



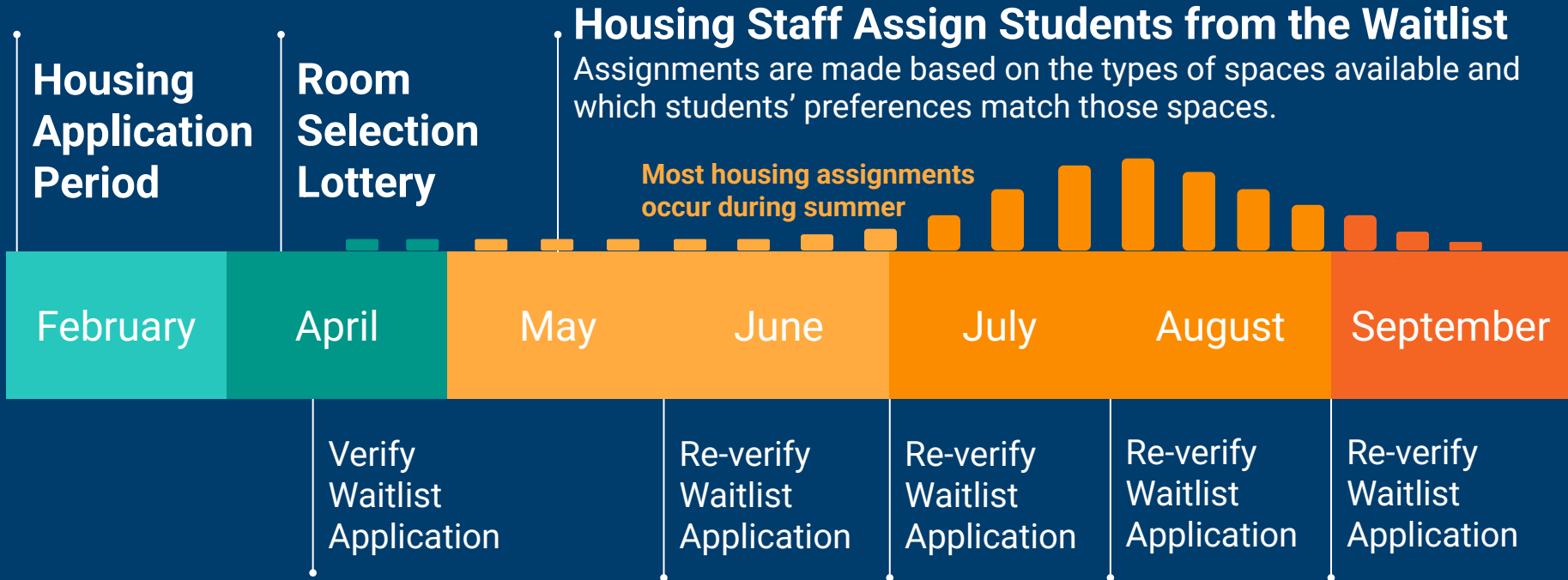
# Continuing Student Housing Application and Room Selection

College, Housing and Educational Services

UC SANTA CRUZ

Division of  
Student Affairs and Success

# Fall 2025 Continuing Student Housing Process Timeline



# Continuing Student Housing Planning Guide



Designed to help you explore your options, answer common questions, and provide personalized guidance tailored to your specific situation

**Scan for Planning Guide** ▶



# Eligibility

**To be eligible for the Room Selection Lottery you must meet both of the following conditions:**

1. Continuously live in university housing during Winter 2025 and Spring 2025 quarters.\*
2. Re-apply for Fall 2025 university housing during the February 18–25 housing application period.

\*Students currently studying abroad/away or on an approved leave of absence who lived in university housing immediately before their approved leave or study abroad/away program are also eligible if they apply on-time.

# If you are not eligible for the lottery:

- You are encouraged to apply and your application will be on the waitlist.
- After completing your housing application, you can add more room options, including those at other communities.
- There are 70+ room options if you consider all room types (triple, quad, double, single, etc.) at all communities (every college, University Town Center, and The Village).
- Maximize your chances of being assigned housing by including all the room types and communities you agree to accept.

# Housing Application Period

**February 18–25**

- Apply in the Housing Portal  
**[studenthousing.ucsc.edu](http://studenthousing.ucsc.edu)**
- Apply anytime during this 8-day period, as long as you **complete your application by February 25**  
(11:59 p.m. Pacific Time, deadline strictly enforced)



# Housing Application Period

## February 18–25







On your application...

