

Student Housing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) 2023-2024

Applying for Housing

How do I apply for Housing?

MyHousing is the way to take care of your room arrangements – application, pre-payment, contract, and much more, all online. To complete your application, you need your BlazerID and a credit/debit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover) to pay the \$25 application fee and \$250 pre-payment. All first-time freshmen starting in the fall term must pay the Freshmen Enrollment Deposit before applying for housing. For more information about applying for housing, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply.

Do I have to live on campus for my first year of college?

All first-time freshmen entering Fall 2023 who graduated high school the same year or the year before their first semester at UAB must live on campus in freshman housing for the entire academic year. Students who feel that they have extenuating circumstances that might warrant an exemption should complete the Exemption Form. The form is located on the UAB Housing website. For more information about the Freshmen Live-On requirement and the exemption process, please visit www.uab.edu/housing.

How much is Housing per semester?

Housing rates for the 2023-2024 academic year have not been approved but will be added to the Housing website as soon as they are available. For a look at the 2022-2023 room rates, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/residence-halls/rates.

If I complete my Housing application by March 1 (the housing priority deadline), when can I choose my residence hall and room?

Freshmen who applied by March 1 will have the opportunity to choose their room online from a select number of rooms available in Blazer, Gold, and McMahan Halls. In June, those students will receive an email with step-by-step instructions and a log-in time. Those students can log in any time between their log-in time and the deadline on June 16 to select a room. Students will be allowed to pull in one (1) roommate if they have submitted a housing application and have a valid roommate group (indicates a mutual request).

Can I select my suitemates in Blazer Hall?

Because most freshmen select their own rooms, Student Housing does not have a formal suitemate selection process. Freshmen who applied by March 1 will have the opportunity to choose their room online from a select number of rooms available in Blazer, Gold, and McMahan Halls. Those students will be allowed to pull in one (1) roommate if they have submitted a housing application and have a valid roommate group (indicates a mutual request). If four (4) students decide that they want to share a suite in Blazer Hall, at least one (1) in each Roommate Group must have applied by March 1 to select their room online. Those two students will work together to find a room with four available spaces and pull in their mutually requested roommate(s).

When is the last day that I can cancel my housing application and still get my pre-payment (\$250) back?

June 1 is the last day to cancel your application and get your pre-payment back. Log in to MyHousing and complete the Application Cancellation Request form to cancel. You will not be refunded the \$25 application fee. The refund will be processed within 10-15 business days and placed back on the credit card used to pay it.

All Things Roommates

Can students request a roommate?

Beginning March 6 (for Fall 2023), freshmen can request a roommate by creating a roommate group using the Freshmen Roommate Groups link in MyHousing. Only students with a completed housing application (including parental/guardian signature on the contract) may participate in the Roommate Group selection process. One student is the leader and creates the group and invites their roommate to join their group, sending the second

student an email. The second student logs into MyHousing, and either accepts or declines the invitation. **If there is no response to the invitation, it is considered a declined request.** The roommate request deadline is 5 pm CDT on June 2. For more information about applying for housing, the application process, and the assignment timeline, please visit www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply.

How will you match me with a roommate if I did not request a roommate?

The Assignments Team will use the roommate matching questions on the housing application. These are the questions about quietness, cleanliness, etc. We do not use other students' majors/hometowns/etc. to determine roommates.

When was the last day to make my roommate request?

The last day to use RoomSync is June 1. The Roommate Groups link in MyHousing closes on June 2, 2023, at 5 pm CDT. There are no guarantees for roommate requests after June 2. All other students will be assigned based on roommate matching questions.

What if my roommate got to pick their room, and we decided to live together after?

You may submit a change request in MyHousing (beginning July 5 at noon). Changes will be made based on the availability of space.

What if I do not like my roommate and we cannot live together?

A roommate agreement is a document used to guide and assist new and seasoned roommates by determining standards for the shared living space. All students will have a roommate contract to review and discuss with their roommate/suitemates. RA's will work with residents to fill out the agreements.

Room Change week takes place the second week of class each semester. Students are required to attend a room change information meeting and submit a room change request form to participate in the room change process during that week. Room changes are granted based on the availability of space.

Living & Learning Communities

Are the Honors floors different from non-Honors floors?

Students in the Honors College have the option to live in the Honors Living Community. Located in all three of our first-year residence halls (Blazer, Gold, and McMahon), students living in the community share the same residence hall and room amenities as students who do not reside in the community. The added benefit of living in the Honors Learning Community is the ability to:

- Create a "home away from home" with your fellow honors students
- Develop close relationships with students who share your commitment to education
- Integrate academic and co-curricular experiences
- Continue engagement with Honors SMART Leaders who help to ensure that you have the resources to find your place at UAB and in the Honors College

More information about the Honors Living Community and other living & learning communities can be found at www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply/living-learning-communities.

What are Learning Communities?

Learning Communities (LCs) are groups of on-campus students who share academic goals and interests. Participants in Learning Communities can live anywhere on campus, and involvement does not impact a student's housing assignment unlike Themed Living Communities, UAB offers a Learning Community experience in three academic disciplines: Business, Health Professions, and Engineering. Any on-campus student intending to major in one of these three areas is eligible to join and benefit from participation in

developmental activities, support from a community of peers, mentorship from upper-level students, and connection with faculty and staff members.

More information about living & learning communities can be found at <https://www.uab.edu/students/housing/apply/living-learning-communities>