Housing Allocation Roommate Pilot
Frequently Asked Questions

What is a new graduate student, returning graduate student, and continuing student?

**New graduate student** – a person who has never been an MIT student, visitor, or cross-registered student. The new graduate student receives the highest priority in the allocation.

**Returning graduate student** - an MIT student who has been taking classes at MIT, been a visitor, undergraduate, cross-registered, or is currently living on campus on a non-renewable license. They receive continuing status in the allocation.

**Continuing graduate student** - an MIT graduate student who has either received housing as a returning student or has been given continuing status for service to their house. A continuing student can live in housing for the entire length of their program without having to enter the allocation.

I am a continuing student and I want to pull someone into my apartment, can I do this?

For the fall 2018, this option will not be available. However, during the building-to-building transfer process in November, a student will be able to request a specific roommate from another building to be pulled into a space in their room for the spring semester. Students will also be able to swap spaces with each other.

The Housing Office will continue to explore a process in which continuing students can select roommates who are not already living on campus.

What are the chances of our group getting a space on campus?

This will be our first year piloting roommate selection. We will have a better sense of this after we analyze the data at the conclusion of the pilot. Remember, the more options you place on your allocation application, the more likely you are to get housing.

What if my group is not successful in the allocation?

If your group does not get space during the first round of the allocation, you will be invited to enter a second round. Your group may want to change its size, or everyone may decide to enter the allocation separately. Again, the more choices you list on your application, the more likely you are to get housing.

What is the difference between the housing allocation and the internal house lottery?

The housing allocation is overseen by the MIT Housing Office and is run twice a year. Internal house lotteries are run by the house governments in most residence halls. These lotteries can be run as often as once a month and are only open to residents in that building. The internal lotteries allow students to move to different apartments within their buildings.
What are the allocation priorities?

Brand new graduate students are given the highest priority in the housing allocation. These are students who have never been at MIT for any reason. All other students are considered returning students. This could be students who have taken one course or completed a full degree here. Returning students are given second priority in the allocation.