

Frequently Asked Questions 2019 Summer

Getting Ready:

How do I check in?

General check-in for all Summer Sessions begins at 3pm in the Chevron Auditorium on the dates listed below:

- Session A – May 26, 2019
- Session B – June 9, 2019
- Session C – June 23, 2019
- Session D – July 7, 2019
- Sessions A&D – May 26, 2019

I-House Resident Assistants (RA) will be available to assist you and answer your questions when you arrive.

If you arrive later in the evening, you will be able to check-in at the Front Desk. You can reach the Front Desk at (510) 642-9490, 8am and 12am every day. After midnight, we kindly request that you use that phone number to contact the RA on duty to assist you with checking in. Please bring a photo ID with you when you check in.

Can I arrive early?

Early arrivals are limited and we are only able to accommodate such requests when space is available. Please contact the Admissions team to inquire about availability. The sooner you make a request for an early arrival, the more likely that we will be able to accommodate your request. Once approved, additional nightly charges will need to be paid to finalize the extra nights.

Can I arrive late?

Yes. If you plan to arrive after the scheduled move-in date, please notify us in advance by emailing us at ihres@berkeley.edu. This way, we will know when to expect you and we can ensure that we have your check-in packet ready for you at the Front Desk on the day of your arrival. You may Check-in at the Front Desk after 5pm on your scheduled move-in date.

Can I store my luggage at I-House?

We only offer luggage storage on our official move-in dates – May 26th, June 9th, June 23rd and July 7th. If you arrive earlier than the scheduled check-in time of 3pm, your luggage can be stored in a secure space until check-in officially begins.

What should I bring for my room?

Very little. Your room is furnished with a regular twin size bed, a dresser, a nightstand, a desk, a desk chair, and desk lamp as well as an overhead ceiling light. Each room is also equipped with a radiator, allowing you to control heating within your room. Linens and pillows are available for purchase through the Resident Service Center (RSC) located near the ground floor Laundry Room. In addition, you may rent other items such as an iron or mini refrigerator from the RSC rather than bringing your own. Please see our [What to Bring \(pdf\)](#) for more information and a list of prohibited items.

Can I have mail or packages sent to me before I arrive?

No. Due to the sheer number of residents moving in during our primary check-ins we are unable to accept packages until **after** residents have checked in. Please schedule any packages you may have sent to International House with this in mind.

What is my mailing address?

Your mailing address to receive mail is:

Your Name
International House
2299 Piedmont Avenue
Your Room #
Berkeley, CA 94720-2320 USA

How do I set up my Wireless I-House Internet Connection and access my Mailbox:

After you have checked into I-House, you can connect to the internet and get your mailbox combination by signing on to your account via the StarRez portal:

<https://ihb.starrezhousing.com/StarRezPortal/>

Once you have logged on, click on "*IHouseID and Mailbox*". You will find detailed instructions on how to navigate to the internet registration by creating an I-House Network Registration. You will also find detailed instructions on how to open and close your mailbox.

How do I get from SFO/Oakland airport to I-House?

BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) goes directly from both Oakland and SFO to Downtown Berkeley, where you can take a taxi, Lyft or Uber to the International House—about a 5 minute drive. You may also use a shuttle service or a cab. Please visit the [SFO](#) or [Oakland Airport](#) websites for comprehensive airport transportation information.

Living at I-House:

What's the occupancy at I-House during the Academic Year? What's the population of residents like?

We currently house 590 residents for the Academic Year and up to 625 during the summer. Of these, about 75% are international students from all over the world including visiting scholars, researchers and Education Abroad Reciprocity students. Most years, we have about 60% graduate students, post docs and visiting scholars and 40% undergraduates. Visiting scholars comprise around 15% of our resident population. The Summer Session population is also diverse and comprised of students from around the world.

Do you accommodate special diets? Vegetarian? Vegan?

Dining Services provides a variety of meal options, including vegetarian and vegan selections. Although not guaranteed, special diets can usually be accommodated within our facility. Residents are encouraged to arrange a meeting with our dining staff to discuss any special dietary concerns or food allergies by e-mailing ihdining@berkeley.edu.

