

EZRA STILES

RISING-SOPHOMORE HOUSING

SPRING 2020

Congrats Moose of **2023!** You are almost through your first year! This means that you can now begin the exciting process of picking your suitemates for next year. Please read this info sheet carefully because the housing process has several steps and important deadlines.

In Ezra Stiles, the dean is responsible for all housing assignments. Room allocation is implemented by the housing committee, which is composed of the dean and two permanent representatives from each class. Any housing concerns should be addressed to the committee and they will respect confidential communications. Your class Housing Committee (HoCo) representatives are **Annie Gimán** and **Sam Vitale**.

Ezra Stiles College housing is determined by a lottery system that acknowledges seniority. Rising sophomores are guaranteed housing for the sophomore year. All sophomores must share a bedroom with one other person, and the chosen roommate can be of any gender. Options for housing stock will appear in Vesta. Important dates and deadlines are as follows:

Group Formation for rising Sophomores & Seniors – Wednesday, 4/1 9:00 a.m. - **4/3** 5:00 p.m. (EST)

Pre-Draw for oversubscribed Sophomores & Seniors – Monday, **4/6** 9:00 a.m. (EST)

- groups eliminated from oversubscribed suite types must disband and **re-form by 4/7 5:00 p.m.** (EST)

- Groups will receive a survey for their suite-type preference

Lottery for rising Sophomores & Seniors – Tuesday, 4/7 5:00 p.m. (EST)

Suite Preference Survey Deadline for class of 2021 and 2023 – Wednesday, **4/8 9:00 a.m.** (EST)

- HoCo Reps. will place groups in suites according to their lottery # and preferences

- Group leaders are able to assign individual rooms in Vesta once suitemates agree

- Students who participated in the draw must submit housing contracts no later than **Friday, April 10.**

I. GROUP FORMATION

- a. Appoint a Group Leader for your lottery-group, the group of students who will constitute your suite. The Group Leader will primarily be responsible for logging information into Vesta.
- b. **Group Leaders** create a lottery-group in Vesta and invite others in the group/suite to join. Group Leaders can select a group “size” which can be changed until the group is finalized. When a group is full and all members confirm their participation in the group, the leader can “finalize” it, i.e., it can no longer be modified.
- c. Use the time during group formation wisely to view the system for information that will be useful for you. Vesta is a tool you use to find roommates, see open groups, see the available housing stock, and the demand for suite types. Use all of these features to help inform your decisions.

- i. **Pro tip:** Ask some important questions - how many suite configurations are oversubscribed? Should you disband and reconfigure into a suite-type that has less demand? If a group doesn't seem to have sufficient students, should you join them?
- ii. **Pro tip #2:** Have honest conversations with your roommate and suitemates about any concerns you may have going into an oversubscribed group. For instance, if being in a single-gender suite is a priority to you, you may not wish to risk a pre-draw. Respect those concerns when voiced by others and work together to find acceptable alternatives.
- d. Students can ask to join a given group that is not yet full and can withdraw if they so choose before the group is finalized.
- e. **Group Finalization:**
 - i. All sophomores must be in a group before the Pre-Draw (if necessary), Lottery and Draw can proceed. For this reason, the deadline for groups to form and finalize is a very hard deadline. Those who do not adhere to this deadline will be automatically removed from pre-draw, placed at the bottom of the lottery [not a fun place to be] or assigned an available suitemate or to an available group at the Dean's discretion.

II. PRE-DRAW (*Only for Oversubscribed Groups*)

- a. Groups who are in oversubscribed suite configurations will be automatically entered in a pre-draw. For instance, if there are 5 groups of 8 students vying for the 4 available octets, the pre-draw will decide which group will not get an octet. The group that is eliminated will need to look at the system online, see which suite types are not oversubscribed, and reconfigure themselves. The goal is to have every group know their suite-type before the final draw.
- b. The Dean will use the Pre-draw function in Vesta to randomly sort out oversubscribed groups.
 - i. If your group gets eliminated at the pre-draw stage, then you will need to log into Vesta, review the *available* housing stock that's *not* oversubscribed, and reconfigure your group to fit the available suite sizes. There is only one pre-draw.
 - ii. Any group eliminated as a result of the pre-draw must immediately disband and elect another available (i.e. not over-subscribed) suite-type. Bottom line - have a plan B or C if you are vying for a suite-type that is in high demand.
- c. At the end of the pre-draw process, everyone in your class will know what *type* of suite they will live in next year.