- Select the **one community** you wish to apply to.
- **Roommate groups**: coordinate with friends you hope to live with — you **each must apply to the same community**.
- Roommate group members are **not** needed for the application in February, but need to be set up in the Housing Portal before the Room Selection Lottery in April.

# Housing Application Period

## February 18–25

The **community** you apply to affects which room selection pass(es) you will be invited to:

Apply to ↓	1st Pass	2nd Pass*
Your <b>affiliated college</b>		
<b>The Village</b> or <b>University Town Center</b>		
A different college		

**\*Important:** Eligible students who don't select a space during 1st Pass will be invited to 2nd Pass if it is held. 2nd Pass will only take place if spaces remain available for the Room Selection Lottery.



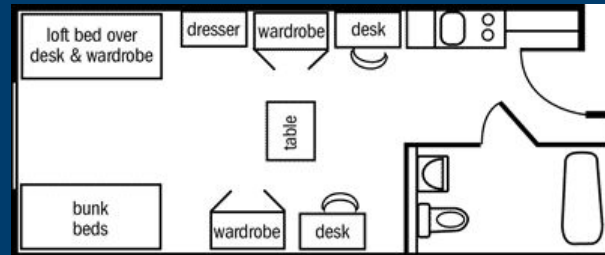
# Housing Options

# College Housing

**More information about housing options at each college is available on the college website or by contacting the Housing Coordinator.**

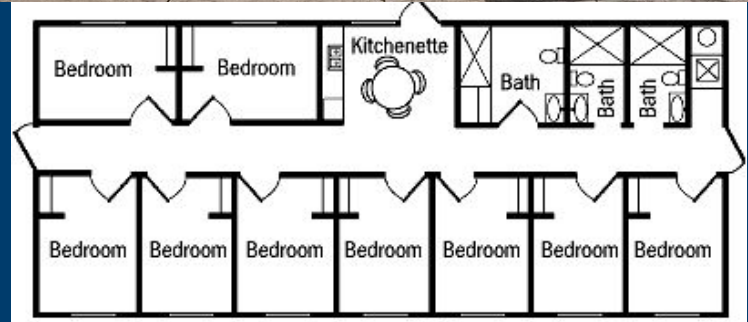
# University Town Center

- **Located in downtown Santa Cruz** near the Metro bus station.
- Double and Triple occupancy **studio apartments** with private bathrooms and kitchenettes.
- **Meal plan** is not required.
- Large **TV lounge, computer/study area, and laundry room** on site.
- Available to students of all college affiliations.
- Learn more: [housing.ucsc.edu/utc](https://housing.ucsc.edu/utc)



# The Village

- **Located in UCSC's Lower Quarry** on the east side of campus.
- Each building has a **combination of 4 single and 5 small double rooms**, three bathrooms, and one kitchenette.
- **Meal plan** is not required.
- Available to students of all college affiliations.
- During the Room Selection Lottery students may participate individually or as a 2-person group to select a room.
- Learn more: [housing.ucsc.edu/village](https://housing.ucsc.edu/village)



# Campuswide Theme Housing

- **ABC Themed Housing**
- **International Living Center (ILC)**
- **Native American/Indigenous Themed Housing**
- **Substance Free Recovery Housing**
- **Trans-Inclusive Housing**

- **Apply to a residential community:** This can be your affiliated college, another college, University Town Center, or The Village.
- **Complete the required supplemental theme application included within the housing application.**
- **Students accepted into one of these theme options will be assigned housing before the Room Selection Lottery**
- **If not accepted into a theme option, eligible students can still participate in the Room Selection Lottery**

# ABC Themed Housing

- Located at Cowell College, Stevenson College, Oakes College, Rachel Carson College, College Nine, and John R. Lewis College
- For **students whose interests span historical, present-day, and future experiences of predominantly African, Black, and Caribbean peoples**
- Available to students of all college affiliations
- Learn more: [housing.ucsc.edu/abc-theme](https://housing.ucsc.edu/abc-theme)



# International Living Center

- The International Living Center (ILC) is a **thriving community of residents from around the world** (approximately 40 different countries).
- Founded on the belief that the best way to foster international understanding, is through working, living, studying, and socializing with people from different backgrounds.
- **Located in the College Nine and John R. Lewis College apartments**
- Available to students of all college affiliations
- Learn more at: **[collegenine.ucsc.edu](http://collegenine.ucsc.edu)**



