



Frequently Asked Questions

Eastgate Transition | Spring 2020

Introduction

This document seeks to address frequently asked questions about the closing of Eastgate Apartments and the opening of the new Graduate Tower at Site 4 (Building E37). This information is updated frequently, and the most recently added questions are marked with an asterisk (*).

1. When will Eastgate Apartments close?

Eastgate Apartments are projected to close at the end of August 2020. In Spring 2020, Housing & Residential Services (HRS) will communicate detailed information regarding the timeline for emptying and closing the building. Eastgate residents should anticipate moving out no later than July 31, 2020. However, for those Eastgate residents moving to the new Graduate Tower at Site 4, the move-out/move-in period may enter August to accommodate the transition into the new building.

2. When will the Graduate Tower at Site 4 open?

The targeted occupancy for Site 4 is scheduled for the week of July 20. HRS will communicate detailed dates and moving instructions during the spring as residents confirm their housing for fall 2020.

3. What types of apartments will be available in the new Graduate Tower? How do these apartments compare to the types in Eastgate Apartments?

Site 4 will have 248 efficiency apartments for single occupancy, 182 one-bedroom apartments and 24 two-bedroom apartments available for couples and families with children. This is the same number of one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments that exist within Eastgate Apartments.

4. How do in-unit amenities of Site 4 compare to the amenities in Eastgate?*

Residents in the Graduate Tower at Site 4 will enjoy a remarkable difference in quality of fixtures, finishes, appliances, as well as other details, in comparison to the Eastgate Apartments building. It is important to note that, for sustainability reasons, kitchen sinks in the new Graduate Tower do not feature garbage disposals. This feature was eliminated to encourage composting. Additionally, residents should note that dishwashers are not installed in efficiency apartments, but they are installed in one- and two-bedroom apartments.

5. What are the rental rates for the Graduate Tower at Site 4?*

The rental rates for 2020-2021 are as follows:

Unit Type	Rental Rate
Efficiency	\$2,274
1-Bedroom	\$2,662 -15% One-Year Discount for Eastgate residents \$2,263**



2-Bedroom	\$3,410 -15% One-Year Discount for Eastgate residents \$2,898**
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Because of the new building’s condition, prices will be higher than the current rates in Eastgate Apartments.

**However, Eastgate residents who sign a license agreement by May 13, 2020 indicating that they elect to move to the Graduate Tower at Site 4, will receive a 15% discount on rental rates for their first year of residence in the building (2021-2022). This will bring the price of a one-bedroom apartment to \$2,263 and a two-bedroom apartment to \$2,898. The Office of the Vice Chancellor also [recently announced measures](#) aimed at providing financial relief for graduate students, including a new flexible family grant to assist with housing, childcare, or healthcare expenses.

6. What else will be in the Site 4 building?

In addition to the student apartments and residential community spaces in the Graduate Tower, Site 4 will feature an MIT Forum assembly space, office space for some MIT DLCs (including MIT Admissions), a childcare facility, and retail space.

7. How long will construction be happening in Kendall Square?

Construction in Kendall Square is planned for several years after the opening of the Graduate Tower at Site 4. The Kendall Square Initiative includes Site 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Site 3 and 5 are closest to the Graduate Tower at Site 4; once construction is complete on Site 3 and 5, impacts to residents at Site 4 are anticipated to be reduced. The mitigation steps that have been put in place for Eastgate will not transfer to Site 4. Further information regarding construction projects will be included in the construction notification rider which accompanies the license agreement. Details are also available on the [Kendall Square Initiative website](#) and the MIT [Capital Projects website](#).

8. Will Eastgate residents have priority for moving in to Site 4?*

Yes. Eastgate residents will be able to preview available units from February 18–23, and then will be able to participate in an early selection process for apartments from February 24–March 1, 2020. Information on Eastgate resident selection times for Site 4 is outlined below:

Tuesday, February 18 – Sunday, February 23, 2020

Eastgate housing process for Site 4 begins. Eastgate residents may enter the self-selection website and preview available units and floor plans.

Monday, February 24, 2020 - Sunday, March 1, 2020

Eastgate residents who wish to relocate to Site 4 will have priority in selecting apartments in the Graduate Tower at Site 4.

