Contents

3 ON-CAMPUS LIVING

4 POLICIES & INFORMATION

6 2018-2019 HOUSING RATES

7 2018-2019 MEAL PLAN RATES

8 APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS
   Step 1: Apply
   Step 2: Group
   Step 3: Select

12 HOUSING OPTIONS
   Rising Sophomore Housing
   Rising Upperclass Housing
On-Campus Living

Process Overview and Timeline

Returning Student Room Selection (RSRS) at American University is an online process that provides eligible returning undergraduate residents the opportunity to select their housing for the next academic year.

There are three steps for the 2018-2019 process. To live on campus, you must complete all three steps by their respective deadlines.

**Step 1: Apply.** Complete the online housing application and Housing License Agreement at [www.american.edu/housing](http://www.american.edu/housing) by **Friday, January 26, 2018 at 5 p.m. EST, no exceptions.**

**Step 2: Group.** Students must create or join a group by Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 5 p.m. EST, no exceptions. **This step is required for everyone,** including individual students (groups of one) and groups of two or more.

**Step 3: Select.** Select your space or verify the space selected by the group leader between February 27-March 1 and March 6-8, 2018. Specific dates and times for selection will be assigned and communicated to students.

Visit [www.american.edu/housing](http://www.american.edu/housing) for all information. Email roomselection@american.edu with questions or call 202-885-3370.

Students who miss the Step 1 or Step 2 deadline are not eligible to continue to the next step of the process. Their only option is to submit a waitlist application, after which they are placed on a list to await openings that match their room type preferences. Students are notified by email between April and August if a space can be offered. Historically, all students who are on the waitlist have been offered on-campus housing by August 1.

Stay in the Know

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 18</td>
<td>Information session in MGC 200 and on Facebook Live</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>Tabling in Anderson Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 25</td>
<td>Tabling in Letts Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>Twitter chat with @HomeAtAU using #AUselectionchat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 22</td>
<td>Webinar, link emailed February 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 1</td>
<td>Twitter chat with @HomeAtAU using #AUselectionchat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More opportunities coming up! Stay updated on social media @HomeAtAU.
Who can participate?

RSRS is for undergraduate students currently living in AU-affiliated housing, students currently studying abroad, and students currently on a leave of absence.

It is not available to graduate students, students who currently live off campus, or have more than eight (8) semesters in on-campus housing.

What is my classification and why does it matter?

Residential classification is the labeling system used to define a student’s guarantee of housing and their eligibility for certain housing locations. It is determined by the number of semesters a student has lived in on-campus housing at AU (not including summer) or were abroad. It has no relationship to any academic program, standing, or count of credit hours.

What does it mean for transfer students who started in fall 2017 or spring 2018? Transfer students can be guaranteed housing by participating in RSRS with a sophomore classification, but are only eligible for sophomore spaces (see Housing Options section). They may contact HRL via email by February 1 to be reclassified as an upperclass student with access to different locations, but will no longer be guaranteed housing. Requests should be emailed to roomselection@american.edu.

All-Gender Housing Options

Students have the option within their housing application to indicate interest in selecting a roommate(s) without regard to sex, gender, gender identity, or gender expression. They will be able to select from living units designated as “All-Gender” with a vacancy or create a new living unit with this designation. Groups that are created with a variety of gender identities will automatically have this designation. This option is opt-in only. All other students will be directed to room options based on their birth gender on file with the University.

Disability Related Housing Accommodations

Some students may need to meet additional deadlines related to their housing needs. In addition to the Step 1, 2, and 3 deadlines, students who would like to request housing accommodations based on a disability must meet the Academic Support and Access Center (ASAC) accommodation deadline on February 2. Students should initiate this process through the ASAC Disability Related Housing Accommodation Process page. The ASAC can also be reached by emailing asac@american.edu or calling 202-885-3360.

Consolidation Policy

HRL may enact a consolidation policy for 2018-2019 to maximize use of all housing spaces. Once room selection is completed, any returning resident in a bedroom that is not filled is subject to consolidation with other returning residents. HRL will make an effort to keep consolidated residents in their buildings.
Alcohol Policy

Resident students who are 21 years of age or older and living in a housing unit (defined as a room, suite, or apartment) where all other assigned students are 21 years of age or older may possess, consume, and distribute alcohol (to other individuals who are also 21 years of age or older) within their living unit. The policy will continue for the 2018-2019 academic year. The consumption of alcohol in residence halls, by individuals that are 21 years of age or older, is permitted pursuant to the pilot residence hall alcohol policy. See full policy in section 9E and F of your housing agreement.

