.

3. **I didn't receive or lost my contract card. What do I do?**
   
   First, check your on-campus mailbox. If you do not receive your contract card by Monday, April 27 or misplace your card, you must email Housing & Residence Life. The deadline for issuing a replacement card is 5 PM on Wednesday, May 6. Replacement cards are not available at any lottery. You must have your contract card to participate in any portion of room selection.

4. **Can I cancel my assignment after I submit my housing contract card?**
   
   Once your contract card is submitted during room selection, you are bound to the Terms & Conditions of Residency. Housing contracts are for an entire academic year (Autumn, Winter and Spring Quarters). More information about housing contracts can be found here.

   Students who are planning to designate a proxy to select a room on their behalf are still bound to their housing contract.

5. **How is my seniority determined?**
   
   Seniority calculations vary slightly depending on the lottery:
   - House Lottery: *Number of Quarters in House & Number of Quarters in College*
   - Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery: *Number of Quarters in Housing & Number of Quarters in College*

6. **When do I receive my lottery numbers?**
   
   You will receive an email with a link to both your House Lottery Number and your Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number on Monday, April 13.

7. **I'm studying abroad Autumn Quarter but want to live on-campus when I return. What do I do?**
   
   Students who are committed to study abroad during Autumn Quarter should not participate in room selection, as they will not be living on-campus. These students will be contacted mid-Autumn Quarter with details for on-campus housing for Winter Quarter.

8. **I like my current room. Can I keep it for next year?**
   
   Maybe. If your current room is available when your House Lottery Number is called, you are welcome to re-reserve it for next year, however we do not guarantee that you will be able to return to your same assignment.
9. I want to pull-in a friend to live with me. How do I do that?

Depending on your friend’s status (i.e. living on-campus, off-campus, on a leave, etc.), the process may be different. Additionally, certain residence halls and room types have policies governing pull-ins. Click here for pull-in policies.

10. I currently live in Vue53 or Stony Island and want to live on-campus next year. What are my options?

With the opening of Woodlawn Residential Commons this fall, the existing Vue53 and Stony Island Houses will be relocated there. Residents of these Houses may select a space within their new House Woodlawn Residential Commons House during the House Lottery.

Students may also choose to be pulled into one of the other new Woodlawn House communities by a resident from an existing House that has been linked with it or can select a space during the Hall or General lotteries. More information on the House linking can be found here.

11. I want to live in Woodlawn Residential Commons next year. How do I choose a room there?

Each existing House, except for Vue53 & Stony Island, has been thoughtfully linked by Housing & Residence Life with one of the new Houses of Woodlawn Residential Commons. In doing so, our hope is to create connection between these communities in the inaugural opening of this residence hall. We are excited to see the activities and traditions that will evolve with these new Houses and hope you will want to be part of building that foundation that makes each of our Houses distinct.

To select a room in Woodlawn, you can attend the Woodlawn Residential Commons Sibling Lottery for the House that your current House has been linked with. More information on the House linking can be found here. You can also work with friends to be pulled into a different House of Woodlawn, if desired. Your Woodlawn Sibling, Hall & General Lottery Number will determine the order in which you select a room in your sibling House.

12. I really want to live in another hall or House. What should I do?

Students living on-campus during the Spring Quarter are guaranteed a space in their current House for the next academic year, if they select a room during their House Lottery.

Eligible students may choose to participate in one or more of the processes outlined within this guide. The availability of spaces at the Hall & General lotteries is determined based on building quota - not all Houses and residence halls may be available. A communication will be sent to on-campus students prior to each lottery outlining the Houses that will have spaces available.

If you would be happy to return to your current House if there isn’t availability in your preferred hall or House during the Woodlawn, Hall or General lotteries, you should participate in your House Lottery.

13. I’m not sure if I want to live on-campus next year. Should I participate in the lottery?

If you are not subject to the residency requirement and are unsure if you wish to live on-campus next year, do not submit your contract card. Once your contract card is submitted during room selection, you are bound to the Terms & Conditions of Residency. Housing contracts are for an entire academic year (Autumn, Winter, and Spring Quarters).

Eligible students who do not select a room during the room selection process will be offered housing on a space available basis in late summer after the first-year room assignment process has concluded. If on-campus housing can be offered, options may be limited, including the opportunity to return to your current House. Students are strongly encouraged to establish a back-up plan in the event on-campus housing cannot be offered.

14. I might be late to or not be able to attend the lottery. What should I do?

The lotteries begin on time and students who arrive late go to the end of the process, regardless of their lottery number. Put the dates and times of the lotteries in your calendar now.

Students unable to attend a lottery in person may designate a proxy to select a room on their behalf. Proxies must be current resident students. Housing & Residence Life staff, including RHs & RAs may not serve as proxies. Students must provide their proxy with their signed contract card and completed proxy form prior to the lottery. Your proxy must be present at the lottery with both documents.
15. Not all the spaces in the room I selected were filled. What happens next?

Vacancies in partially filled rooms may be filled in several different ways:

- Selected by another student during a subsequent lottery;
- Assigned to a student from the Summer General Waitlist;
- Assigned to a student returning from a leave of absence or study abroad experience;
- Assigned to an incoming first-year or exchange student

Be sure to visit the myHousing portal frequently during the summer for any updates to your roommates.

16. One of my roommates is taking a leave of absence. What will happen to the vacancy in my room?

While not common, occasionally a student will participate in room selection and later choose or be placed on a leave of absence for the following Autumn Quarter or academic year. In these cases, we expect that the student communicates this change with any students they were planning to live with, as Housing & Residence Life cannot share those details with other students. The remaining student(s) in the room will be contacted via their UChicago email during the summer months and afforded a 48-hour window to identify another student who participated in room selection that they would like to pull-in to fill the vacancy. Students who do not exercise their pull-in rights or follow the procedures outlined within the communication sent, will have the vacancy filled through one of the means listed in the previous question above. It is the responsibility of students to be regularly monitoring their UChicago email account, including their Quarantine, over the summer months.

17. I selected a room but would like to change my housing assignment. What should I do?

You may participate in the Woodlawn Sibling, Hall or General lotteries or add yourself to the Summer General Waitlist.

18. Am I required to have a meal plan while living on-campus?

Yes. A dining plan is required for all students who live on-campus. Students will be automatically be assigned the default meal plan for the room type they select during room selection:

- Single, double and triple occupancy rooms and suites: Unlimited Meal Plan
- Apartments: Apartment Meal Plan

19. I didn’t participate in room selection but want to live on-campus. Is it too late?

If you are not subject to the residency requirement, did not select a room during room selection and wish to live on-campus, email Housing & Residence Life. Eligible students who do not select a room during the room selection process will be offered housing on a space available basis in late summer after the first-year room assignment process has concluded. If on-campus housing can be offered, options may be limited, including the opportunity to return to your current House.

20. When will I receive confirmation of my housing assignment?

Your assignment is not confirmed until you select a room and submit your housing contract and re-application card to your Resident Head or a Housing & Residence Life staff member during a lottery.

Students who participated in room selection will be able to view their assignment details on the myHousing portal by Monday, June 8.

21. I have different question. Who should I contact?

Connect with a Housing & Residence Life staff member at one of our room selection pop-up events, email us or stop by the Housing & Residence Life office (Campus North Residential Commons, Suite 110) during normal business hours, M-F, 8:30 AM – 5 PM; closed daily from 12-1 PM and on Wednesdays from 12-2 PM. Please allow up to 48 business hours for us to respond to all email inquiries.