BC/CU Exchange: Open Housing Form

The following conditions of participation are applicable to students who elect to live in an “Open Housing” room / suite and reside with a person(s) of a different gender (regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression).

- All roommates in Open Housing must be undergraduate Barnard, Columbia College, or SEAS students who are at least 18 years of age and eligible for BC/CU Room Selection. The Open Housing option is not open to incoming first year students.
- Co-ed groups may only select an entirely empty suite, which matches the size of their group. Co-ed groups may not select partial suites, suites that were broken into smaller blocks, and/or RA suites where spaces were left over, etc.
- Students must apply with their prospective roommate(s)/suitemate(s) following the same processes and deadlines of all students entering the Room Selection Process.
- Open Housing options will be selected during Room Selection only.
- Issues relating to room reassignments and vacancies will generally follow the procedure set forth in the Barnard Housing Contract. Students will be eligible to request room changes, but are encouraged to make use of Res Life staff to help mediate any roommate/suitmate difficulties before requesting a room change.
- If a roommate/suitmate cancels their housing or moves out of the room/suite for any reason, the remaining occupants must identify an eligible & willing new roommate/suitmate to fill the vacancy within the time period determined by Residential Life & Housing. This window of time will vary depending on the time of year and the status of any waitlists for assignments or room changes, but will typically be between 24 hours to one week. Depending on the time of the year, the current balance of the BC/CU Housing Exchange, and whether the person(s) cancelling is a Barnard or Columbia student, the space will be defined as open only for a Barnard or Columbia student (not either). If another eligible student is not identified within the time period, Residential Life & Housing reserves the right to request that the Columbia student(s) be relocated back to Columbia housing in order to return the suite to single-gender and/or all-BC status.
- Students are required to communicate to their roommate(s)/suitmate(s) if they are considering or will be cancelling their housing or requesting a room change.
- Columbia University & Barnard College has established standards of conduct to which all students are held accountable, including conduct standards relating to abusive, threatening, intimidating, or harassing actions (including, but not limited to, those based on race, religion, gender, disability, age, economic status, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression) and sexual misconduct. Students understand that resources are available in the event of concerns related to such policy. In addition, students may be referred to the appropriate disciplinary process if Residential Life & Housing becomes aware of behavior that may constitute a violation of policy.
- Like most colleges, Barnard discourages students of any sexual orientation who are in a relationship from living together in a residence hall, although we do not question any student’s reasoning for wanting to live in Open Housing.
- It is the student’s choice to share with parent(s) or guardian(s) about the decision to live in an Open Housing option. Residential Life & Housing encourages students to talk with parent(s) or guardian(s) about their housing choice so that they can be in support of the decision.
- There is no guarantee that a co-ed group entering the Barnard Room Selection process will be able to select a full suite, as this depends on the number of available suites and count of other lottery groups matching your group size.

Each student in the Group must fill out and submit this form.

My signature below indicates that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the policies outlined above.

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Form revised 2/4/2019