Impacts of Covid-19

Please note that some of the housing information on this page may be affected by changes associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. Please visit the fall 2020 housing dashboard (http://studentlife.mit.edu/fall2020) for regular updates and additional information.

Undergraduate Housing

At the undergraduate level, MIT is a residential university. Of the total undergraduate student body of 4,547, about 3,300 students live in a residence hall on campus, and about 1,100 students take advantage of living in MIT-approved fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups (FSILGs). Transfer students may be able to obtain housing on a space-available basis after the housing lottery for first-year students is complete.

The residential system provides an environment conducive to personal development and academic achievement. The achievement of both goals relies greatly on individual initiative and responsibility, as well as on effective shared governance in the residences. Students work with the professional staff in the Division of Student Life to support and create conditions that enhance student learning and personal development.

Faculty families chosen for their understanding of and interest in students live in each of the Institute residence halls as heads of house. They are not charged with formal academic or operational responsibilities; instead, they welcome informal associations with their residents. Area directors are residential staff, and each is responsible for supporting an undergraduate residence and serving as a support person for the students. They are charged with programmatic responsibilities and are on call for any concerns in the evenings and weekends. In all of the Institute residence halls, graduate resident advisors support the faculty residents in providing personal assistance to undergraduates.

With the exception of the all-female McCormick Hall, Institute residence halls have all-gender living facilities. Although first-year students are not guaranteed an assignment to a particular residence hall or single-gender area, every effort is made to assign students to one of their top choices.

Student governing groups establish and administer certain "local" residence hall regulations and maintain acceptable standards of community behavior. Residential student governments also organize social, athletic, and intellectual programs for residence hall members. In each Institute residence hall, a tax determined by the residents is collected by MIT and made available to the residence hall government to help support such activities. Individual fraternity, sorority, and independent living group chapters have similar charges to support their extracurricular programs.

The Institute believes that it is to the great advantage of all new students to reside on campus—that is, to live in a residence hall. First-year undergraduates particularly gain from associations with upper-level students and participation in residential programs. Therefore, all first-year students are required to live in one of the undergraduate residence halls on campus for the duration of their first year. This excludes any fraternity, sorority, or independent living group housing. Exceptions to this requirement are rare and are made through a petition process reviewed by Housing & Residential Services, the Office of the Vice President for Student Life, and the Office of Undergraduate Education.

Institute Houses (Undergraduate)

Baker House
Burton Conner House
East Campus
MacGregor House
Maseeh Hall
McCormick Hall
New Vassar (opening spring 2021)
Next House
Random Hall
Simmons Hall

Rooms in the Institute houses are engaged for the full academic year. For 2020–2021, the rates for the houses range from $4,580 to $6,220 per term.

Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups

Undergraduates affiliated with a fraternity, sorority, or independent living group have the option of residing in their FSILG facility after their first year. These houses are located in the cities of Cambridge, Boston, and Brookline, and are conveniently accessed by public or MIT transportation. Many FSILGs have their own meal plan, some are cook-for-yourself, and others have chefs that cook for the entire group. In addition, members share responsibility for chapter house duties and work closely with alumni and the FSILG Office on the general maintenance and upkeep of the chapter facility. Room and board at FSILGs varies per term and is determined by each FSILG. Each FSILG hosts a live-in graduate residence advisor (a graduate student hired and trained by MIT) who serves as a mentor and support person for the group members in residence. With the exception of Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Sigma, and Pi Beta Phi, Housing & Residential Services does not own or operate the FSILG chapter facilities. The FSILG houses are independently owned and operated by the individual alumni house corporations for each FSILG.
Additional Information
Additional information on undergraduate housing and application procedures is contained in The Guide to Residences (https://mitguideoresidences.mit.edu) and is updated every May. Additional information may be found on the Undergraduate Housing website (http://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/undergraduate-housing) or by contacting Housing & Residential Services, Room W59-200, 617-253-2811. Information about fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups also may be obtained on the FSILG website (http://studentlife.mit.edu/fsilg) and by contacting the FSILG Office, Room W59-200, 617-253-7546.