Pro-tip: Assess your level of risk. Stay away from oversubscribed groups if you do not want the uncertainty of disbanding and reconfiguring yourselves last minute to fit available housing stock and/or matching with classmates (regardless of gender and whom you may or may not know well) who find themselves in a similar situation.

III. LOTTERY AND DRAW

- a. **Lottery:** During this phase, the Housing Committee will conduct the lottery and Vesta will randomly assign lottery numbers to each group. The lottery numbers will define the order in which groups choose specific suites within your suite-type. All numbers established during this lottery are final.

- b. **Draw:** Each lottery-group/suite, will indicate their suite preference based on their suite-type. Following the Lottery, HoCo reps will consult each group's preference selection and assign suites in order of lottery number. If a group cannot, for some reason, participate in the preference survey, they need to appoint a proxy who will participate on their behalf. Alert HoCo reps of proxy appointment. With sufficient notice, HoCo reps may also serve as proxies as long as you request beforehand.
- c. **Housing Contracts:** As soon as suites are chosen, each member of the group is required to sign the Housing Contract for the 2020/2021 Academic Year. This is a binding contract. Those who later back out of contracted on-campus housing will have to pay a not-insignificant housing penalty. No exceptions.
 1. When students sign their housing contract, they will be asked to indicate their room # as well.
 2. Group leaders are able to enter room numbers in Vesta
 3. Once the draw closes, room changes will need to be made in writing to the Dean's office (see "Room Switching" below).

EZRA STILES COLLEGE HOUSING RULES

General Rules

1. **Deadlines are firm.** Housing deadlines are very carefully planned, and it is critical that they be observed by all participants throughout the housing process to ensure it runs smoothly. Failure to adhere to housing deadlines may result in students being placed at the bottom of the lottery list or being assigned to an available group/suite/room at the Dean's discretion.
2. **All questions in writing.** If you have any questions or concerns about housing rules in Stiles that are not explained in this document, you must submit them in writing (this includes e-mail) to your class's housing reps, who will bring them before the committee.
3. **New Stilesians.** Stiles may house 4 unknown suitemates next year: 2 transfer students from other universities, and 2 visiting rising juniors from international universities. Groups may agree to take one or more of these students as a member of their suite. Groups that wish to exercise this option must inform the Dean and McKenzie as soon as possible. In all cases, seniority rules.

Before the Housing Draw

1. **Class Definitions: Sophomore/Junior/Senior.** For purposes of the housing rules, a student is a member of the class he or she will enter in the upcoming fall. A current first-year student will be defined as a sophomore in these rules, a current sophomore as a junior, and a current junior as a senior. (See Rule 2 on acceleration.)
2. **Acceleration, Leaves, and Withdrawals.** Acceleration does not affect class status for purposes of housing. Students participate in the lottery of their current class. A student who takes off one term is allowed for housing purposes to participate as a member of his or her original class. A student who takes off two or more terms and returns to a different class will be considered for housing purposes a member of the new class. A student who wishes to participate in the housing draw of their original class should notify the Dean's Office in advance of the Intent deadline. No student who is currently

withdrawn from Yale may participate in a lottery even though he or she anticipates reinstatement in the upcoming fall term.

