

# 2023-24 RETURNING STUDENT HOUSING INFORMATION



**ALMA COLLEGE  
RESIDENCE LIFE OFFICE**  
[residencelife@alma.edu](mailto:residencelife@alma.edu)

This booklet is provided by the Residence Life Office and outlines the selection procedures to be followed for the 2023-2024 academic year. Housing questions can be directed to the Residence Life Office at [residencelife@alma.edu](mailto:residencelife@alma.edu).

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## **Housing Calendar and Deadlines**

Reminder: You must be registered for fall classes to be eligible for housing. Class registration will be verified by the Registrar Office.

### **Monday, March 20, 2023**

- Housing Agreement and roommate selection opens 24 hours after student registers for classes.
- Apartment applications (Opera House, Wright Ave, Wright Hall) are available in the housing portal for eligible students after they sign their housing agreement.

### **Monday, March 27, 2023**

- Residency Exemption application deadline for decision before room selection begins.
- Housing placement for students with accommodations begins and will continue through April.

### **Wednesday, March 29, 2023**

- Apartment applications due at 11:59 pm
- Residency Exemption decisions announced for applications received by deadline.

### **Thursday, March 30, 2023**

- Apartment decisions announced by 5 pm.

### **Friday, March 31, 2023**

- Apartment Selection for selected groups (Begins at 2:00 pm).

### **Sunday, April 2, 2023**

- Small house rosters due at 11:59 pm
- Returning student housing agreements and roommate selection should be complete

### **Tuesday, April 4, 2023**

- Four-Person Room Selection Opens (Begins at 2:00 pm).

### **Thursday, April 6, 2023**

- Two-Person Room Selection Opens (Begins at 2:00 pm).

### **Thursday, April 13, 2023**

- Room selection opens for all students, including students without roommates (Begins at 2:00 pm).

### **Friday, June 16, 2023**

- Deadline to complete housing self-selection for returning students. Any returning students who do not complete housing by this date will be housed by the Residence Life Office.

## **Important Housing Information**

### **Residency Requirement**

Alma College is a four-year residential college. As such, Alma College students are required to live in College-owned or approved housing for all four years of their student experience unless they qualify for a residency exemption. Students also are required to have a meal plan. More information can be found in the full [Residency Requirement Policy](#) on our website.

### **Housing Eligibility**

To be eligible for housing, all students must be Alma College students and must be registered for Fall 2023 classes before beginning the housing process. All students must complete a housing agreement before they can begin housing registration. The housing agreement will open 24 hours after a student completes course registration. Some housing options have specific requirements that are described below under “Housing Options.”

### **Accessibility**

We are committed to ensuring that all students have access to the educational, social and cultural opportunities that are part of the Alma experience. Classroom accommodations, housing accommodations, assistive technologies and advocacy and support are all part of the services that Alma College provides to students who identify as having a disability and provide the required documentation. More information about disability services at Alma, including information about housing accommodations, contact information, services, and policies and procedures can be found at:

<https://www.alma.edu/academics/support/center-for-student-opportunity/disability-support-services/housing-accommodations/> or by emailing [disability\\_services@alma.edu](mailto:disability_services@alma.edu).

### **Academic Information**

A student’s academic information, including class standing, earned credits, and GPA, is determined by the Registrar’s office, and any questions will be verified through the Registrar’s office. No exceptions will be made to a student’s academic information.

### **Judicial Standing**

Judicial standing will be determined by the information available at the time of selection. Examples of significant judicial records include but are not limited to two or more violations of college policy within the past year, violations of the college’s Civil Rights or Sexual Misconduct policies, or findings that resulted in disciplinary probation or suspension at any point in a student’s history.

### **Housing Portal**

All housing will be completed through the College’s online housing system unless otherwise noted. The housing portal can be found by going to InsideAlma < Student Links < Housing.

### **Roommate Selection**

Returning students may live with any other returning student, as long as they are all eligible for the housing unit they wish to live in. Please note that returning students are **not** eligible to live with incoming first year students.