Can I transfer from I-House to a campus residence hall or vice versa?

I-House is separate from the UC Berkeley residence halls, so you cannot transfer your residency to Campus Housing. Each housing option requires a separate application and has separate policies.

How do I pay my Room & Board fees? When are they due?

Summer fees are due in full prior to arrival. There a variety of ways you can pay your fees. The preferred way is via wire transfer or direct deposit. If you have specific questions about payment options (i.e., setting up direct deposit or wire transfer), please contact our Resident Account Manager, Queenie Santos at qcs@berkeley.edu or 510-643-8316.

Are rooms/floors coed?

Shared rooms are not coed. Each floor is coed with the exception of the 8th floor Women's Hall.

Are bathrooms and showers shared? How many are there?

Bathrooms and showers are shared but are separated by gender. There are 2 bathrooms and 2 shower facilities for each gender on each floor with the exception of the 8th floor which is our Women's Hall and only has a female bathroom and one shower facility.

Can I change my room or my roommate?

During the summer, we do not grant any requests to change rooms or roommates.

What parking lots/spaces are available?

Parking on the UC Berkeley campus is very difficult. In non-metered areas, parking is free for two hours and unregulated after 7 pm. A limited number of permits are available through the City of Berkeley for an annual fee of \$45, which exempts you from the two-hour limit. Please see the City of Berkeley [parking website](#) for more information. Meters are free with a California disabled placard.

Who do I go to if I have questions or concerns while living at I-House?

Do not hesitate to talk to the Resident Support Services (RSS) staff at the Front Desk. They are available to help you 24 hours a day, daily. You can also reach them by calling (510) 642-9490. Concerns of a sensitive nature will remain confidential.

I-House Resources:

Where do I find more information about I-House, including its policies and procedures?

Please read our [Resident Handbook](#) located on our website under **Residents > Resident Portal**. The handbook has a wealth of information pertaining to anything you need to know about I-House. Take the time to familiarize yourself with the handbook.

Is there a kitchen I can use?

We do have a small kitchen that is available for use by residents. The kitchen includes pots, pans, dishes, utensils and appliances. Residents can reserve the kitchen in advance. There is also a microwave conveniently located near the elevators in the laundry room, available for resident use at anytime.

Do you have a library or quiet place to study?

Our library is open 24 hours a day and features international newspapers and a variety of periodicals. It offers a congenial, yet quiet, study atmosphere. Access is restricted to residents only.

Where can I print documents? Do you have a laundry room?

Once you have checked in, you will need to register your I-House Debit Account:

<http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/residents/debitaccounts.php>

When this is completed, you will be able to manage your meal plan balance, I-House Cafe points, and computer printing. We have an on-site laundry room that accepts credit and debit card payments. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our Front Desk at (510) 642-9490 or the Admissions team at (510) 642-9470.

I-House Policies:

What are Quiet Hours?

Creating noise that unreasonably disrupts residents or neighboring community members at any time is unacceptable. In addition, residents are asked to be especially considerate during the Quiet Hours from 11pm-10am on weekdays, and 1am-10am on weekends. For both the academic year semesters and for the summer sessions, around-the-clock quiet hours begin on the last day of instruction and continue to the end of the term. There are several resident lounges available for larger/noisier gatherings, please ask our Front Desk for more information.

Is smoking allowed at I-House?

Smoking and tobacco use are strictly prohibited inside I-House and the areas surrounding the building. The entire UC Berkeley campus adopted a tobacco-free policy on January 1, 2014 that prohibits tobacco use in any form on all University property.

Can I have a guest stay with me?

Overnight guests are welcome at I-House in accordance with our Guest Policy. Each resident is allowed to have an overnight guest for a maximum of three nights per semester. Guests are not permitted for more than three consecutive nights without special exception. An appeal for an exception can be submitted to the Director of Admissions. For those residents with a roommate, you must have her/his permission prior to hosting an overnight guest for any duration. In addition, you will need to notify the Front Desk that you have a guest. Female guests will be issued a temporary key to the women's bathroom and showers.

For a complete listing of all I-House Residential Policies, please review our Resident Handbook at <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/residents/handbook.pdf>