Selection Times & Priorities

Time Periods Begin at 9am EST Each Day

Dates	Priority
February 18 – 23	Preview Week
Monday, February 24	Families with children
Tuesday, February 25	Current and Past Officers
Wednesday, February 26	Transition Team Members
Thursday, February 27	Group 1 – with longest years of residency



Friday, February 28	Group 2 – remaining residents
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- **Sunday, March 1, 2020**
Site 4 selection process closes at 11:59pm EST.
- **Monday, March 2, 2020**
Deadline to sign license agreement is 3pm EST.
- **Friday, March 6, 2020**
Eastgate residents will receive their exact move date.

9. What if Eastgate residents do not want to move to Site 4?*

If Eastgate residents (who are academically eligible for fall 2020 graduate housing) decide that they do not want to move to Site 4, HRS will work with them to find other on-campus available graduate housing options. MIT’s graduate student housing stock has a [variety of options](#) at different price points. Eastgate residents will receive priority for available spaces.

HRS can also connect Eastgate residents with [off-campus housing resources](#) if they prefer to move off campus. Eligible Eastgate residents will be prioritized in the graduate housing allocation process for couple/family housing units that are available elsewhere on campus.

Graduate Housing Allocation Process	
March 25–April 26	Applications open
May 8	Allocation results are released with move dates
May 13	Deadline to sign license agreement

10. If Eastgate residents find alternate housing options prior to August 2020, can lease agreements be adjusted?

As per the Eastgate license for the 2019-2020 academic year, Eastgate residents who wish to terminate their housing may move out at any time with a minimum of five (5) business days written notice and will not be charged any termination fees. A termination form is [available online](#) and is the only means of notification accepted by HRS.

11. Will there be parking for residents at Site 4?

Yes. There is a six-level underground parking garage with 1,200 parking spaces. While residents will not have assigned spaces, there will be 600 spaces designated for MIT that Site 4 residents can park in.

12. How many elevators will Site 4 have? How will new residents move in?

There are four elevators in the graduate tower. One freight elevator will access the loading dock area, which will be helpful for moving in and out of the building. The Eastgate Transition Team is working to develop moving logistics plans. HRS will communicate helpful details related to Eastgate move-out and Site 4 move-in during the Spring 2020 semester.

13. Will Site 4 feature a playground that can be used by residents with children?

Yes, there will be an exterior playground that, like the Eastgate Apartments playground, is shared with the onsite childcare facility.

14. Will Site 4 be air-conditioned?

Site 4 will feature valance heating and cooling units, which offer advantages over traditional heating and cooling systems without compromising performance or user comfort. Valance units operate more quietly and require fewer movable parts and filters, which reduce maintenance and repairs. They are also more sustainable, as they don't require fans.

15. What types of energy saving measures were considered when building Site 4?

Creative design strategies and healthy material choices throughout the site help to achieve significant energy reduction. The [Capital Projects website](#) notes several details on [sustainable design elements](#).

16. If I have further questions, who should I contact?

HRS is prepared to help advise and support residents with navigating housing options. Please contact HRS by emailing GraduateHousing@MIT.edu or calling (617) 253-2811. Additional questions relative to financial resources can be directed to Student Financial Services by emailing sfs@mit.edu, or calling (617) 258-8600, as well as the Office of Graduate Education by emailing odge@mit.edu or calling (617) 253-4860.

Informational drop-in sessions are being held for Eastgate residents who are interested in learning more about Site 4. These sessions will feature representatives from HRS, the Division of Student Life (DSL), the Office of Student Financial Services and the Office of Graduate Education so that you can learn more about the Graduate Tower at Site 4 and the housing allocation process.

- **Friday, February 7, 2020** | 11:00am–2:00pm | Eastgate Penthouse
 - Tours of Graduate Tower at Site 4 from 3:00pm – 5:00pm [\[RSVP\]](#)
- **Monday, February 10, 2020** | 4:00–6:00pm | Sloan School of Management 3rd Floor Conference Room (E62-350)
 - Tours of Graduate Tower at Site 4 from 3:00pm – 5:00pm [\[RSVP\]](#)