3. **Students Currently Abroad or on Leave.** Students who are currently taking a term abroad or a semester off may be included in the lottery only if they intend to be enrolled in Yale this coming fall. To be counted in the lottery, such students must notify the Dean's Office in writing of their intention to live in Ezra Stiles next fall and designate someone (a housing proxy) to act on their behalf in the lottery. If the student cannot find another student to be their proxy, they may ask for their class' Housing Committee representatives to serve as their proxy.
4. **Students Planning a Fall Term Abroad.** Students who applied for and received confirmation for acceptance into a Fall term study abroad program should not participate in the Housing draw nor contract for housing, and should therefore declare intent to live off-campus, even if they plan to live on-campus in the spring term. Students attempting to secure on-campus housing they do not intend to use during the Fall term may be subject to the [charges outlined in Financial Services](#).
5. **Housing for Spring Term Only.** Students who will be studying abroad or on a Leave of Absence in the Fall and therefore want housing for the Spring term only must not participate in the Vesta process. See Section #4 above. Requests for second-semester housing for students who will be abroad or on leave in the Fall must be submitted to the Dean's Office by November 30. Every attempt will be made to accommodate returning students seeking second-semester housing but cannot be guaranteed.
6. **Mixed-Year Housing.** Any requests to live with members of another year will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are not guaranteed. We will do our best to accommodate people who legitimately want these arrangements. For mixed-year housing, class is determined by the lowest year. This means that the upper-level students in the group will enter the lower-level student's draw. **Please talk to the Housing Committee and email McKenzie no later than March 6th if you plan to live in a group that has students from different classes.**
7. **Co-ed Housing.** Rising seniors, juniors and sophomores are allowed to live in mixed-gender rooms and mixed-gender suites. In fact, unless specifically designated by the dean, all floors will also be mixed gender.
8. **Special Needs or Housing Concerns.** The dean cannot guarantee any special arrangements unless such requests are accompanied by authorization from Student Accessibility Services (health-related) or the Chaplain's Office (faith-based). **Please note: students who received an extraordinary waiver last year, note that waiver will not apply/carry over to future years. Students must apply or register with the above-mentioned offices each year and notify the dean and McKenzie of your plan as soon as possible.
9. **Ghosting.** Ghosting occurs when a student submits his or her name into the online system indicating intent to live on-campus, knowing that he or she does not plan to live in the residential college. A student who does this and withdraws before the draw is also considered to be ghosting. The dean and the housing committee regard ghosting as disrespectful and inconsiderate behavior. Should this occur, one of two things may happen: (1) the group will be allowed to keep the room, but the dean and Housing Committee may place someone to fill the vacated spot without consulting the other group members, or (2) the group will forfeit their right to the room and may be forced to disperse. In addition, the individual who engaged in ghosting will be at the bottom list of the draw for all subsequent draws.

The Housing Draw

1. **Lottery Groups.** If any of the people in your lottery group (i.e., group of students who will form your suite) change or drop out after the group formation deadline, the Housing Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action (e.g., assigning students to the room or giving the suite last pick in the draw.). Late applicants automatically get last pick in their respective lotteries.
2. **Lotteries.** Lotteries determine the order in which students pick their rooms. Everyone is welcome to observe this process in the name of transparency. There are separate lotteries for the sophomore, junior, and senior classes.
3. **Decisions are Final.** Any and all decisions made at the draw are final and it is your responsibility to attend the draw. If there are extenuating circumstances that require you to miss the draw, you must designate a proxy and have this person sign the form and attend the room draw for you. Please alert the Housing Committee of any such arrangements and see McKenzie for the proxy form.
4. **Best Behavior.** The Committee reserves the right to expel from the room draw proceedings anyone who causes a disturbance or who otherwise disrupts the room draw. The Committee will represent those expelled for the remainder of the draw.
5. **Housing Contracts.** At the time students choose a room, they will sign a contract for that room.

After the Housing Draw

1. **Room Switching.** If two suites or individuals wish to exchange rooms after the draw, they must do so by contacting the Dean's Office. All members of both suites must agree to any and all switches in writing (see McKenzie for instructions). **A student who has signed a contract may not switch rooms without permission from the dean. If it is discovered that a student has done so without permission, he/she will have to move to their assigned room and will automatically be placed at the bottom of the following year's housing draw.**
2. **Relinquishing Housing.** Anyone who participates in room draw and then decides to relinquish his/her housing in order to live off-campus or to take a leave of absence is subject to a fine of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the fall term room rate, as stated in the Yale College Undergraduate Regulations.
3. **Doubles are Doubles.** Should your roommate take a leave of absence or for any other reason surrender their on-campus housing, the Dean may fill that empty bed according to the needs of the college. The same applies for singles within-a suite.
4. **Smoking.** Smoking is forbidden everywhere on campus. If a student is discovered to have smoked in the college, the student will be placed at the bottom of the housing draw for the following year, and may be subject to other disciplinary actions as determined by the Head of College and Dean.
5. **Pets.** Pets are not allowed to reside within the college. Students with questions about support animals on campus should contact Student Accessibility Services.

Elastic Clause. The Housing Committee reserves the right to modify the rules at any time if the situation warrants. In addition, suite assignments can be changed to ensure fairness and to make sure

that everyone has a place to live. All decisions will be made at the discretion of the Housing Committee, the Dean, and the Head. All decisions are final.

STILES 2020 HOUSING COMMITTEE
STUDENT MEMBERS

Class of 2020

Gina Zhu
Tiana Wang

Class of 2021

Jaeger Johnson

Class of 2022

Reta Behnam
Tony Leche

Class of 2023

Annie Giman
Sam Vitale