Cancellation/Termination

A housing assignment is finalized when a space is selected or assigned by a designated group leader, oneself, or HRL. Once a student receives a confirmation email with an assignment, their housing agreement is active and cancellation fees and policies go into effect. Fees start at $500 and increase periodically. See your emailed copy of the housing agreement for full information.

Room Change Requests

Requests for assignment changes will be received and reviewed after the first two weeks of fall classes in September. Once a housing assignment has been selected, it will only be cancelled as a result of a cancellation or termination request.

Studying abroad for Spring 2018 or Fall 2019?

For Spring 2018: Students abroad for the spring are eligible to return to on-campus housing for the fall 2018 semester and are given priority over waitlist students by participating in RSRS. Abroad students will receive all emailed communications related to the process and must participate in all required steps to secure housing. It is not recommended that students abroad be designated as the group leader.

For Fall 2018: If a student has confirmed plans to be abroad for the fall 2018 semester, they should not participate in RSRS. By participating they may prevent other students from securing on-campus housing and may cause challenges for selection if they group and/or select then cancel. If a student does not yet have confirmed plans, there is no cancellation fee if housing is secured and cancelled, as long as documentation of going abroad is provided.

Waitlist for Students who Missed Step 1 or 2

The waitlist application opens at 12 p.m. on February 31 for any student who missed the Step 1 deadline on the HRL website. No exceptions will be granted for missing the Step 1 or Step 2 deadlines. The waitlist application will be a student’s next opportunity to pursue on-campus housing, although housing will not be guaranteed.
# 2018-2019 Housing Rates

## Housing Rates (per person, per semester)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Buildings</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional triple</td>
<td>Hughes, McDowell</td>
<td>$3,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional double</td>
<td>Hughes, McDowell</td>
<td>$4,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double, suite style (bathroom, living room)</td>
<td>Cassell</td>
<td>$5,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double, private bathroom</td>
<td>Congressional, Constitution, Federal</td>
<td>$5,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double, apartment style (bathroom, living room, kitchen)</td>
<td>Nebraska, McDowell suites</td>
<td>$5,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional single</td>
<td>Hughes, McDowell</td>
<td>$6,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single, private bathroom</td>
<td>Congressional, Constitution, Federal</td>
<td>$7,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single, suite style (bathroom, living room)</td>
<td>Cassell</td>
<td>$7,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single, apartment (bathroom, living room, kitchen)</td>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>$7,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double, studio apartment</td>
<td>Berkshire Apartments</td>
<td>$6,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double, small 1-bedroom apartment</td>
<td>Berkshire Apartments</td>
<td>$6,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double, med/large 1-bedroom apartment</td>
<td>Berkshire Apartments</td>
<td>$7,687</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All rates are inclusive of the $18 per person, per semester residence hall programming fee.

For housing questions, contact Housing & Residence Life. Visit [www.american.edu/housing](http://www.american.edu/housing), call 202-885-3370, or email [roomselection@american.edu](mailto:roomselection@american.edu).
2018-2019 Meal Plan Rates

Meal Plan Rates (per semester)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Meals</th>
<th>Approx/week</th>
<th>EagleBucks</th>
<th>Dining Dollars</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>250 Block Plan</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>14-15</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$3,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225 Block Plan</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$2,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Block Plan</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$2,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175 Block Plan</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$2,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125 Block Plan</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$1,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Block Plan</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$1,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Block Plan</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$695</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meal Plan Requirements

- First and second semester residents are required to enroll in a meal plan at or above the 175 Block Plan.
- Third and fourth semester residents are required to enroll in a meal plan at or above the 100 Block Plan.
- Fifth semester and higher residents may select any meal plan.

First through fourth semester students will automatically be enrolled in the minimum required meal plan. All students will have the ability to modify or enroll in a meal plan in early June when the Meal Plan Portal opens and will be notified via their student email when the Meal Plan Portal is open.