# Native American/Indigenous Themed Housing

- Native American/Indigenous Themed Housing (NAITH) is a community intended to create a supportive, home-away-from-home environment for Indigenous students and their allies, and to develop future Indigenous leaders.
- Located at Porter College.
- Learn more: [housing.ucsc.edu/naith](https://housing.ucsc.edu/naith)





# Substance Free Recovery Housing

- UCSC's Substance Free Recovery Housing offers **students in recovery, and 100% committed to living completely substance free**, the opportunity to live together in community.
- Located in the **Cowell College** apartments
- Available to students of all college affiliations
- Learn more:  
**[housing.ucsc.edu/substance-free-recovery](https://housing.ucsc.edu/substance-free-recovery)**



# Trans-Inclusive Housing

- Intended to create a safer/supportive living space for **transgender and non-binary\* students, students exploring their gender identities, and their allies**
- Located in the **Redwood Grove** apartments
- Available to students of all college affiliations
- Learn more: [housing.ucsc.edu/trans-inclusive](https://housing.ucsc.edu/trans-inclusive)



*\* Including people who identify with many gender-based labels, including but not limited to transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, agender, demigender, two-spirit, bigender, genderfluid, and pangender.*



# Residence Hall Options

# Continuing Student Areas

Residence hall rooms are configured primarily as triples, with a limited number of other room types (singles, doubles, quads, quints, etc.)

# Residence Hall Meal Plans

- Students living in residence halls are required to have a meal plan
- If you select or are assigned to a space in a residence hall, a meal plan will be included with your housing contract



# Apartment Options

# Apartment Configurations

**More information about housing options at each college is available on the college website or by contacting the Housing Coordinator.**

# Room Selection & Assignment



# Preassignment **March 6–April 2**

**Before the housing lottery begins**, housing staff assign the following students:

- Resident Assistant (RA)/Neighborhood Assistant (NA)
- Students accepted to a **campus-wide theme** (ABC Themed Housing, ILC, Native American/Indigenous Themed Housing, Substance Free Recovery Housing, Trans-inclusive housing)
- Students with a **documented disability-related accommodation** for a specific type of housing (must be renewed annually)

# Room Selection Lottery **April 8–10**

- **The Room Selection Lottery takes place in two passes** and gives eligible students an equal chance to participate, and to potentially pick their housing for next year.
- **Randomly generated start times** are emailed to all eligible students in advance of each pass.



# Room Selection Lottery **April 8–10**



- Roommate groups who can **completely fill an apartment or residence hall room** will have the earliest opportunity to select a space.
- The process also gives precedence to students who apply to live at their **affiliated college**.

# Room Selection Lottery **April 8–10**

- The **housing lottery is based on space availability at the time a student logs in**, with fewer options as other students complete their selections. Unfortunately, space availability is not certain.
- **To maximize your chances, participate in 1st Pass**, either individually or as part of a group.

# Room Selection Lottery

## 1st Pass: Community Pass

**April 8** (lottery times emailed April 3)

### Who can participate?

- Students who applied to live at their **affiliated college, University Town Center, or The Village.**
- Only students who are **college affiliates receive lottery times**, but affiliates can form groups with non-affiliates who applied to the same community.

# Room Selection Lottery

## 1st Pass: Community Pass

### What spaces are available?

- Available spaces at the college/community you applied to.
- **To select a space during 1st Pass, a student or group must completely fill the available space** (e.g., all spaces in a residence hall room or all rooms in an apartment).

# Room Selection Lottery

## 1st Pass: Community Pass

What spaces are available?

- **For groups:** Housing that exactly matches the size and gender makeup of your roommate group. For example, a 6-person apartment for you and five housemates.
- **For individuals:** Single residence hall rooms.

# Room Selection Lottery

## 2nd Pass: Campuswide Pass

**April 10** (lottery times emailed April 9) - *2nd Pass only occurs if housing remains after 1st Pass*

### Who can participate?

- Eligible students who have not yet been assigned housing will be issued lottery times for 2nd Pass. Affiliation or where you applied for housing does not matter.

### What spaces are available?

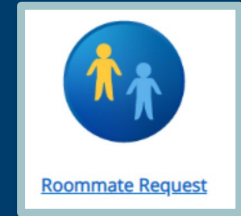
- Any remaining housing at any community. If 2nd Pass is held, only a limited number of spaces for individuals or small groups are likely to be available.



# Room Selection Lottery

## Roommate Groups

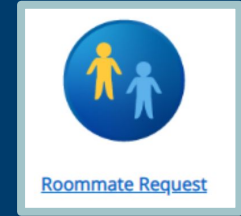
- Students must first **apply for the same community** in order **to form a group**.
- To form a group, or to make changes to your group, access the **Roommate Request** process in the Housing Portal.