Students are strongly encouraged to choose groups of two or four roommates; three-person (triple) rooms are not available, and groups of three will be ineligible to choose a room during room selection. The only exception will be students applying to live in the three- or five-person Opera House apartments; these groups of students are strongly encouraged to have a plan for a two- or four-person group ready in the event that they are not selected to live in the Opera House.

### **Gender Inclusive Housing Policy**

Alma College strives to provide safe living spaces for all students and to be inclusive of all gender identities. It is the College's standard procedure to provide students with same-sex housing assignments within the rooms of all campus housing units. The College recognizes, however, the need to offer opposite-sex and/or mixed-gender room assignments to accommodate students with a gender-based need. In all cases of gender inclusive housing, all occupants must voluntarily agree to this living arrangement. Students who wish to request a gender inclusive living space may do so by filling out the Gender Inclusive Housing Request Form in their housing portal. This form can be found under the "Agreements/Applications" tab.

### **Vacancies**

If a vacancy occurs in your residence hall room at any time after initial housing selection, the college reserves the right to fill that vacancy at its discretion. Though the college will make every effort to notify you of changes in your room or roommate assignments, the college may be unable to provide notice. This includes vacancies that result from students attending overseas and off-campus programs, transfers, or withdrawals. All rooms, houses, and apartments must be filled to capacity at the time of registration.

### **Failure to Register for Housing**

Any returning student who does not complete housing selection by June 16, 2023 will be assigned a room and/or roommate at the discretion of the College. The College will make efforts to honor student preference in this process, but cannot guarantee placement in the student's preferred housing or with their preferred roommates.

### **Questions about Housing**

Questions about housing can be directed to any professional staff member in Residence Life. Additionally, questions can be directed via email to [residencelife@alma.edu](mailto:residencelife@alma.edu).

## Housing Options

### **Bruske and Gelston Halls**

Bruske and Gelston Halls house the First Year Experience. All rooms in Bruske and Gelston are reserved for first year students and are not open to returning students.

### **Newberry and Mitchell Halls**

#### Building Information

Newberry and Mitchell Halls primarily feature double rooms, though some four-person (quad) rooms available in the basements. These buildings also feature semi-private community bathrooms on each floor.

#### Eligibility

All rooms in Newberry and Mitchell Hall, including basements, are open to all sophomores, juniors, and seniors with no additional eligibility requirements.

#### Meal Plans and Costs

Newberry and Mitchell residents are eligible for the 19 and 210 Block Meal Plans.

Newberry and Mitchell Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing Costs	\$3,614
19 or 210 Block Meal Plan Costs	\$2,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,564</b>

For more information on Newberry and Mitchell please visit our webpage:

<https://www.alma.edu/student-life/where-will-i-eat-and-sleep/residence-life/second-year-and-beyond>

### **South Campus Suites**

#### Building Information

The south campus suites are housed in Carey, Bonbright, Brazell, and Brazell West halls and offer suite-style housing with two rooms joined by a bathroom. **Please note that Brazell and Brazell West will not be available for housing self-selection this year while we continue to evaluate these spaces. Due to numerous constraints, these buildings also will not be renovated this year as originally planned. The buildings will remain open and will be used on an as-needed basis.**

#### Eligibility

New this year, the south campus suites are open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors, so all returning Alma College students are eligible for the suites.

#### Meal Plans and Costs

Students living in the suites are eligible for the 19 and 210 Block Meal Plans.

Suite-style Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing	\$3,614
19 or 210 Block Meal Plan	\$2,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,564</b>

For more information about the south campus suites, please visit our webpage:  
<https://www.alma.edu/student-life/where-will-i-eat-and-sleep/residence-life/juniorsenior-year-experience/>.

## **Wright Avenue Apartments**

### Building Information

Wright Avenue offers two types of apartments: two bedroom/four-person apartments and one bedroom/two-person apartments. Both types of apartments have one bathroom. Please note that a limited number of two-person Wright Avenue Apartments will be available, though some will remain closed for medical emergencies. This will make the apartment process extremely competitive. All apartment teams are encouraged to develop an alternative plan for housing.

