

Columbia College Housing Assistance Program (CHAP)

A Columbia College Foundation, Student Services and Columbia Student Housing Collaboration

Purpose: To assist Columbia College students who are supporting themselves and struggling to secure stable housing, the Columbia College Foundation is offering a limited amount of beds in housing for Promise students, and the general student population through Basic Needs funding. The dorms are operated by California Student Housing, and include furnished, shared 2-person bedrooms in a 4-person dorm, that include a shared bathroom and small kitchen. (<https://californiastudenthousing.net/>).

Students need to complete an online application. Applications will be reviewed by the committee and housing offers will go out to a limited number of students based on need and space availability. If selected, you will be asked some follow-up questions, and will be required to sign a license agreement with California Student Housing and to engage with student services on campus.

Students will be notified of decisions by July 22. Students will be expected to consider the CHAP program requirements carefully before committing to CHAP. Acceptance responses will be due from students by July 27.

Who qualifies for this offer?

Current Columbia College students who are enrolled full time for the Fall 2022 semester and who are struggling to find secure, stable housing for the Fall semester. Priority will go to students who are supporting themselves and receive no parental support.

What does this offer include?

The offer includes payment of dorm rent for the Fall 2022 semester, which includes utilities, basic furnishings, and 24-hour access to dorm staff. (Estimated value: \$2,435).

Would I be responsible for any other costs? A security deposit? Application fee? Food? Parking?

The student will be responsible for a partially refundable security deposit of \$300 (\$250 refundable), and can make arrangements for a payment plan. Additionally:

- California Student Housing will waive its \$50 application fee for CHAP students.
- Food is not included in dorm rent, but Columbia College does offer a student food bank for free food items, and has a student café at the Manzanita building. A food closet for former and current foster youth is available in the academic counseling center.
- Students are responsible for any campus parking fees.
- Public bus service to and from Columbia College is free with a student identification card.

What does the dorm license agreement cover?

Students must sign a license agreement (lease), which covers terms of student housing, rules and regulations, and student code of conduct. Dorm residents must be in good standing at the College and with California Student Housing staff to continue residing at the facilities. (Good Academic Standing is GPA of 2.0 or higher.)

What is the move-in date?

Move-in date is typically the Friday before the Fall semester. For students meeting the transition program requirement via the *Jump Start* program, the move in will be the Monday before Fall begins. The housing lease will go over move-out expectations, should students not be continuing in housing for Spring.

Can a lease agreement be extended after the Dorm Sponsorship expires if I want to stay?

Yes, lease agreements can be extended if students make payment arrangements individually with California Student Housing after the CHAP Sponsorship expires. Alternatively, students successful in the CHAP program may reapply for Spring housing.

If I drop out of some classes or fail a class, will it affect my housing situation for the rest of the semester?

If students are struggling academically, the College and the Foundation will make every effort to assist them to stay enrolled. California Student Housing will reserve eviction only for extreme cases that involve more than academic issues.

If I don't complete my courses, or have poor grades, will I have to pay back my housing costs?

CHAP students are expected to make their best effort in courses. The housing award will not be subject to repayment; however, the student will need to move out of housing to open the space for a current student in need. Circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

How will students be selected?

The selection committee will review and score applications, considering financial need, living situations and other factors. An interview and references may be requested.

The application states specific events and activities I will need to do. What if I am unable to meet the requirement?

Communication is critical in this program. Any concerns need to be brought to the academic counselor so that alternatives, if available, can be explored. Students are expected to meet each category explained in the expectation overview to remain in good standing with CHAP.