# Room Selection Lottery

## Roommate Groups

- Designate the person in your group with the **earliest lottery time as your group leader**.
- By joining a roommate group you are **authorizing the group leader to select your housing** and agreeing to **accept that person's decision as final**.



# Room Selection Lottery

## Roommate Groups

- **Have a plan—and backup plans!** Talk to your group ahead of time about what types of rooms each person is willing to accept and who will share a room with whom.
- Some space types are highly sought after, but have limited availability, such as apartments and single rooms. **If your preferred space isn't available, move on to your backup plans.**

# How Gender Affects Room Assignments

- A student's gender designation in the MyUCSC portal plays a role in determining their room and roommate assignment.
- In most cases, students are assigned roommates of the same gender.

MyUCSC Value	Definition	Housing Portal Value
<b>Female (F)</b>	Female   Trans Female   Trans Woman	<b>Female</b>
<b>Male (M)</b>	Male   Trans Male   Trans Man	<b>Male</b>
<b>Nonbinary (X)*</b>	Nonbinary   Genderqueer   Gender NonConforming   Different Identity	* In the Housing Portal these values are represented as <b>Nonbinary/Different Identity</b>
<b>Unspecified (U)*</b>	Unspecified   Decline to State   Unreported	

# How Gender Affects Room Assignments

- Students may **view and update their gender information through MyUCSC ([my.ucsc.edu](https://my.ucsc.edu))**. Changes made in MyUCSC are updated in the Housing Portal within 24 hours.
- **Important:** During room selection, if you have a hold on a space and are having difficulty completing a selection because of a gender designation issue, contact your Housing Coordinator for assistance.
- For more information, visit: **[housing.ucsc.edu/gender](https://housing.ucsc.edu/gender)** or **contact your Housing Coordinator**.

# After the Lottery: Housing Waitlist

- At the conclusion of the Room Selection Lottery, **any student who has not selected a room will have their application placed on the housing waitlist.**
- Housing staff work **throughout the spring and summer** to accommodate as many students as possible.



# Housing Waitlist

- Housing Coordinators will first work to assign any waitlisted **Resilient Scholars, Regent Scholars, Sabatte Scholars**, and **students with disability-related accommodations** issued by the Disability Resource Center (DRC).
- Additional students will be assigned **on a space-available basis**.



# Waitlist Management

- **Your waitlist application represents your interest** in being assigned housing, and the more options you include, the more opportunities it gives housing staff to try to find a space for you!
- Update the room preferences in your housing application to **include all the room types** you agree to accept.





# Waitlist Management

- **Waitlist applicants are required to periodically re-verify their interest in university housing** in order to keep their application active on the housing waitlist.
- When re-verification is due, you will be notified via UCSC email to return to your application in the Housing Portal to affirm your interest.



# Waitlist reminders

- **Be patient.** We cannot predict when or what type of spaces may become available.
- If a **space matching one of your room preferences** becomes available, you will be assigned to the space. You will not receive notification prior to being assigned, but a confirmation email will be sent to your UCSC email once you've been assigned housing.



# Cancellation Policy

[studenthousing.ucsc.edu](http://studenthousing.ucsc.edu)

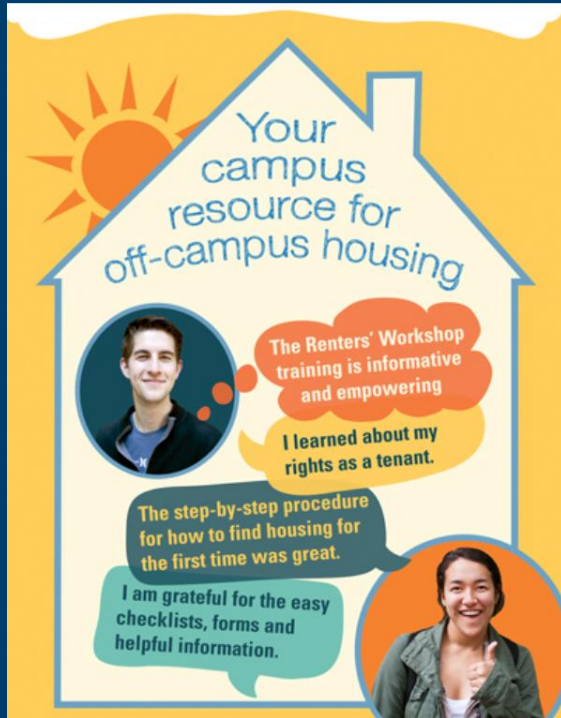
## Important!