Wright Ave Apartments are partially furnished with one A/C window unit per apartment. Alma College will furnish a kitchen table and chairs and all major appliances. Each bedroom will have one bed per student, one dresser per student, and a built-in closet. Student desks, desk chairs, and living room furniture are not provided in the Wright Ave. Apartments.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for the Wright Avenue Apartments, students must have a minimum 2.90 cumulative GPA at the time of application, have junior or senior standing at the start of the Fall 2023 semester as determined by the registrar's office, and must have no significant judicial record.

The Residence Life Office reserves the right to move students to another housing assignment before or after a student begins occupancy and with or without the student's input if they no longer meet these criteria.

All interested students must complete an apartment application by the deadline stated in the calendar above.

### Meal Plans and Costs

Students living in Wright Avenue are eligible for the all meal plans.

Wright Avenue Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing	\$4,566
160 Block Meal Plan*	\$2,367
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,933</b>

\*Students living in Wright Avenue may purchase the 19, 210, or 120 Block meal plans for an additional cost per semester.

For more information about Wright Avenue Apartments, please visit our webpage:  
<https://www.alma.edu/student-life/where-will-i-eat-and-sleep/residence-life/juniorsenior-year-experience/>.

## **Wright Hall**

### Building Information

All Wright Hall Apartments are four-person apartments and have either two or four bedrooms and one bathroom. Wright Hall is completely furnished including living room furniture. Alma College will furnish a kitchen table and chairs and all major appliances, except an oven. A community oven is located on the second floor of Wright Hall. Each bedroom will have one bed per student, one dresser per student, a built-in closet, desk, bookshelf, and desk chair.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for Wright Hall, students must have a minimum 2.90 cumulative GPA at the time of application, must have junior or senior standing at the start of the Fall 2023 semester as determined by the Registrar's office, must have declared a major through the Registrar's Office, and must have no significant judicial record.

The Residence Life Office reserves the right to move students to another housing assignment before or after a student begins occupancy and with or without the student's input if they no longer meet these criteria.

All interested students must complete an apartment application by the deadline stated in the calendar above.

### Meal Plans and Costs

Students living in Wright Hall are eligible for the all meal plans.

Wright Hall Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing	\$4,566
160 Block Meal Plan*	\$2,367
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,933</b>

\*Students living in Wright Hall and Wright Avenue may purchase the 19, 210, or 120 Block meal plans for an additional cost per semester.

For more information about Wright Hall, please visit our webpage:

<https://www.alma.edu/student-life/where-will-i-eat-and-sleep/residence-life/juniorsenior-year-experience/>.

## **Opera House**

### Building Information

The Opera House offers 2, 3, 4, and 5 person apartments with one or two bathrooms.

Apartments in the Opera House are fully furnished. Each apartment will have a dining table and chairs, all major appliances including a dishwasher, living room couch and chairs, coffee and end tables, and wall mounted TV. Individual student rooms will have bed, dresser, closet, desk, and a desk chair. All non-college owned furniture is prohibited. Residents of the Opera House also are not allowed to hang anything on the walls or furniture in their apartment or common spaces.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for the Opera House, students must have a minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA at the time of application, must have junior or senior standing at the start of the Fall 2023 semester as determined by the Registrar's office, must have declared a major through the Registrar's Office, and must have no significant judicial record.

The Residence Life Office reserves the right to move students to another housing assignment before or after a student begins occupancy and with or without the student's input if they no longer meet these criteria.

All interested students must complete an apartment application by the deadline stated in the calendar above.

### Meal Plans and Costs

Students living in the Opera House are eligible for all meal plans.

Opera House Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing	\$4,843
160 Block Meal Plan*	\$2,367
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,210</b>

\*Students living in the Opera House may purchase the 19, 210, or 120 Block meal plans for an additional cost per semester.

For more information about the Opera House, please visit our webpage:

<https://www.alma.edu/student-life/where-will-i-eat-and-sleep/residence-life/juniorsenior-year-experience/>.

