



## MORSE HOUSING RULES 2019

1. **Morse RULES!** (This one's easy)
2. **Vesta:** We will be using Vesta, a new online software, to facilitate the entire housing process. Detailed information is included in the rules below.
3. **Class Definitions: Sophomore/Junior/Senior:** For the purpose of the housing process, students are members of the class they will enter in the upcoming fall. A current first-year will be defined as a sophomore in these rules, a current sophomore as a junior, and a current junior as a senior. (See rules on Acceleration, below.)
4. **Seniority Rules!**
5. **On-Campus Intent Deadline:** Intent is critical for planning the housing process, thus all students, including those who are planning to live off-campus, must log into Vesta with the link emailed to them and indicate their intent to live on- or off-campus by the deadline indicated in the housing calendar. Students intending to study abroad or take a leave of absence should indicate that they intend to live off-campus. All sophomores must live on campus unless they are married or over 21 years of age.
6. **Acceleration, Leaves, and Withdrawals:** Acceleration does not affect class status for purposes of housing. Students generally participate in the lottery of their original entering class. First-year students enter the sophomore lottery; second-year students, the junior lottery; third-year students, the senior lottery. Students who take a one term-leave is, for housing purposes, a member of their original class. A student who takes off two or more terms and returns to a different class will be considered to be a member of their new class. Students who are currently withdrawn from Yale may not participate in a lottery even though they anticipate readmission in the upcoming fall term.
7. **Students Currently Abroad or on Leave:** Students currently taking a term abroad or a semester's leave of absence may be included in the lottery only if they intend to be enrolled in Yale this coming fall. To be counted in the lottery, such students must notify the Dean's Office in writing of their intention to live in Morse next fall and designate someone (a housing proxy) to act on their behalf in the lottery. If the student cannot find another student to be their proxy, they may ask for their class' Housing Committee representatives to serve as their proxy.
8. **Mixed-Year Housing:** Any requests to live with members of another year will be handled on a case-by-case basis. We will do our best to accommodate people who legitimately want to live with Morsels from a different year. **Please talk to the Housing Committee no later than the on-campus intent deadline if you plan to live in a group that has Morsels from different classes.**
9. **Mixed Gender Housing:** Rising seniors, juniors, and sophomores may choose to live in mixed gender suites and rooms.
10. **Special Needs or Housing Concerns:** For any housing accommodation requests due to medical reasons, the request must be processed and approved by the Resource Office on Disabilities. Once a determination is made, the dean will work with the Resource Office on Disabilities to provide suitable accommodations. Any student with a non-medical special need or a housing concern should meet with the dean well before the housing draw to discuss these issues. The dean will try to accommodate such students but does not guarantee any special arrangements. Students intending to make accommodations with the Resource Office on Disabilities or with the Dean must inform the Dean immediately.

11. **Lottery Groups:** After submitting intent through Vesta, students will be able to form lottery groups and select group leaders. Lottery groups can be broken at the discretion of the Dean or Housing Committee.
12. **Group Leaders:** Each group will have one leader, as determined by all of the members of that group. The group leader is responsible for representing their group in the Vesta interface.
13. **Group Locking:** Each group must be confirmed and locked in Vesta by midnight on the date indicated in the Housing Calendar.
14. **Oversubscription:** If after the Group Locking deadline the number of groups entering the draw for a particular suite configuration exceeds the number of suites of that size (e.g., 6 groups enter the draw for an octet and there are only 5 octets), these groups will enter a pre-lottery phase. In the pre-lottery phase, Vesta will randomly assign numbers to all groups and the groups with the highest numbers will enter the lottery for that suite configuration (e.g., the 6 groups will be assigned numbers 1-6; groups numbered 1-5 will enter the lottery for the octets). The group drawing the lowest numbers in the pre-lottery will be advised to reconfigure and enter the lottery for suites of a different size. If necessary, pre-lotteries for oversubscribed suites will occur several days before the housing lottery.
15. **Lotteries:** Lotteries determine the order in which students pick their rooms. Morse will hold lotteries in the Morse Dining Hall on the dates indicated on the Housing Calendar. Lottery numbers are assigned randomly through Vesta. The largest room configurations have priority (11s draw before 8s and so on).
16. **Decisions are Final:** Any and all decisions made at the draw are final, and it is your responsibility to attend the housing draw. If there are extenuating circumstances that require you to miss the draw, you must designate a proxy (generally, your group leader) and have this person attend the room draw for you. Please alert the dean of any such arrangements prior to the draw
17. **Civility Clause:** The Committee reserves the right to expel from the room draw proceedings anyone who causes a disturbance or who otherwise disrupts the room draw. The Committee will represent those expelled for the remainder of the draw.
18. **Housing Contracts:** Students who participate in the housing draw and subsequently relinquish their housing are subject to a fine of 25% of the fall term room rate, as stated in the Yale College Undergraduate Regulations.
19. **Final Housing Form:** Up until 48 hours following the conclusion of a class housing draw, suite members must select their rooms and have one member of the suite email a housing representative final room selections. All members of the suite must be copied on this email.
20. **Room Switching:** **A student who has signed a contract may not switch rooms without permission from the dean. If it is discovered that a student has done so without permission, they will have to move to their assigned room and will automatically be placed at the bottom of the following year's housing draw.**
21. **No Suite Swapping:** Once you select your suite, that decision is final. Suites may not swap locations, and individuals within suites may not move to other suite. Persons found to have swapped suites without permission will have to move to their assigned room and will automatically be placed at the bottom of the following year's housing draw.

22. **Disappearing Suitemates:** If you intend to take the fall term off or to move off campus, you may not enter the housing draw. After picking a room in the lottery, you must accept that room. If you decide afterwards that you do not want it and pull out of the suite, you will be fined 25% of the fall room rent. The Housing Committee reserves the right to relocate any suite that contains such a person, or “ghost,” or may place someone to fill the vacated spot without consulting the other group members. Everyone loses in this situation.
23. **Smoking:** Smoking is forbidden in the college. If the dean speaks to a student about smoking in the college and the problem continues, the student will be placed at the bottom of the housing draw for the following year.
24. **Pets:** Pets are not allowed.
25. **Empty Beds:** The Dean reserves the right to fill any empty beds or rooms for any reason without notice. Should, for instance, your roommate leave to study abroad or for any other reason, the Dean may fill that bed without prior notice according to the needs of the college.
26. **Put it in Writing:** If you have any questions or concerns about housing in Morse that are not explained in this document, you must submit them in writing (this includes email) to your class’s housing reps, who will bring them before the committee.
27. **Doubles are Doubles:** Should your roommate leave to study abroad or for any other reason, the dean may fill that empty bed without prior notice according to the needs of the college.
28. **Unknown Morsels:** Morse will house 4 unknown suitemates: 2 transfer students from other universities, and 2 visiting rising juniors from international universities. Groups may agree to take one or more of these students as a member of their suite. Groups that wish to exercise this option must inform the Housing Committee in writing before they form their groups. In all cases, seniority rules.
29. **Elastic Clause. The Housing Committee reserves the right to modify the rules at any time if the situation warrants. In addition, suite assignments can be changed to ensure fairness and to make sure that everyone has a place to live. All decisions will be made at the discretion of the Housing Committee, the Dean, and the Head of College. All decisions are final.**

*Who we are:*

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