For meal plan, EagleBucks, and Dining Dollars questions, contact One Card & Dining Services. Visit [www.american.edu/onecard](http://www.american.edu/onecard), call 202-885-2273, or email mealplans@american.edu.
Application & Selection Process

Students can begin the 2018-2019 Returning Room Selection Process by accessing their AU Housing Portal (https://starrez.american.edu/my.policy).

Step 1: Apply (Jan 16 at 12 p.m. - Jan 26 at 5 p.m. EST)

All students interested in living on campus must complete a housing application by Friday, January 26, 2018 at 5 p.m. EST.

Tip #1

The date of completing Step 1 (as long as it’s before the deadline) doesn’t affect your timeslot for room selection. Just don’t miss the deadline!

Tip #2

Do not miss the deadline! Step 1 is required for continuing participation in returning student room selection.
Step 2: Group (Jan 31 at 12 p.m. - Feb 14 at 5 p.m. EST)

Students who do not complete Step 2 (join or create a group) will not be eligible to continue to the next step of the process.

**Students selecting as individuals (not selecting with pre-determined roommates):** Create a group name and designate oneself as group leader. These students may do so by clicking the “Create a Group Name” option in the [AU Housing Portal](#).

**Groups of two or more:** Create or join a roommate group in the [AU Housing Portal](#). These students should choose “Create a new group” or “Add yourself to a group”. The student who creates the group becomes the group leader by default and is responsible for selecting housing for all group members. The group leader can designate another member as the group leader within the portal at any time.

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**Tip #3**

Step 2 is required for **individuals and groups** to continue to Step 3.

**Tip #4**

Designating yourself as an individual does not guarantee a single room! There are very few single rooms. Being an individual for selection just means you are only assigning yourself.

**Tip #5**

Students are most successful during selection if they create roommate groups matching their desired living unit size. Groups that can fill a living unit select first.

**Tip #6**

New for 2018-2019: sophomore and upperclass students group together, but will only be able to select in Hughes and Cassell.
Step 3: Select & Verify (Feb 27 - Mar 8, randomly assigned time)

The online room selection step is spread out over a two-week period. Groups and individuals are assigned randomly generated timeslots to participate in a real-time online selection process. It is organized to provide the guarantee of an on-campus space for all sophomore students who complete the application process on time, but gives selection priority to groups who can fill the living unit.

FAQ of Room Selection

- **How are room selection timeslots established?** Time slots are randomly assigned for each group size category, allowing groups that can fill a living unit to select from spaces prior to partial groups and individuals. Sophomore and upperclass students will select at the same time from different locations. A group of four upperclassmen is giving the opportunity to select a Nebraska Hall 4-bedroom apartment before a group of three, because the group of four can fill the living unit.

- **What if my group decides to break up before our selection timeslot?** During the first round of room selection, the group leader must assign all or none. The group will be given the opportunity to split for the second week of room selection. Be as sure of your roommate group as possible for this reason. Students who have a Week 1 timeslot but who no longer want to live together can forgo their selection and select during Week 2.

- **What if no spaces are available at my selection time?** Upperclass students are not guaranteed on-campus housing. If all spaces are taken, any student who applied by the deadline will be placed on a priority pending assignment list to be offered housing prior to any student who applied through the waitlist (pending priority status does not guarantee an on-campus space offer, but pending students have historically received an offer by August).

- **How do timeslots work?** Once open, they will remain open until the closing date and time communicated in the announcement email. They will open every 30 minutes 10 a.m.-4 p.m. during primary selection days. Each set of selection days has a final day in which no new slots open, so that students who missed their time may participate.

- **If I group as an individual, will I have the same variety of options as groups?** The selection process timeslots are organized to prioritize groups of students who can fill living units before individual students. Thus, selection variety for individual students is affected. Due to limited number of single bedrooms, selecting as an individual does not guarantee a single room option.

