

HOST Questions & Answers

1. What is HOST?

HOST stands for **H**ousing **O**ption **S**election **T**ime and is the process for current on-campus students to select housing for the next academic year.

2. Who is eligible to participate in the HOST process?

The **HOST** process is open to students who currently live on-campus.

3. If I live on campus now will I automatically receive on-campus housing next academic year?

No. All current on-campus students can choose to live on-campus again, however there are procedures and date sensitive requirements that must be met in order to secure housing. If students fail to follow our timeline and complete housing requirements, they will not be eligible to select on-campus housing the following year. Please see the **HOST** schedule for specific dates and times.

4. As a current on-campus student, am I guaranteed the type of housing I want?

We cannot guarantee that students will get the exact housing they want. Our housing process is organized so that students first have an opportunity to select their current apartment/suite/room (as long as they have completed the necessary steps to that point). The process is then broken down so that students living elsewhere on-campus get the next opportunity to choose housing depending on where they currently reside. This means that some students may not get their first choice. We encourage students to have a second or even a third housing choice.

5. Do I need to pay a housing deposit?

No deposit is required. However, you **MUST** complete ***MyHousing Self-Service***, which includes your housing agreement, by October 31, 2019 to confirm your commitment to live on-campus. Once you complete the **HOST** process you are committed to on-campus housing for the full academic year (fall and spring semesters). As long as you complete all parts of the **HOST** process, you will be able to select campus housing during the selection dates in November.

6. What is the length of my housing agreement?

The on-campus housing agreement that you complete in ***MyHousing Self-Service***, covers the full academic year (fall and spring semesters) or remaining portion thereof.

7. Is Winter Session, 12-Month or Interim Housing included in my housing agreement?

No, Winter Session (between Fall and Spring semesters), 12-month Housing and Interim Housing, are not included in your Fall/Spring housing agreement. Students who need housing over breaks (i.e. international students, winter sports) or anticipate taking an on-campus Winter Session course between fall and spring semesters must sign up for a campus apartment (MPA, MOA or JKA) or Elwell Hall, which is the 12-month residence hall. Students who need year-round housing must sign up for Elwell Hall. You will need to submit an Interim Housing Request Form closer to the start of that session. There will be an additional charge for Winter Session, 12-Month and Interim Housing applied to your account at that time. Students living elsewhere will not be permitted to stay on-campus during Winter Session.

8. If I complete the **HOST process but later decide I do not want to live on-campus or will not be returning to Bloomsburg University can I cancel my housing and get out of my agreement?**

Remember, your housing agreement is for the full fall/spring academic year, or remaining portion. Review the [Housing Release Request Grid](http://reslife.bloomu.edu/notice-release-offer.php) at <http://reslife.bloomu.edu/notice-release-offer.php> for information on what to do if you no longer need campus housing. We will not release students to move off-campus after the start of the academic year. With that in mind, we encourage you to be sure you need on-campus housing before signing up.

9. If there is nothing available in the apartment complex/residence hall that I want but I still want to live on-campus, what do I do?

All students should have a back-up plan. When you go online to *MyHousing Self-Service* during the selection dates in November, you will know instantly if there are any apartments/suites/rooms available in the complex/hall that you want. *MyHousing Self-Service* will only show you apartments/suites/rooms with the same number of beds as roommates in your roommate group. If there is nothing available in the specific complex/hall that you want, you can quickly rearrange your roommate group (remove or add roommates) to fill a different size apartment/suite/room. Each student in your roommate group must do the same so you have a matched group. It would be a good idea to have everyone in your group together when you are selecting in case you need to change plans.

10. If there is nothing available in the apartment complex or residence hall that I want and I decide not to live on-campus, can I cancel my housing and get out of my agreement?

Review the [Housing Release Request Grid](http://reslife.bloomu.edu/notice-release-offer.php) at <http://reslife.bloomu.edu/notice-release-offer.php> for information on what to do if you no longer need campus housing. We will not release students to move off-campus after the start of the academic year. With that in mind, we encourage you to be sure you need on-campus housing before signing up.

11. I currently live in a staff apartment/suite and cannot re-sign up for this same assignment. What are my options?

If you plan on living with a CA again (in a suite or apartment only), you MUST complete the first two steps of the **HOST** process: housing agreement, personal information questions, and roommate requests in *MyHousing Self-Service*. You **DO NOT** need to participate in the apartment/suite/room selection process in November. We will place you wherever your CA roommate is assigned. If you do not want to live with a CA again next year, you can complete the **HOST** process and select housing in a different apartment/suite/room during the scheduled dates to do so.

12. Oops, I selected the wrong apartment/suite/room in *MyHousing Self-Service*. Can I unselect it and pick a different one?

