

## FAQ for Newly Admitted Research Degree Students

- 1) Can I apply for hall places at Cornwall Street (CS) /Jockey Club House (JCH) located at the Kowloon Tong Compound?

Answer: No, according to the hall admission policies, newly admitted research degree students are only eligible to apply for hall places at the Ma On Shan Compound.

- 2) I will be awarded the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship and the Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies Entrance Scholarship, which will cover student residence expenses in my first year of study. Do I need to submit a hall application?

Answer: Yes, you MUST submit a hall application before the deadline if you wish to stay in the Student Residence for the 2025/26 academic year.

- 3) My commencement of study is on 1 January 2026. Can I apply for Student Residence? If I receive a hall offer successfully, can I stay in Student Residence until 1 January 2027?

Answer: Yes, you can apply for Student Residence. Please submit hall application before the deadline if you wish to stay in Student Residence in 2025/26. However, the residential period of 2025/26 will end at 12:00 noon, 16 August 2026. Therefore, you cannot stay in Student Residence until 1 January 2027.

For your 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study and onwards, you can submit hall application to the Kowloon Tong Compound only. Lot-drawing will be used in allocating residence places at Cornwall Street/ Jockey Club House located at Kowloon Tong Compound.

- 4) I received the UGC-funded admission offer after the hall application deadline. Can I still apply for student residence?

Answer: Yes, please send your hall application request including your admission offer letter as a written proof to [sropga.mos@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:sropga.mos@cityu.edu.hk) as soon as possible. Late applications will be considered subject to availability of hall places.

- 5) My student visa is under review so I have deferred student registration. May I check-in and stay at the hall until I complete the enrollment procedures?

Answer: No. If you cannot complete the enrollment procedures within three working days after check-in, you will not be allowed to continue staying in the hall.

- 6) The official check-in date for PG halls in the 2025/26 academic year will begin at 9:00 a.m. on 28 August 2025. Can I apply for an early check-in?

Answer: No. You are advised to make alternative arrangements such as hotel accommodation for your stay if you arrive before the start of your housing term.

- 7) I will not be able to complete check-in within one week from 28 August 2025. Can I authorize my friend to complete the check-in procedures on my behalf, or may I check in later?

Answer: Residents MUST complete the check-in procedures IN PERSON within ONE week from 28 August 2025. If you are unable to do so, you may apply for late check-in before a specific deadline. Please carefully review the check-in email notification upon receipt. Special arrangements for late check-in will be made upon approval by the Student Residence Office. For those who fail to apply for late check-in, their hall offers will be forfeited automatically without prior notice.

- 8) I will apply for late check-in on 1 October 2025. Will the hall lodging fee be charged from 1 October 2025?

Answer: The hall lodging fee will be charged from the first day of the residential period (i.e., 28 August 2025) even if your late check-in application has been approved.

- 9) The entrance scholarship will cover my accommodation fees for the Student Residence starting from 1 September 2025. The residential year for 2025/26 runs from 28 August 2025 to 16 August 2026. Do I need to pay any hall fees on my own?

Answer: Yes. You are responsible for paying the hall lodging fee for the period that is NOT covered by the scholarship at your own cost (i.e., 28–31 August 2025).

- 10) I am a non-UGC-funded/self-financed student. Will I be eligible to apply for the Student Residence?

Answer: Yes, full-time research degree students studying in non-UGC-funded programmes/self-financed programmes within normal study period are eligible to apply for Student Residence.

- 11) If I secure a hall place in the Ma On Shan Compound, can I swap the room with others in the Kowloon Tong Compound?

Answer: No, residents are only permitted to apply for room change or swapping within their assigned compound.

- 12) I have been assigned a bedplace in a double room, and my friend has been assigned a bedplace in a single room. May we swap bedplaces?

Answer: Yes. The request of room swapping / change will NOT be entertained before check-in. It will be entertained between 3<sup>rd</sup> October and 30<sup>th</sup> April within the Ma On Shan Compound only.

- 13) What should I do if I do not like the room type I was offered?

Answer: Allocation of hall/room type is by lot-drawing. If you do not accept the allocated hall/room type, your hall offer will be forfeited and released to applicants on the waiting list.

14) Can I change the preferences of room and hall after submission of my application?

Answer: You can make amendments to your hall application on the Admission Application System before the application deadline. No amendment will be permitted after the deadline. Students are fully responsible for checking the updated information on the Admission Application System after making amendments.

15) Can I choose my own roommate?

Answer: After paying the confirmation fee, you can indicate your roommate preference via the hall application system by 19 June 2025. If you have any special preferences (e.g., health, living style), you are strongly encouraged to pair up and indicate your preferred roommate based on your assigned room type. The Student Residence Office will try to accommodate your request as far as possible, but no guarantee. Students who do not indicate a roommate preference will be randomly assigned by the system. Final room assignments will depend on room availability and hall admission policies.