

Housing Selection 2009

Your guide to on-campus housing for 2009-10

Merit Point Information:

Merit Point Totals	Available online at www.stonehill.edu/x11096.xml
Merit Discrepancy Week	March 16-20

Information Sessions:

"Find a Roommate" Night	March 18 at 7:30 PM in Cleary Dining Rm.
Housing Selection Information Sessions	Dates/Times/Locations will vary. Please contact your Residence Director or Area Coordinator for more information.

Intent Forms and Lottery numbers:

Housing Intent Forms Due	WEDNESDAY, March 25 by 4:30 PM in the Residence Life Office
Lottery Numbers Posted	Available online on Friday, March 27 at www.stonehill.edu/x10000.xml

Senior Housing Selection Information:

Rising SENIOR Room/Suite Retention	Thursday, April 2, 7:00 PM – Stanger 209
Rising SENIOR Area Moves	Thursday, April 2, 7:30 PM – Stanger 209
Rising SENIOR Lottery Night	Tuesday, April 7, 6:00 PM - Commons A

Junior Housing Selection Information:

Rising JUNIOR Lottery Night	Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 PM – Commons A
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Sophomore Housing Selection Information:

Rising SOPHOMORE Lottery Night	Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 PM – Commons A
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Additional information regarding the housing selection process may be found at www.stonehill.edu/x10000.xml

**Residence Life Office – Stonehill College
Questions or concerns? – Please Contact:**

Peter Wiernicki, Associate Director of Residence Life at x-1290 or pwiernicki@stonehill.edu
Ali Hicks, Director of Residence Life at x-1290 or ahicks@stonehill.edu
Tia Miller, Residence Director at x-1101 or tmiller@stonehill.edu

Housing Selection Glossary

Blocking: Refers to the number of people in your group going through housing selection. The number of people you are allowed to block with depends on your class year. Rising Seniors and Rising Juniors are able to “block” together and choose multiple rooms on their lottery nights. Rising Sophomores are limited to choosing only one room on their lottery night, and therefore are not eligible to “block.”

Block Merit Point Total: The total number of merit points earned by the people in your block.

Rising (Senior, Junior, Sophomore): Refers to your class standing as of next year. Example, a member of this year’s class of 2012 is considered a “Rising Sophomore.”

Lottery Number: A random number assigned by computer to each student on campus. This number is used to determine the final order of selection within each class year. It is better to receive a lower number than a higher one.

Merit Discrepancy Week: The week immediately following spring break. Students may petition to adjust their merit point total with their RD or AC during designated office hours. All discrepancies must be addressed by 4:30 PM on Friday, March 20, 2009. No changes will be made to merit point totals after this time.

Voluntary Triples/Quads/Quints: Students may elect to add an extra person to a room. Doing so allows those students to choose earlier on in the housing selection process.

Housing Preference Form: The colored form located at the end of this booklet. Housing Preference Forms (and Room & Board Contracts) must be completed, stapled together in blocks, and returned to the Residence Life Office by 4:30 PM on March 25th.

General Room Selection Information

- **Housing intent forms and room and board contracts must be completed and returned to the Residence Life Office no later than 4:30 PM on Wednesday, March 19, 2009.** Students who do not meet this deadline will be placed at the end of the selection process for their class year. Any changes made to intent forms after this time will result in the student and his/her roommate/blockmates being placed at the end of the selection process for their class year.
- **Students are required to return completed housing intent forms and room and board contracts stapled together in roommate pairs or blocks.** Every packet contains a room and board contract and a housing intent form. Please read the room and board contract thoroughly, initial where indicated, sign it and include it with your housing intent forms. You will be held responsible for all information contained in the contract, so please take the time to read it.
- **Students must have a roommate in order to participate in housing selection.** If you are looking for a roommate, you are welcome to attend our annual “Find a Roommate Night” on Wednesday, March 18, 2008 at 7:30 PM in Cleary Dining Room in Roche Commons. Residence Life also maintains files of students looking for roommates for the coming year. If you are interested in reviewing these files or if you would like to add your own information, please come to our office and ask for the “Find a Roommate” binder.
- **Only current resident students with full-time residency status are permitted to participate in the housing selection process.** Commuter students, including those on the housing waitlist, those who received one semester residency offers, and those living on campus through the voluntary triple option are not eligible to participate in housing selection for next year.