## **Small and Fraternity/Sorority Housing**

### Building Information

Small and Fraternity/Sorority houses are college-owned houses that are made available to specific organizations for the purposes of promoting those organization's goals and values. House residents are selected by the organizations with approval from their faculty/staff advisor. House rosters will be submitted by the house advisor to [residencelife@alma.edu](mailto:residencelife@alma.edu) prior to all other selection processes, and students living in a small house are ineligible for any other selection process.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for housing in a Fraternity, Sorority, or small house, students must have a minimum 2.50 cumulative GPA at the time of application, have no significant judicial record, and must be a returning Alma College student. Additionally, all must meet any additional eligibility requirements for the individual house as determined by the organization or sponsoring department.

### Meal Plans and Costs

Students living in Fraternity, Sorority, and small houses are eligible for the 19, 210, and 120 Block Meal Plans.

Fraternity, Sorority, and small Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing	\$3,953
19, 210, or 120 Block Meal Plan	\$2,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,903</b>

For more information about Fraternity and Sorority housing, please visit our webpage: <https://www.alma.edu/student-life/housing-dining/residence-life/greek-housing/>.

## Single Rooms

### Room Information and Eligibility

Many single rooms are reserved for students with a documented accommodation through the Academic Support and Disability Services Office. Please see “Accessibility” under the Important Housing Information section for more information about this process.

Any additional single rooms remaining after accommodations have been met will be filled in the order of the single room wait list. Students may sign up for the single room wait list through the housing portal during the housing process. This year, additional single rooms are likely to be available, and interested students are strongly encouraged to sign up for the waitlist. Students on the single room waitlist should still complete the general housing process to guarantee housing choice.

### Meal Plans and Costs

Students living in single rooms are eligible for the 19 and 210 Block Meal Plans.

General Single Room Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing	\$4,760
19 or 210 Block Meal Plan	\$2,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,710</b>

Additionally, select double rooms in Newberry and Mitchell Halls will be converted to single rooms and offered at an increased rate. These rooms will be opened to the single room waitlist only.

Newberry/Mitchell Double-as-Single Room Housing Costs (per semester)	
Housing	\$5,914
19 or 210 Block Meal Plan	\$2,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,864</b>

## Housing Processes

All students must complete the following steps to register for housing:

1. Register for Fall 2023 classes.
2. Complete the Housing Agreement. The housing agreement will be available 24 hours after a student registers for classes. This is required for all students, and students cannot select roommates or a room until this is complete.
3. Select roommate(s) through the housing portal.
  - a. Your roommate(s) must register for classes and complete a housing agreement before you will be able to find them in the roommate matching process.
  - b. Students living in Small and Fraternity/Sorority housing or the Opera House do not need to complete this step; their roommates will be assigned based on the information in the house rosters or apartment application.
4. Complete the appropriate housing process listed below.
5. Select a meal plan.

### **Four-Person Group Selection – April 4, 2023 starting at 2 pm**

#### Selection Requirements

Any returning student may participate in this process, regardless of class standing, if they meet the following criteria:

- All roommate selection must be completed by March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Roommate group consists of four total students, including themselves.

#### Selection Order/Ranking

Number of credits earned at the time of selection will determine the order of selection, with students who have the highest number of earned credits selecting first. Currently enrolled but not completed credits will not be considered. Individual GPA will be used to determine any ties. Each individual will receive their own selection time and ranking, regardless of roommate's ranking; the first roommate to select will select for all roommates.

#### Selection Process

All eligible students will be assigned a selection time, which will be published on the housing portal 24 hours before selection begins. At their assigned time, students will be able to select a room for themselves and their roommate through the online housing portal. Links to room selection will be on the housing portal home page. The first roommate to select a room will select a room for all roommate. Students are encouraged to discuss their preferences with their roommate in advance.

### **Two-Person Group Selection – April 6, 2023 starting at 2:00 pm**

#### Selection Requirements

Any returning student may participate in this process, regardless of class standing, if they meet the following criteria:

- All roommate selection must be completed by April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Roommate group consists of two total students, including themselves.

