

TOP 10

reasons to live in a College House



THRIVE AT PENN
Housing Choices

1 | Traditional Penn Experience

Living with other Penn students: College Houses are where life-long friendships start and community happens. It's the best way to stay connected to friends and meet new ones. It is the heart of the Penn experience.

2 | Safe and secure Houses

Safety starts at the electronic access portals at each entrance. Additionally, each House has 24-hour staffed security trained to handle emergencies and state-of-the-art life safety systems.

3 | Lots of support when needed

Core to the House system is that House Deans and RAGAs are there to provide personal support and advice. House staffs know how to get answers and connect to campus resources. It's like a live version of Siri.

4 | Penn faculty and staff as neighbors and mentors

From in-House academic advising to credit courses and workshops, there are lots of professional faces that enrich your Penn experience with their stories and expertise. Many of the professors and teaching assistants offer tutoring and writing support to residents. There are even House-based fellowships available for students interested in research, film, and music.

5 | Programming and community activities

There are dinners and informal events available to residents pretty much every night of the week. Mostly free and some reduced-price tickets to dozens of House-sponsored events at Penn and all over Philadelphia.

6 | Program Communities *available to upperclass students*

Program Communities are opportunities for residents to live in clusters or floors with other students and faculty who share a passion for a particular subject or course. They are specialized residential communities that supplement academic goals and enable residents to develop academic, interpersonal and life skills through focused objectives and engaged involvement. Membership is voluntary, requires a special application process, and results in a particular bed space assignment. Students can apply to Theme Communities, enroll in Course Communities, or even design their own each year.

7 | Leadership opportunities

The House system relies on its residents to drive the experience. House governance and various councils take the lead in shaping policies and planning events. There are over 400 paid positions to gain pre-professional experience while assisting the House-Resident Advisors, Managers, Information Technology Advisors, office workers, baristas, etc.

8 | All in one pricing structure

No utility, cable TV or internet bills. Academic year lease only—no commitment to a 12-month lease or subletting necessary in College Houses. Rent includes all House services, secure-ubiquitous Wi-Fi, computer labs, and free laundry for residents. No security deposit is required, and there's even lease flexibility for study abroad students.

9 | New easy application process

Apply to Program Communities or for general housing in a few easy clicks. Pick the space you want. Upperclass students returning to the High-Rises and Four-Year Houses will automatically receive priority in the process. All other students are assigned a timeslot for access.

10 | Amenities included; worries excluded

Residents can reserve study and technology spaces. Information Centers offer assistance with lock-outs, renting out supplies like vacuums and moving carts, access to mailrooms, etc. Furniture is also included with rent. There are 3 specified periods to request room changes, if desired.

PLUS

LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!

The convenience of living on campus cannot be understated. Close to classes, some in-House dining halls, cafes, and convenience stores – all perks of staying in your College House.

Four-Year College House Communities

W.E.B. Du Bois, Gregory, Stouffer and Lauder College Houses—Penn’s four-year College House communities—in many ways represent the ideal College House experience. Residents have a much greater chance of getting to know one another on a deeper level, of building lifelong friendships and forging closer bonds with the residential faculty because their resident populations range from 180 to 350 and include members from all four academic years.

W.E.B. DU BOIS COLLEGE HOUSE was established in 1972 and over the past 45 years has built an enduring legacy as a House where residents celebrate the rich mosaic of its engaged and diverse population. With a mission focused on African and African American scholarship and culture, this close-knit community gives residents many opportunities to explore cultures, engage with the West Philadelphia community, and enjoy a thriving, friendly House experience.

GREGORY COLLEGE HOUSE is a time-tested and proudly idiosyncratic alternative to the larger Houses, with a unique mix of the private and the social. Recently renovated with a state-of-the-art Cinema Lounge and private bedroom space for all residents, Gregory offers plenty of breathing space alongside an active and vibrant event calendar.

LAUDER COLLEGE HOUSE is Penn’s newest House. Opened in 2016 in Penn’s first building expressly designed to house the College House experience, its inaugural group of residents put their stamp on what has become an active, exciting community engaged with sustainability, global issues and undergraduate research.

STOUFFER COLLEGE HOUSE boasts a reputation as the College House most dedicated to its sense of community and belonging, with the highest year-to-year retention rate of any House. Fun, comfortable and friendly, nothing comes closer to home.

Program Communities

For many students the idea of living with a smaller community of people who share a culture, lifestyle or interest is very appealing. Program Communities are clustered and themed living opportunities currently in Gregory, Harnwell, Harrison, KCECH, and Rodin. The potential for an enriched residential experience is limitless with so many topics to explore together.

Membership is voluntary, requires a special application process, and results in a particular bed space assignment. Students can apply to Theme Communities, enroll in Course Communities, or even design their own each year.

List of communities with descriptions:
www.collegehouses.upenn.edu/life/programs/listing

Application Process:
www.collegehouses.upenn.edu/life/upperclass

Essay Guide:
www.collegehouses.upenn.edu/life/tips

WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES

Ancient Studies
Cultures Collective
Modern Languages Program { Arabic, Chinese, French, German, and Spanish

ARTS & LETTERS

Arts House
Film Culture
Front Row Theatre and the Arts
Integrated Living Program
TRAC (The Rodin Arts Collective)

IDENTITY & SELF

BL(o)C: Balanced Living Community
Jewish Culture Study Program
2XP: The Second Year Experience

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

Biosciences Community
Eco-House

LEADERSHIP

Kings Court English Leadership Program
Leadership Residential Program

Upperclass College House Communities

Harnwell, Harrison and Rodin Houses each provide residential opportunities for approximately 800 sophomore, junior and senior students; each of these high-rise Houses enjoy apartment-style living arrangements. High-rise apartment living tends to be more independent, though faculty and staff here are nothing short of miraculous in hosting events that bring the community together both intellectually and socially.