Mark Your Calendar

- **Feb 22 at 8 p.m.** Webinar on navigating online selection. Link emailed to you Feb. 16
- **Feb 27-Mar 1 (Week 1)** Group leaders select at assigned time
- **Mar 2 by 5 p.m.** Room selection timeslot sent to AU email for Week 2
- **Mar 6-8 (Week 2)** Groups and individuals select at assigned time

If your housing is selected by your group leader, you’ll be prompted to verify your assignment. Don’t forget to do this!
### Housing Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Rising Sophomores</th>
<th>Rising Juniors/Seniors</th>
<th>Room Types</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassell</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>Suite style</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional</td>
<td>•</td>
<td></td>
<td>Double with private bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitution</td>
<td>•</td>
<td></td>
<td>Double with private bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>•</td>
<td></td>
<td>Double with private bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>Traditional room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDowell</td>
<td>•</td>
<td></td>
<td>Traditional room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>Apartment style</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkshire</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shared studio and 1-BR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who elect to live in semi-private living units with private baths (Cassell, Congressional, Constitution, McDowell suites, Federal) are responsible for cleaning their in-unit bathrooms.

Only true triple rooms in Hughes and McDowell halls (originally designed as a triple room) will be offered for the 2018-2019 academic year. No double rooms will be converted to temporary triple rooms for the 2018-2019 academic year. Groups of three are not guaranteed placement in a triple occupancy bedroom.

**Sophomores:** East Campus has a limited number of spaces, so discuss backup plans with your group.

**Tip #8**
Rising Sophomore Housing

A rising sophomore is defined as a student who has lived on campus for three or fewer semesters, including spring 2018.* Housing is guaranteed for rising sophomores who complete all three stages of RSRS.

* Includes current Washington Mentorship Program and transfer students.

Cassell Hall

A suite-style living environment with two or three double occupancy bedrooms housing four (4) or six (6) suitemates who share a bathroom and a living area. For fall 2018, Cassell Hall houses sophomore and upperclass students within the same living units and on the same floors. The entire building, all floors, and all living units house sophomore and upperclass mixed. All spaces are available to any classification. Cassell Hall houses approximately 350 sophomores, juniors, and seniors. More details.

Congressional, Constitution, and Federal Halls

East Campus residence halls are traditional style living environments (double occupancy room) with a private bath shared by those two students. East Campus houses approximately 570 students. More details.

Hughes Hall

A traditional residence hall with corridor-style rooms and shared floor bathrooms. For fall 2018, Hughes Hall houses sophomore and upperclass students within the same living units and on the same floors. The entire building, all floors, and all living units house sophomore and upperclass mixed. All spaces will be available to any classification. Hughes Hall houses approximately 300 sophomores, juniors, and seniors. More details.

McDowell Hall

A traditional residence hall with corridor-style rooms and shared floor bathrooms. The hall also features six (6)-person doubles in suite-style living with semi-private bath. McDowell Hall provides accommodation for approximately 370 students. More details.

Tip #9

Most sophomore living units are double occupancy, so groups of three or more sophomores should make backup plans if they need to split up.
Rising Upperclass Housing

A rising upperclass student (rising junior or senior) is defined as a student who has lived on campus for four to seven semesters, including spring 2018. A semester abroad is considered one semester of on-campus housing.

Cassell Hall

A suite-style living environment with two or three double occupancy bedrooms housing four (4) or six (6) suitemates who share a bathroom and a living area. **For fall 2018, Cassell Hall houses sophomore and upperclass students within the same living units and on the same floors.** The entire building, all floors, and all living units house sophomore and upperclass mixed. All spaces are available to any classification. Cassell Hall houses approximately 350 sophomores, juniors, and seniors. [More details](#).

Hughes Hall

A traditional residence hall with corridor-style rooms and shared floor bathrooms. **For fall 2018, Hughes Hall houses sophomore and upperclass students within the same living units and on the same floors.** The entire building, all floors, and all living units house sophomore and upperclass mixed. All spaces will be available to any classification. Hughes Hall houses approximately 300 sophomores, juniors, and seniors. [More details](#).

Nebraska Hall Apartments

Nebraska features two-, three-, and four-person apartments, with single occupancy bedrooms. The most common housing type in Nebraska Hall is a four-person apartment. Nebraska Hal houses approximately 250 juniors and seniors. [More details](#).

Berkshire Apartments

Studio and one-bedroom (both small and medium/large) apartments are available in American University-leased spaces at the Berkshire Apartments. All apartments are two-person occupancy (no single occupancy). Rising juniors and seniors may select from approximately 100 spaces in the Berkshire Apartments. Furniture, cable and internet are provided. [More details](#).
Choose your adventure.

Housing & Residence Life
www.american.edu/housing
roomselection@american.edu
@HomeAtAU
202-885-3370