#### Selection Order/Ranking

Number of credits earned at the time of selection will determine the order of selection, with students who have the highest number of earned credits selecting first. Currently

enrolled but not completed credits will not be considered. Individual GPA will be used to determine any ties. Each individual will receive their own selection time and ranking, regardless of roommate's ranking; the first roommate to select will select for all roommates.

### Selection Process

All eligible students will be assigned a selection time, which will be published on the housing portal 24 hours before selection begins. At their assigned time, students will be able to select a room for themselves and their roommate through the online housing portal. Links to room selection will be on the housing portal home page. The first roommate to select a room will select a room for all roommate. Students are encouraged to discuss their preferences with their roommate in advance.

## **Wright Hall and Wright Avenue Apartments – March 31, 2023 at 2 pm**

### Selection Requirements

To be eligible for the Wright Hall and Wright Avenue Apartment selection process, students must meet all of the eligibility criteria stated above and complete the apartment application, housing agreement, and roommate selection by March 29<sup>th</sup>. All roommate teams must be groups of 2 or 4; two-person apartments are highly competitive. Each roommate must submit this application by the deadline, and roommate groups must match on all applications for the group to be considered. **Applications that are incomplete or do not contain matching roommate groups will not be considered. Similarly, if any member of a roommate group does not meet the eligibility criteria, the entire group's application will not be considered.**

### Selection Order/Ranking

Roommate teams will be weighed by the total number of credit hours earned by the team; this is calculated by adding together the earned credits of each team member. Currently enrolled but not completed credits will not be considered. The higher the score, the higher the ranking. Average group GPA will be considered in the event of a tie. This is a blind selection process, and no other criteria are considered in these decisions.

**Please keep in mind that the apartment process is highly competitive and in a typical year less than half of the teams that apply will be selected to choose an apartment. Additionally, some Wright Avenue Apartments will be offline and reserved for medical emergencies. This will make the apartment process extremely competitive. All apartment teams are encouraged to develop an alternative plan for housing.**

### Selection Process

Students will be notified on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> by 5 pm if they will be selecting an apartment on March 31<sup>st</sup> or if they will be in residence hall room selection the following week. Students who are not selected for an apartment will need re-select their roommates/suitemates in the housing portal before they will be eligible for room selection.

All eligible students will be assigned a selection time 24 hours before selection begins. Selection times will be published on the student's housing portal. At their assigned time, students will be able to select a room for themselves and their roommate(s). The first

roommate to select a room will select a room for all roommate(s). Students are encouraged to discuss their preferences with their roommate(s) in advance. Students applying for Wright Avenue and Wright Hall must complete a housing agreement before they can select an apartment.

## **Opera House**

### Selection Requirements

To be eligible for the Opera House Apartment selections process, students must meet all eligibility criteria and complete the apartment application and housing agreement by March 29<sup>th</sup>. Each roommate must submit this application by the deadline, and roommate groups must match on all applications for the group to be considered. **Applications that are incomplete or do not contain matching roommate groups will not be considered. Similarly, if any member of a roommate group does not meet the eligibility criteria, the entire group's application will not be considered.**

### Selection Order/Ranking

Roommate teams will be weighed by the total number of credit hours earned by the team; this is calculated by adding together the earned credits of each team member. Currently enrolled but not completed credits will not be considered. The higher the score, the higher the ranking. Average group GPA will be considered in the event of a tie.

**Please keep in mind that the apartment process is highly competitive and in a typical year less than half of the teams that apply will be selected to choose an apartment. Additionally, some Wright Avenue Apartments will be offline and reserved for medical emergencies. This will make the apartment process extremely competitive. All apartment teams are encouraged to develop an alternative plan for housing.**

### Selection Process

Students will be notified of the decision on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Because of the Opera House's unique room configurations, Residence Life will make housing assignments for the students living in the Opera House. If students are not selected for the Opera House they will automatically be moved to Wright Ave/Wright Hall selection process unless the team identifies otherwise; in this case, they will move to the four-person group or two-person group selection processes instead. Students applying for the Opera House must complete a housing agreement before their assignment will be finalized.

