

# WHY ROOMMATE MATCHING IS SO IMPORTANT



Temple's Housing team aims to support you during every step of your decision process. From researching which housing option suits your needs to helping you find a roommate, our staff is available to guide you through each step leading up to your arrival to campus.

Here at Temple, we offer a variety of housing options, and most new students share their space with one to three roommates. We understand your living arrangement hugely impacts your happiness and success during your first year so we have systems in place to help you make this decision. We encourage you to participate in our roommate matching process to find roommate(s) you are excited to live with! Please pay special attention to the "Student Profile" portion of your application because this will match you with fellow students who are looking for a similar living experience. Our software will show you a percentage match with all potential roommates and, from there, we encourage you to reach out to students you feel could be a great roommate match for you. We provide you the email addresses of your potential matches, but many students also find each other on social media and connect that way. In this guide are the step-by-step instructions you will need to participate in the matching process from using our roommate matching tool to forming a roommate group and selecting housing toaether.

If you reach out to potential roommates and decide you would prefer to be assigned a random roommate, not to worry! You still have the option of selecting housing on your own, without a roommate group. We hope you will take advantage of the tools we offer and are confident they will help you make a decision that is best for you.





Everything starts with you completing your profile. Within the housing application, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire on the profile page about your living style.

Roommate matching percentages are based on the answers to the profile questions, so it is important to be honest! The more questions you answer will result in better roommate matching.

We've looked at various questionnaires and surveys and determined the most common and useful questions to ask students related to their shared living experience and what students report as being most important when considering roommates.

#### **BEDTIME**



- What time do you typically go to bed on weekdays?
- Are you a night owl or an early bird?

#### **SHARING OF BELONGINGS**



- How open are you to sharing personal items with roommates?
- Are there specific items or areas that you prefer to keep private?

#### **VOLUME**



- On a scale of 1 to 10, how much does noise bother you?
- Do you enjoy playing music or watching TV in your living space?



**GUESTS** 

- How often do you prefer to have quests over?
- Are you comfortable with overnight quests?

#### **NEATNESS**



- Describe your level of tidiness in shared living spaces.
- Are you comfortable with shared responsibilities for keeping common areas clean?



**ACADEMICS** 

- How do you balance your academic responsibilities with social activities?
- Do you have specific study habits or preferences that you'd like your roommate to be aware of?



#### WHAT IS A ROOMMATE GROUP?

A group of 2-7 students of the same gender who wish to live together in one unit (i.e. one apartment, one suite, one room) can form a Roommate Group.

If you want to live with a group in Specialty Housing, such as a Living Learning Community or Gender Inclusive Housing, all roommates would also need to formally apply to that community before a Roommate Group can be considered.

#### WHEN CAN I JOIN OR CREATE A ROOMMATE GROUP?

Students can create or join a group after they have completed their housing application, including submitting a deposit. Roommate matching will be available before and up through the room selection period.

### HOW DOES BEING IN A ROOMMATE GROUP AFFECT HOW I SELECT HOUSING?

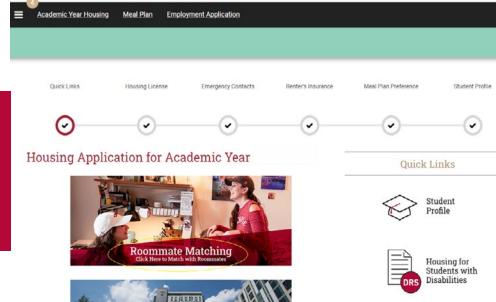
If you are in a Roommate Group, one member (any member) of the group will assign everyone in the group to a room, suite, or apartment when your time slot opens. It is recommended that the member with the earliest room selection time slot performs the room selection for the group.

Your time slot is the earliest date and time that you can select your room according to your deposit date.

Keep in mind that roommates are not guaranteed even if in a roommate group. If everyone in the group can't be assigned to one room/unit during Room Selection, the group leader must disband the group. At that point, all group members will retain their original time slot and need to assign themselves before the deadline.

# roommate matching **OVERVIEW**





#### **QUICK LINKS**

After students complete their housing application, a "Quick Links" page will then be visible. The link for Roommate Matching will appear there.

### ROOMMATE MATCHING OVERVIEW

The first page provides an overview of Roommate Matching, some helpful tips, and a video tutorial.



Cancel My Housing

#### What is a Roommate Group?

- A group of 2-7 students of the same gender who wish to live together in one unit (i.e. one apartment, one suite, one room) can form a Roommate Group.
  - NOTE: If you are approved to live in a Living Learning Community (LLC), you can only roommate match with other approved LLC members.

#### When can I join or create a Roommate Group?

- Students can create or join a group after they have completed all of the application steps AND submitted a housing deposit.
  - TIP: The sooner you complete your housing application and submit a housing deposit, the quicker you can find roommates!

#### How does being in a Roommate Group affect how I select housing?

- If you are in a Roommate Group, one member (any member) of the group can assign everyone in the group to a room, suite, or apartment when their time slot opens.
- TIP: It is recommended that the member with the earliest room selection time slot performs the room selection for the group.
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CONTINUE

# managing groups IN MYHOUSING



#### **ROOMMATE GROUP**

If you and your friends would like to live together, you have the option of creating a Roommate Group. During room selection, you will search for available rooms that will accommodate your entire group.

**Create a Group** allows you to create a group by searching for specific friends to add to your group.

- a. Students select a Group Leader.
- b. Groups can consist of 2 to 7 people.
- c. The Group Leader establishes the group name and password to share with other roommate(s).