No. Students cannot “unselect” their apartment/suite/room in *MyHousing Self-Service*. Each roommate in your group will need to contact Michele Stout or Mary Prout at buhouse@bloomu.edu as soon as possible to make that request. We will remove you from that apartment/suite/room and you can try to select a different location. Keep in mind that the housing you really wanted could be gone by the time these changes occur so pay close attention to what you are doing in *MyHousing Self-Service* when you select your apartment/suite/room.

13. Will I be able to choose my roommate(s) for next year?

Yes, students are permitted to select their roommate(s) for next year; however, their roommates must be eligible to live on campus and complete all **HOST** requirements to secure housing. If the roommate you want to request does not meet deadlines, you will not be able to choose them. Roommate requests must be entered by each roommate in *MyHousing Self-Service* BEFORE you try to select your housing. You will only be able to request someone who has completed *MyHousing Self-Service* by the October 31, 2019 deadline. You can add or remove roommates right up to time you select housing.

- New students do not normally complete the **HOST** process. Current on-campus residents planning to sign up for on-campus housing can request incoming new students, **ONLY IF** they are admitted and pay their admissions deposit in time to complete *MyHousing Self-Service* by the October 31 deadline. You will then be able to request each other as roommates and select housing during the selection dates in November. If you would like to request a roommate who will be a new student for Fall 2020, everyone in your roommate group must email buhouse@bloomu.edu before October 15 so that we can determine whether or not they are eligible to be your roommate and if so, give them access to participate in the **HOST** process.
- If your friend is not admitted and loaded into our housing database in time to complete *MyHousing Self-Service* by October 31, you will not be able to request them. You will need to request someone who is currently living on-campus and has completed the **HOST** process. Once your friend is admitted, they can email us to request to be placed close to your room and we will **try** to do so.

14. How do I find a roommate(s)?

Check out the Roommate Search Listings on the **HOST** page of the Residence Life website. You can add your name to the list and email someone already on the list that is looking for a roommate(s). If you find a roommate(s) you want to live with for the next academic year (as long as they are eligible) you must then each enter that request in *MyHousing Self-Service*.

15. How many roommates do I need?

You **MUST** have the exact number of roommates requested in *MyHousing Self-Service* to fill the type of apartment, suite, or residence hall room that you want. Your roommate group must be fully matched, which means that each roommate must request everyone in the group. If you want to remove someone from your roommate group, everyone in the group must do the same. *MyHousing Self-Service* will only show you available apartments/suites/rooms that match the number of roommates in your roommate group. If you do not have any or enough roommates to select housing on your own, you must still complete the fall/spring housing agreement in *MyHousing Self-Service* by October 31, 2019, and then email us during the last **HOST** process "Send Choices" with your top five choices of where you want to live. There is no guarantee what you want will be available but we will place you somewhere on-campus.

16. I requested roommates in *MyHousing Self-Service*. Why do I need to fill out the Personal Information questions?

Students must answer the Personal Information questions in *MyHousing Self-Service* even if you request a roommate(s). In the event that your roommate(s) does not return, we will fill that space with another student. We will try to match your answers to your new roommate so it is in your best interest to have them completed.

17. What happens if my roommate(s) for next year cancels their housing agreement?

If for some reason, after you have selected your apartment/suite/room, your roommate(s) notifies us that they are no longer attending BU, we will fill the vacancy. We encourage students to check their

housing assignment in **MyHousing Self-Service** throughout the remainder of the semester and again when we open assignments in the summer for any changes. Students will NOT be notified directly about roommate changes. Assignments are blocked in **MyHousing Self-Service** after the Spring semester ends through the first week of August while we work on placing our incoming new students.

18. How much does it cost to live on-campus?

The housing rates for the 2019 – 2020 current academic year are as follows. Please be aware that costs are reviewed at the end of each academic year and typically are subject to an annual increase. Dining plans are required for students living in residence halls, including Soltz Hall. Dining plans are optional for apartment residents.

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|---|--|
| a) Montgomery Place Apts (MPA 2-person) | \$4,398/semester + \$230/semester for utilities |
| b) Jessica Kozloff Apts (JKA 4-person) | \$4,188 /semester + \$190/semester for utilities |
| c) Mount Olympus Apts (MOA 6-person) | \$4,068/semester + \$190/semester for utilities |
| d) Soltz Hall Suites (1-4-person) | \$4,524/semester |
| e) Single Air-Conditioned Residence Hall Room | \$4,524/semester |
| f) Double Air-Conditioned Residence Hall Room | \$3,459/semester |
| g) Double Non Air-Conditioned Residence Hall Room | \$3,217/semester |

19. Apartment students pay a semester utility fee, but do they receive any monthly bills?

No. All expenses (i.e. garbage, cable, internet, electric) are paid through housing fees and utility fees.

20. How do I start the **HOST process?**

Follow all information and instructions sent out through campus mail, BU email and posted on the Residence Life website regarding the **HOST** process.

21. I do not understand this process. Who can help me?

Contact the Residence Life Office at 800-287-7543 or email Michele Stout at mstout@bloomu.edu or Mary Prout at mprou3@bloomu.edu.