- **If you have applied or plan to apply to participate in the study abroad program or an internship away from Stonehill for the fall semester, you cannot participate in the housing selection process!** Please mark on your housing intent form that you intend to be away for the fall semester, or for all of 2009-10. If you select a room and then apply to go abroad, you will lose the space you have selected, and will be fined \$50.00. In addition, your roommate may lose her/his current space and be reassigned to another room. If you apply to go abroad for either the fall or spring semester and later cancel your plans, you will not be guaranteed a room on campus. Before the end of the semester, you will also need to complete an abroad intent form at the Residence Life website. Completing this form before you leave will help determine your housing assignment for the spring of 2010. Your merit point total from this year may be used in determining your room assignment for the spring of 2010.
- **Students intending to withdraw from residency must notify the Residence Life Office by June 1, 2009 in order to receive their room deposit back. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of the \$300.00 room guarantee/housing deposit.** Students electing to move off campus or commute are not able to retain “resident” status for future years. If, after leaving housing, you wish to return to residency, you must place your name on the housing waitlist.
- **Students with a merit point total of 7 or below may be subject to a residency review before going through housing selection.** Typically, students who have a merit point total of 7 are allowed to go through the lottery process but are placed on probation and must meet certain expectations to maintain their chosen room. Students who have a merit point total of 6 or below typically are not allowed to go through the lottery process. Instead, they are placed over the summer by Residence Life staff. Students with 6 or fewer merit points are also placed on probation and must meet certain expectations in order to be guaranteed housing for the fall semester.
- **Lottery numbers will be posted on Friday, March 27, 2009** online at the Residence Life website at www.stonehill.edu/x10000.xml
- **REPRESENTATIVES OF STUDENTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ABROAD** – If you are acting as a representative to a student who is studying abroad this spring, you will receive additional housing selection booklets for each person you have agreed to represent. If you are missing any information, please contact the Residence Life Office. Please fill out the housing intent forms for the student(s) you are representing and return them to our office by 4:30 PM on Wednesday, March 25, 2009. You do not need to complete room and board contracts for the students you are representing.
- **MERIT POINT TOTALS** – Students’ merit point totals will be considered final as of 4:30 PM on Friday, March 27, 2009. Fractions of merit points will not be rounded up and cannot be added together. Each student’s final total will be the number represented online at the Residence Life website as of Friday, March 27, 2009.
- **VOLUNTARY TRIPLES/QUADS** – For the 2009-2010 academic year only, students will receive monetary compensation from the College to voluntarily triple a double room or quad a natural triple room for the entire year. For more information about this offer, please read the blue insert at the beginning of this packet. In addition, voluntary triples/quads will receive special priority during the housing selection process. Unless other arrangements are made with Residence Life prior to opening day for the fall semester, students living in voluntary triple rooms will receive two wardrobes, three beds, three desks, three desk chairs and three dressers. Residence Life strongly recommends that students inform their parents or guardians about their decision to create a voluntary triple/quad for 2009-10.
- **MIXED BLOCKS** – Although it is not commonly done, students from different class years are allowed to block with one another. Rising seniors are permitted to block with rising juniors, and rising juniors are permitted to block with rising sophomores; however, rising seniors and rising

sophomores cannot block together. Mixed blocks will select rooms at the end of the lottery process constituted by 50% or more of the members of that block (Example: If a 5 block has 3 rising seniors and 2 rising juniors, they will select their rooms at the end of the rising senior lottery night).

- **BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES** – In the event there are issues concerning your block’s status, Residence Life will contact the person with the lowest lottery number to discuss any problems. This representative is responsible for sharing information with all other block members. If you would like to designate a specific representative, please circle that person’s name on the back of your Housing Intent Form.
- **DISAPPROVAL OF PROPOSED BLOCKS** – Residence Life reserves the right not to approve certain blocks, even if they have the minimum merit point total, if past behavior of those students has been determined to be detrimental to community living.
- **ROOMS WITH ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES** – Students who select rooms with special accessibility features may be displaced at a later date to accommodate students with special needs.
- **SPACES FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS**– In our first-year/sophomore buildings, we strive to achieve balance between classes within each wing and suite. Residence Life reserves the right to hold enough rooms for first year students in order to achieve this desired balance.
- **SPECIAL INTEREST HOUSING** – Space will be allocated for approved special interest housing groups prior to housing selection. Spaces assigned to special interest housing groups may include certain townhouses and O’Hara Village. Rising Seniors displaced from any area as a result of special interest housing will be given some additional priority as determined by Residence Life.
- **GRIEVANCES** – Any students who have concerns about the housing selection process may have them addressed by the Lottery Committee. **To be considered, grievance letters must be submitted to Peter Wiernicki no later than Tuesday, March 24, 2009.**
- **ROOMMATES OF STUDENTS NOT RETURNING FOR THE FALL SEMESTER** – If your roommate does not return to residency for the fall semester, Residence Life may consolidate you with another student in order to open up full rooms for new students, transfer students or other students as deemed necessary.
- **GENDER BALANCE** – Residence Life reserves the right to determine and/or change the gender status of certain houses and/or floors and/or suites in order to most effectively accommodate the number of male and female resident students on campus.
- **SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS** – O’Hara Village will remain a sophomore only area next year. Certain suites in Benaglia Hall will be reserved for wellness housing for rising sophomores and first year students. Depending on enrollment, Sheehan Hall may be reserved for underclass students.
- **WELLNESS HOUSING** – Rising Seniors, Juniors and Sophomores interested in living in wellness housing for 2009-10 should indicate their intent on their housing preference form. Students applying for wellness housing will be placed in Benaglia Hall over the summer as space permits.
- **BREAKING DOWN OF BLOCKS** – Students entering the room selection process as a block must remain in their block *until all available spaces* that can accommodate the block have been filled. ***Students may not break up their block if there is space available to house all the students in the block.*** If space isn’t available, Residence Life will break the block down and place students first by merit point total, then by lottery number, in the next appropriate process.

Students are strongly encouraged to discuss the pros and cons of each blocking option with all members of their proposed group before committing to a choice.

- **ROOM SELECTION FOR BLOCKS** – Blocks may only select rooms that are located on the same wing, suite or townhouse. Rooms selected by blocks do not necessarily need to be next to one another.
- **NATURAL TRIPLE ROOMS** – Students should note that there are a limited number of natural triple rooms on campus. If, during a given lottery night, there are more natural triple blocks than there are natural triple rooms to select, students will have three options: 1) create a voluntary triple (with no compensation) and select an available double room to house all three students; 2) split the block into a pair (which will be reordered for selection later that evening) and a “single” to be placed over the summer; or 3) elect to have all 3 students placed by Residence Life over the summer.
- **SINGLE ROOMS** – Students applying for single rooms for the 2009-10 academic year do not need to attend any of the selection nights listed above. Applicants for single rooms will instead be placed over the summer by Residence Life and will be notified of their fall assignment during the first week of August.
- **HOUSING WISH LIST** – If students are dissatisfied with their housing assignment following room selection, they may add their name to the wish list for a possible change during the summer. This list is organized by class year, block size, merit point totals, and then lottery number.