**Join Group** allows you to join a group that has already been created.

a. You will be able to input a password created by your Group Leader to join their group. (Ex. Your friend has created a group and given you the information to join the group.)

Search for Roommate Group allows you to search for existing searchable roommate groups and request to join them. This option is only available if you have not created our own group yet.



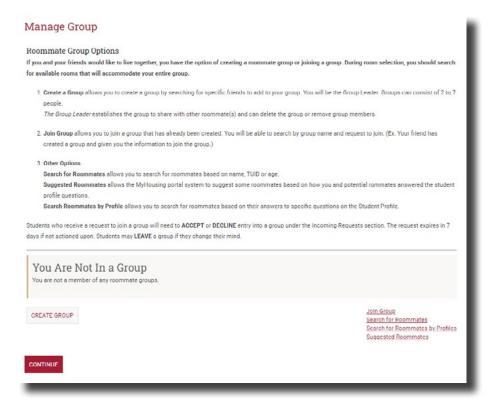
# managing groups IN MYHOUSING

#### **MANAGE GROUP**

The "Manage Group" page is the central place you can see your group, search for groups, or search for roommates.

#### ADDING A ROOMMATE

When you request to join a group or request a new roommate, the request expires after 3 days. The group leader or student requested needs to respond to the request to confirm.







SEARCH FOR ROOMMATES

Search for Roommates allows you to search for roommates based on name, TUID or age.

Suggested Roommates allows the MyHousing portal to suggest some roommates based on how you and potential roommates answered the student profile questions. This option will only produce results after you have created a group.

**IMPORTANT:** Before you can Search for Roommates or look for Suggested Roommates, you need to Create Group first. Otherwise, you will see an error message stating: "No matches found".

Students will need to ACCEPT or DECLINE entry into a group. Students may LEAVE a group if they change their mind.



### creating a ROOMMATE GROUP

#### ROOMMATE GROUP DETAILS

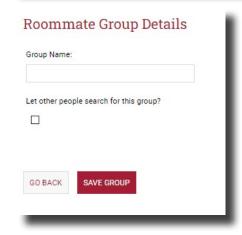
When you create a new group, you will need to add a group name and indicate whether the group should be searchable or not.

#### Manage Group Roommate Group Options If you and your friends would like to live together, you have the option of creating a roommate group or joining a group. During room selection, you should search for available rooms that will accommodate your entire group. 1. Create a Group allows you to create a group by searching for specific friends to add to your group. You will be the Group Leader. Groups can consist of 2 to 7 The Group Leader establishes the group to share with other roommate(s) and can delete the group or remove group members 2. Join Group allows you to join a group that has already been created. You will be able to search by group name and request to join. (Ex. Your friend has created a group and given you the information to join the group.) Search for Roommates allows you to search for roommates based on name, TUID or age Suggested Roommates allows the MyHousing portal system to suggest some roommates based on how you and p profile questions. Search Roommates by Profile allows you to search for roommates based on their answers to specific questions on the Student Profile Students who receive a request to join a group will need to ACCEPT or DECLINE entry into a group under the Incoming Requests section. The request expires in 7 days if not actioned upon. Students may LEAVE a group if they change their mind You Are Not In a Group CREATE GROUP Search for Roommates Search for Roommates by Profiles Suggested Roommates

#### **JOIN GROUP**

This page will allow students to request to join a known/existing group.

Students will need to enter the Group Name and the Group Password. The creator of the original group should share this information with members and potential members of the group.



#### Join Group

Join Group allows you to join a group that has already been created. You will need to enter the group name created by your leader to join their group. You may remove yourself from the group if you change your mind. Please enter the group name your friend created to join their group.

Group Name:

#### **Roommate Search By Details**

This link/page allows students to search for a specific roommate by name or TUID search for a specific roommate by name or TUID.

#### **Roommate Search by Profile**

Search for Roommates by using the profile questions answered during the application process.

### Roommate Search By Details

Search for roommates by any of the following details:



#### Roommate Search By Profiles

Roommate Matching Questions What time do you prefer to go to bed during the week? What level of background noise (music, TV, talking, etc.) do you prefer when you are studying? Any What is your neatness level? Any What is your comfort level with sharing your belongings? How often do you like to have guests over? How academically focused are you? How would you describe your personality? Any How active are you? How many roommates are you looking for? Describe your level of comfort with an animal in your room. Are you interested in Gender-Inclusive Housing? Exclude results that cannot be added or joined GO BACK SEARCH



#### **GROUP CHECKLIST**

Make sure everyone in your group completes their deposit, application, and joins the group correctly. You will be able to see who has been confirmed and who is still pending on the "manage group" page.

#### **ELIGIBILITY FOR TIMESLOTS AND HOUSING SELECTION**

If everyone submits their application and deposit by February 1, they will be eligible to receive a timeslot and be able to choose housing during room selection the week of February 12-15, 2024.

#### **DESIGNATING THE GROUP LEADER**

Once timeslots are shared, identify the person in your group who has the earliest timeslot and make them the group leader. The group leader will choose on behalf of the entire group during room selection.

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR GROUP LEADERS:**

Group Leaders: once it is your timeslot and you are selecting housing for your group, pay special attention to the last screen of room selection titled "Assign Beds" where you will be assigning specific bed spaces to each of your roommates. If you don't select a bedspace for each person, you will leave someone out! If this happens, they will need to leave the group using the "manage group" page and will be forced to choose housing on their own during their own timeslot.