Graduate Single Student Housing
Approximately 32 percent of MIT’s graduate students reside on campus in Avery Allen Ashdown House, Ping Yuan Tang Residence Hall, Harold Edgerton House, The Warehouse (NW30), Sidney-Pacific Residence Hall, and 70 Amherst Street. Students must be registered each term (not including the summer) in order to reside on-campus student housing. More information about the housing process (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing) can be found on the Housing & Residential Services website.

The graduate residence halls provide a rich living environment in a number of different formats, including suites, kitchen suites, and apartments. All of the buildings have active student governments that plan and facilitate social and cultural events, as well as a faculty member serving as head of house in residence who, along with the house operations manager, supports the students. All units are gender inclusive but single gender units are available upon request. All buildings except for Edgerton House are furnished.

The rent for all graduate residences is charged on a monthly basis and the licenses are from the date of occupancy until July 31 each year (starting with the 2019–2020 license agreement). Housing termination policies (https://housing.mit.edu/graduatefamily/graduate_family_housing) can be found on the Housing & Residential Services website. All rents include heat, hot water, electricity, internet, and all building amenities, such as low-cost laundry, gym facilities, and front desk services. Some residences have a $5–$6 monthly tax to cover residence hall social activities.

Rents for the 2019–2020 academic year range from $838 to $2,083 per month, per student. Details about each of the residences (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing) can be found on the Housing & Residential Services website.

MIT graduate housing is assigned through an allocation process. Students can enter the allocation process between March and the end of April. Students can apply for the spring housing allocation process in November. Rooms that become available outside of the designated allocation periods are made available through a waiting list that runs from June through October and December through April. Details are available from Housing & Residential Services (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing/get-housing), located in W59-200, can be reached at 617-253-5148.

Student Family Housing
Approximately 400 graduate and undergraduate families reside in family housing on campus. Family housing is provided in the Eastgate Apartments, a high-rise apartment building which is scheduled to close in August 2020 when the new graduate residential tower opens in Kendall Square, and the Westgate Apartments, which consist of a high-rise building and several garden-style buildings. Each community has an active student government that plans and facilitates social and cultural events for the entire family. Apartments range from efficiencies to 2-bedroom apartments and are all unfurnished.

Residence in student family housing is limited to regular undergraduate and graduate students who are registered and attending MIT (on-campus) full time, and whose families reside together on a full-time basis, and to single parents with at least one child in residence. Except during the summer, students must be registered each term in order to reside in on-campus student housing. New graduate student assignments are for one year with the option to renew a second year, and a new license agreement is signed each year. Married undergraduates or undergraduates with children may live in family housing during their eight semesters of guaranteed housing. Returning students at the end of their renewable license period will have opportunities to obtain continuing status to remain living on campus. More information can be found on the Housing & Residential Services website (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing).

Eastgate and Westgate each have a faculty member or MIT staff person in residence to provide active support to the community. Each building has a playground and school bus stops.

The rent for all family residences is charged on a monthly basis and the licenses are from the date of occupancy until July 31 each year (starting with the 2019–2020 license agreement). Termination policies for family housing (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing) can be found on the Housing & Residential Services website. All rents include heat, hot water, electricity, and internet. Building amenities include low-cost laundry, playrooms, barbecues, and other common spaces.

Rents for the 2019–2020 academic year range from $1,517 to $2,148 per month, per apartment. Details about each of the residences can be found on the graduate and family housing website (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing).

Student family housing is managed by Housing & Residential Services and is assigned through an allocation process. Students can apply for the fall housing allocation in between March and the end of April. Students can apply for the spring housing allocation process in November. Rooms that become available outside of the
designated allocation periods are made available through a waiting list that runs from June through October and December through April. Details on how to get housing (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing/get-housing) are available on the Housing & Residential Services website.

Housing & Residential Services (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing), located in W59-200, can be reached at 617-253-5148.

Off-Campus Housing

Students who do not live on campus can consult the Off-Campus Housing Office, which maintains listings of available rentals in the greater Boston area. The staff provides students with resources for their search and advises and assists them during their tenancy if difficulties arise.

Housing & Residential Services (https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing), located in W59-200, can be reached at 617-253-1493, or visit the off-campus housing website (http://www.mitoffcampus.com).