## **Small and Fraternity/Sorority Housing**

### Selection Criteria

Small and Fraternity/Sorority housing residents will be selected by the organization sponsoring the house and must receive approval from the faculty/staff advisor.

### Selection Process

House rosters will be submitted by the house advisor to [residencelife@alma.edu](mailto:residencelife@alma.edu) no later than April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59 pm. Students living in a small house are ineligible for any other selection process. Students applying for Small and Fraternity/Sorority housing must complete a housing agreement before their assignment will be finalized.

## **Students with Accommodations**

### Selection Process

Students with housing accommodations documented through Disability Services should meet with a Residence Life staff member to discuss their room options. These meetings will begin on March 21<sup>st</sup> and continue through April. Students should schedule an appointment by emailing [residencelife@alma.edu](mailto:residencelife@alma.edu). Students also can visit residence life staff during office hours to select a room or make an appointment.

**Students with accommodations who wish to live in spaces with additional eligibility criteria (i.e. apartment buildings and small/fraternity/sorority housing), first need to participate in the selection processes for those spaces. Then, if they are selected to live in one of these spaces, the Residence Life Office will work with them individually to make a housing selection.**

### **Residency Exemptions (Off Campus)**

Alma College has a four-year residency requirement, but we make some exceptions for students who meet specific criteria. The residency exemption application is available online in the housing portal. While any student can apply for an exemption at any time, the exemption criteria is very specific, and unless your request aligns with the criteria, it is extremely unlikely that your request will be approved by the committee. All requests are reviewed by a committee who will inform you via email of their decision. Students are encouraged to submit their application by March 27<sup>th</sup> to receive a decision from the committee before housing selection processes begin. If a student is approved for a residency exemption, their financial aid will be reduced. Details about the financial aid reduction and eligibility are outlined in the full policy on our website:

<https://www.alma.edu/live/files/5139-ac-residency-requirement-policy-statement-fa23pdf>.

All students receiving the Full-tuition scholarships, Tuition Exchange (domestic and international) and Alma College National Merit Scholarship are required to live in College owned housing for each of their four years on campus.

## Meal Plans

### **Meal Plan Registration**

Meal plan registration is available for all students after they complete housing registration. Students cannot register for a meal plan until they are registered for a housing assignment. All students must register for a meal plan through the housing portal. **After completing meal plan registration, students may change their meal plan through the housing portal until Friday, August 18, 2023. No changes can be made after this date.**

Students who do not register for a meal plan during the housing process will be enrolled in a default meal plan at the discretion of the college. Students who are automatically enrolled in a meal plan are still responsible for all costs associated with that meal plan.

### **Meal Plan Descriptions**

Below is a summary of all meal plan options. Costs, meals, and munch money are all per semester unless otherwise indicated. Students will be able to select from all plans for which they are eligible. If a student believes that they should be eligible but are not able to select their desired plan, they should contact [residencelife@alma.edu](mailto:residencelife@alma.edu) with their request.

<b>Plan</b>	<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>Cost (per semester)</b>	<b>Meals Included</b>	<b>Munch Money</b>
19 Meal Plan	All students	\$2,950	19 per week	\$175
210 Block Plan	All students	\$2,950	210 meals per semester	\$400
120 Block Plan	All small house and apartment residents, and all seniors, regardless of housing assignment	\$2,950	120 meals per semester	\$900
160 Block Plan	Apartment residents (Wright Hall, Wright Avenue, and the Opera House)  Select seniors who are living on campus while being engaged in an Alma College-sponsored, full-time training program off-campus (i.e. nursing or full-time student teaching*).	\$2,367	160 meals per semester	\$400

### **Meal Plan Exemptions (No Meal Plan)**

All students who live on campus are required to have a meal plan. Release from the meal plan is only available for students with a documented accommodation through the Academic Support and Disability Services Office. More information about disability services at Alma, including information about dining accommodations, contact information, services, and policies and procedures can be found at:

<https://www.alma.edu/academics/support/center-for-student-opportunity/disability-support-services/housing-accommodations/> or by emailing [disabilityservices@alma.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@alma.edu).