- It is **your responsibility to cancel your application** via the Housing Portal if you are no longer interested in university housing.
- Cancel immediately if you find off-campus housing, are accepted into an exchange program, or do not plan to attend UCSC.
- There is **no fee for canceling a waitlist application**.
- There is a **fee for canceling an assigned housing space**.

Cancellation Date	Cancellation Fee
On or before July 1	\$150.00
July 2 through August 1	\$250.00
August 2 or after	\$350.00

# Off-campus Housing Resources

[communityrentals.ucsc.edu](http://communityrentals.ucsc.edu)



## Take the **Renters Workshop** and learn about:

- Maximizing your search
- Preparing an impressive Rental Application Packet
- Tenants' rights and responsibilities
- Security deposit do's and don'ts
- Optimizing your living experience with housemates, landlords, and neighbors

# Off-campus Housing Resources

communityrentals.ucsc.edu

## Housing Search Timeline and Checklist

- Create a **search strategy**
- **Prepare** for your search
- **Search** for housing
- Do these things **before** you move in

### First steps



#### Create your search strategy

It's never too early to take these important first steps.

- Take the free, online [Renters Workshop](#), and receive a Certificate of Completion to show landlords you are a knowledgeable prospective tenant.
- Familiarize yourself with [average rental costs](#) and determine your housing budget.
- Consider where in the Santa Cruz area you want to focus your search, and look into [transportation to campus](#).
- Think about [who you want to live with](#), and start networking. You never know who will have information about a place to rent unless you ask!



### February – March



#### Prepare for your search

Very few rental listings will be posted this early, but there's a lot you can do to prepare.

- Create your [Rental Application Packet](#). If you're searching with a housemate group, work on your packet together.
- Submit a [Reference Release Form](#). This quick online step authorizes university housing staff to serve as your rental reference if you have previously lived in campus housing – find the form under "Releases" on the Housing Portal.
- Familiarize yourself with [Places4Students](#), UCSC's rental listings partner.



# Off-campus Housing Resources

[communityrentals.ucsc.edu](http://communityrentals.ucsc.edu)

**Places4Students.com**

UCSC's free rental listing site

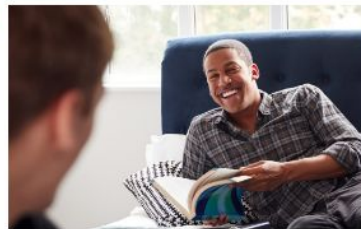


## What Can I Do On Places4Students?



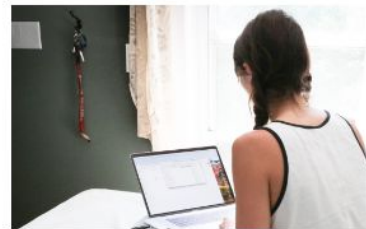
### Search Rental Listings

- Filter your search by number of bedrooms and type of property.
- Map feature shows distance from campus.
- Set up a **Smart Search** to find listings that match your preferences and get an email when new listings are posted.



### Find Roommates

- Post your own Roommate Profile and describe what you are looking for.
- Browse profiles of other UCSC students looking for housemates.
- Find a roommate or a group to search with.



### Search for Sublets

- Search spaces available by students, for students, often in a shared living space.
- Need to find housing fast? Search for a short-term sublet available when you need it.
- Have a space available for rent? Advertise your sublet to other UCSC students.

# Tips for Students Seeking Off-campus Housing

- ❑ **Talk to friends about your plans...**many students find housing by word of mouth!
- ❑ **Search listings on the [Places4Students.com](https://www.places4students.com)** rental listing site. You can also create a Roommate Profile and begin searching for roommates using the Roommate Finder feature.
- ❑ Additional listings will be added, typically around 30 days before the rental is available for move-in.

# Review

...



# Reminder!

**Housing Application Period**

**February 18–25**

Apply at **[studenthousing.ucsc.edu](https://studenthousing.ucsc.edu)**

# Questions?

- The [Continuing Student Housing web page](https://housing.ucsc.edu/continuing) has more information: [housing.ucsc.edu/continuing](https://housing.ucsc.edu/continuing)
- The [Continuing Student Housing Planning Guide](#) is designed to help you explore your options, answer common questions, and provide personalized guidance tailored to your specific situation. **Scan for Planning Guide ►**
- [Contact](#) your Housing Coordinator

