

Columbia

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INNOVATION IN THE VISUAL, PERFORMING, MEDIA,
AND COMMUNICATION ARTS



application

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

colum.edu

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO 600 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE CHICAGO, IL 60605-1996

THIS APPLICATION FOR ON-CAMPUS HOUSING IS INTENDED TO BE USED BY:

- Undergraduate applicants who completed the Common Application
- Undergraduate applicants who chose not to apply for housing at the time they submitted their admissions application
- Current undergraduate and graduate students not presently living in Columbia's on-campus housing
- International students

Residence Life at Columbia College Chicago

Columbia College Chicago is proud to offer some of the most innovative student housing available. Housing is offered to 3,000 students in several residence centers, all conveniently located steps away from the main campus buildings and public transportation. No matter which one of Columbia's outstanding residence centers becomes your home-away-from-home, we are committed to building a diverse, supportive community by providing a full residential living experience, complete with educational and social programs, a Residence Hall Association, and Resident Assistants. New freshmen students who live beyond a commutable distance are *expected* to live on campus.

All on-campus housing is single-gender by unit, though co-ed by floor. Columbia College does not offer family or married housing. All of Columbia's campus buildings and residence centers are non-smoking facilities. Housing is assigned to admitted students on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date a housing application is received. Current residents of Columbia's on-campus housing will receive their room assignments prior to new incoming residents. **New residents can expect that they may NOT be assigned their first housing preference in their first year.**

How to Obtain On-Campus Housing

1. Complete the Housing Application

Students may also apply on-line at www.colum.edu/apply, or complete the PDF version of the Housing Application and mail or fax it to:

Columbia College Chicago
Undergraduate Admissions
600 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605-1996
FAX: 312-369-8024

2. Wait to receive a Housing Contract Offer

Applicants will receive their contract offer via email. Contract offers will identify the specific room type, building, and cost of the space you have been offered. You will be able to accept that room assignment in only one way—by email!

The first round of housing contract offers will be emailed out shortly after April 15th; offers will continue to be emailed out on a rolling basis until all of our housing is filled. All students (both undergraduate and graduate) will receive housing offers only after they have been fully admitted to the college.

Please Note: The College delivers Housing Contract Offers and all subsequent communications by email ONLY! Please verify that the email address you provide on your application is correct so that you don't miss out on these important communications. Remember to regularly check your email inbox in mid-April so that you don't miss your housing contract offer.

3. Accept your Housing Contract Offer

Once you have accepted your housing contract offer, the Office of Residence Life will contact you via email with more specific details about how to obtain, complete, and return your official Housing Contract.

4. Complete and return your Housing Contract with a \$500 Prepayment.

The \$500 prepayment will be applied towards your first semester's housing bill.

IMPORTANT: The room-type assigned to you will be the best available match to your stated housing preference at the time we receive your application. You have the option of not accepting the space offered if you believe it will not meet your needs, but no other housing offer will be made to you. We are unable to respond to individual requests for exceptions to this policy.

Only when we have received the signed housing contract complete with a \$500 housing prepayment will your space in on-campus housing be secured. If we do not receive the signed contract and housing prepayment by the date specified in your offer letter, the contract will be cancelled and the space will be assigned to another student.

Two important things to know about your \$500 housing prepayment:

1. The housing prepayment is an out-of-pocket expense. It cannot be covered by financial aid from federal, state, institutional, or private sources, including loans, as those funds are not typically disbursed to students until the school year begins. We regret that we are not able to waive or defer the prepayment for any student.
2. Your \$500 housing prepayment is refundable upon written request only until May 1. Refund requests may be sent to the Undergraduate Admissions Office, or you may email admissions@colum.edu.

Important Note to Spring Applicants: Students who enter the College or Residence Life in the Spring semester should know that the process of obtaining on-campus housing is substantially the same. However, please note the following important distinctions:

1. Housing contracts are traditionally offered to Spring students often very close to the start of the Spring semester.
2. Housing contracts for students entering in Spring are binding only for the Spring semester.
3. Spring applicants, if offered housing, will be responsible for paying only one semester's housing fees (one half of the prices listed in this application).

