We understand how important accommodation is to new students and here at Edinburgh we recognise the need to provide an environment in which you can thrive. Moving away from home for the first time should be exciting but it can be daunting too… we are committed to helping you make that transition as easy as possible.

We aim to provide you with the best possible standards, range of options and value and all our staff will work hard throughout your stay with us to deliver all the appropriate levels of service and support. This leaflet contains essential information about the University-owned and managed accommodation available to you.

Go to www.accom.ed.ac.uk for up-to-date information.
University accommodation offers...

- convenient locations
- comprehensive social, community and welfare networks from our Residence Life team
- mixed gender residences, though some individual flats are single sex
- laundry facilities
- secure cycle storage
- email and internet in each study bedroom
- personal contents insurance

Accommodation guarantee

The University of Edinburgh guarantees an offer of accommodation to all new single undergraduate students who meet the criteria below. However, we cannot guarantee to provide everyone with precisely the type of accommodation they would prefer; we do our best and find almost all students enjoy living in the accommodation they are offered but, whatever preferences you select, you should note these are preferences and not choices.

Freshers (new undergraduates) are guaranteed an offer of University accommodation if ALL of the following criteria are met:

- The University of Edinburgh is your first choice and you are not applying to the University on a Conditional Insurance basis; and
- your accommodation application is received by 16 August; and
- you are UF (Unconditional Firm) at UCAS by 30 August; and
- you normally reside outside the city of Edinburgh; and
- you are studying at the University of Edinburgh for the whole academic year starting in September.

Conditional Insurance students, those who have another university as their No 1 choice, should note that their accommodation guarantee is only for shared accommodation, often with bunk beds. These rooms will have sufficient additional storage and study space suitable for both students. Only if overall demand allows will other options be offered. Conditional Insurance students however must still apply for accommodation in the normal way.

Visiting undergraduates are guaranteed an offer of University accommodation if ALL of the following criteria are met:

- your accommodation application is received by 16 August; and
- you have accepted by 30 August an unconditional offer to study at the University.

For couples and families, there is a limited supply of suitable accommodation. This accommodation is not guaranteed and is allocated on a first-come first-served basis.
What sort of accommodation is best for you?

Our undergraduate accommodation is based across a number of sites, typically located within a short walk or bus ride from the buzz of Edinburgh’s centre; while many are close to key University locations, some are in increasingly popular and equally convenient areas of the city (see map).

Whether it’s our traditional or our very modern buildings, we are committed to the on-going programme of development and refurbishment necessary to maintain the recognised high standards we offer.

Sharing rooms

We are always looking to offer best value and have more options than ever before for those willing to share twin rooms, whether in catered or self-catered accommodation. If you are interested in sharing and if, as part of the application process, you express a preference for doing so, we will do our very best to satisfy your request. There are many advantages other than reduced rates… we use larger rooms, we provide additional storage and study spaces and you will benefit from having more immediate company and access to a larger network of potential friends. Please be aware that, where overall demand exceeds supply, we reserve the right to offer this option of shared rooms to all applicants to ensure we can fulfil our guarantee.

Anticipated rents

You will receive confirmed details of your rent with your accommodation offer; the rates below relate to the 2016-2017 academic year and are for guidance only.

**Catered** accommodation ranges from £6,242 to £8,411 for a 37-week lease; options for shared rooms are available from £4,693 to £5,301.

**Self-catered** accommodation ranges from £3,427 to £6,064 for a 38-week lease; some options for twin rooms are available from £2,324.

University accommodation rents include utility bills; personal contents insurance; data network facilities and support from the Residence Life team. Cleaning and housekeeping varies according to the location and type of accommodation offered but usually includes all common areas, staircases etc. within our premises.
Catered accommodation at Pollock Halls

The University’s main catered accommodation campus comprises eight separate houses accommodating around 2,000 new undergraduates. Study bedrooms are mostly single (see ‘Sharing rooms’) and over half are en-suite.

A meal plan is included in the rent and provides 14 meals per week; breakfast and dinner each weekday with brunch and dinner at weekends, all served in our JMCC Restaurant. We have an excellent reputation for innovative and healthy catering, we are winners of the ‘Healthy Eating’ award and were the first University in the UK to achieve accreditation as part of the ‘Food for the Brain’ initiative.

Other services on site include a shop, computer micro-lab, small library, cash point, bar and squash courts. Each house at Pollock Halls has its own Warden and Residents’ Assistants responsible for providing a range of social, community and welfare support services.

Of those students who select catered accommodation as their preference, over 95% are usually successful. You should note only about 80% of those who request en-suite facilities in our catered accommodation are successful.

Self-catered University flats & student houses

There are around 20 blocks of University owned and managed flats and student houses accommodating over 3,600 new, primarily first year undergraduates across convenient city centre locations. These house between 50 and 390 students in single-study bedrooms, in flats mostly varying in size from 3 to 8 person.

Other options such as Shrubhill and Murano Place significantly increase the availability of en-suite rooms and some provide single studio options for more independent living.

Wardens are responsible for providing a range of social, community and welfare support services, assisted by Residents’ Assistants who are older students living on site.

Among students who select self-catered accommodation as their preference, whether in flats or student houses, over 80% are usually successful.
Locations

1. Blackfriars Street
2. College Wynd
3. Darroch Court
4. David Horn
5. Deaconess House
6. East Newington Place
7. Fraser Court
8. Hermit's Croft
9. Kincaid's Court
10. Kitchener
11. Murano Place
12. New Arthur Place
13. Pollock Halls
14. Riego
15. Robertson's Close
16. Sciennes
17. Shrubhill
18. South Clerk Street
19. Warrender Park Crescent
20. Warrender Park Road

15 minutes walk
FAQs

How do I apply for accommodation?
Currently, accommodation applications must be made separately from any application to study at the University of Edinburgh but this may change in the next year; further updates can always be found at www.accom.ed.ac.uk

When should I apply for accommodation?
Apply anytime from February 2017; whether your place of study is unconditional, conditional or insurance. However, you must apply by 16 August 2017 in order to meet the conditions of the accommodation guarantee. Students studying in Semester 2 only, commencing in January 2018, should only apply for accommodation after 1 October 2017.

Will I be offered my first preference?
We do our best and often succeed. However, only students who require a particular type of accommodation due to special needs, such as medical grounds, are normally assured their first preference. If this applies to you, you must include full and clear details with your application for accommodation.

When will I get the result of my application?
We will acknowledge all applications on receipt. Offers of accommodation will typically be made from June 2017 once your place has been confirmed as UF (Unconditional Firm).

How will I pay for my accommodation?
Rents are typically payable via a range of flexible options which are set up at the point you accept your offer; these options include payment in full or by semester/monthly instalment plans using either direct debit or recurring credit card payments.

If I reject my offer of accommodation, will I get another?
Unless there are special circumstances we were unaware of when the original offer was made, we will be unable to make you another offer.

What if I don’t qualify for an offer?
We are not able to guarantee accommodation to those students who do not meet the criteria as laid down by the University; however, in such cases, you can still apply online and be placed on the waiting list. If, for whatever reason, you need to find your own accommodation, one option is the University’s on-line service at www.studenthomes.accom.ed.ac.uk; or you could visit www.studentpad.co.uk/edinburgh for general information and message boards.

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This leaflet is correct as at June 2016, but information may be subject to change. The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336.