Summer Housing is available.

Check the Residence Life website for detailed information: www.colum.edu/residencelife.

Moving Into Your Home-Away-From-Home

Starting mid-July, 2010, move-in packets will be mailed to new students who have contracted to live in Residence Life. These packets will include a move-in schedule, your specific campus address, roommate name(s) and contact information, and a list of suggested items to bring with you to campus. If assigned an apartment, you and your roommate(s) will need to provide cooking utensils and dishes.

Room Types

Columbia College Chicago offers a variety of room types within our residence centers. We provide apartment-style housing as well as more traditional one-room units called semi-suites. All come fully furnished. Below you will find a list of the possible room types available on campus.

For more specific information regarding apartment and semi-suite layouts, furnishings, and amenities, please visit: www.colum.edu/residencelife.

If you require special room accommodations due to an ADA recognized disability, contact the Residence Life Office, in writing, via email: residencelife@colum.edu.

Shared Bedroom in a Traditional-Style Semi-Suite

Price range per student, per academic year: \$10,806.00–\$12,270.00

Consists of a traditional two-person room. Students share a bathroom with 1 to 3 other students. A 15-meal per week plan is mandatory and is included in the cost of the room. In addition to the on-campus dining facility, students also have access to kitchenettes and community lounges on each floor.

Shared Bedroom in a Shared Apartment

Price range per student, per academic year: \$8,600.00–\$10,800.00

Consists of a two-person bedroom within a 1 to 3 bedroom apartment. The apartment, depending on number of bedrooms, may house from 2 to 6 students and will include 1 to 3 bedrooms, one or more bathroom(s), a living/dining area, and a kitchen. Students will prepare meals for themselves and may opt to purchase a supplementary meal plan, for an additional cost, through our on-campus dining facility.*

Private Bedroom in a Shared Apartment

Price range per student, per academic year: \$10,137.00–\$12,800.00

Consists of a one-person bedroom within a 4 to 5 bedroom apartment. The apartment will house 4 to 5 students and will include one or more bathroom(s), a living/dining area, and a kitchen. Students will prepare meals for themselves and may opt to purchase a supplementary meal plan, for an additional cost, through our on-campus dining facility.*

FINANCIAL PLANNING: Housing costs vary according to building, type of room, occupancy, and location within the building. Even within a single building, there are variations in cost. Because students will not know their actual housing costs until a specific space is offered through a housing contract, students and their families should understand that, for most students, housing will cost roughly \$5,000 to \$6,000 per semester. Some students may choose to purchase or enhance the optional meal plan, which will add to their total costs.

Dining Services

Mandatory meal plans are provided for residents assigned to Traditional-Style Semi-Suites, as these units do not include kitchens. The meal plan offers 15 meals per week during the Fall and Spring semesters. It also includes \$660 in “flex” dollars to spend at the student’s discretion within the dining facility during the regular academic year. The cost of the meal plan is included in the price range listed above.

Apartment units have full kitchens that include a full-sized refrigerator, oven, range, and dishwasher. Residents cook for themselves, and often share cooking duties with their roommates. Two major grocery stores are within walking distance of our residence centers, or students may order groceries on-line through a commercial provider. Meal preparation is an important part of the independent living experience available to our students.

*Residents assigned to apartments may choose to apply for an optional, supplementary meal plan. The plan includes 150 meals for the academic year (Fall and Spring semesters), plus \$250 in “flex” dollars to spend at the student’s discretion within the dining facility. Please understand that this plan is strictly supplementary as it allows an average of five meals per week. Supplementary meal plans cost approximately \$1600; several hundred plans are available for purchase each year and are made available on a first-come, first-served basis until all are sold. Detailed meal plan information will be included in the Housing Contract Packet.

colum.edu/residencelife

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