

Accommodation Policy 2016/2017

1. Introduction

This document outlines the way in which we provide accommodation for London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) applicants and students.

The purpose of our policy statement is to clarify our goals and commitments to users of LSE Residential Services and to define our operational process toward achieving these goals.

The contents of this document will cover what our aims are and how we achieve those aims. It will cover who our service applies to and what they can expect from us.

2. Definition

In this document, the following meaning is ascribed to the terms **applicant** and **student**.

Applicant: an individual who holds a course offer for entry to LSE in 2016/2017

Student: a registered student of LSE following a full-time course of study.

3. Objectives

Our goal is to provide a range of good quality university accommodation, which is safe and secure, priced appropriately which provides opportunities for learning experiences and contributes to LSE's sustainability.

The actions we take to fulfil this goal are to:

- give priority to students with disabilities and other students prioritised for accommodation in line with Disability and Wellbeing Service recommendations.
- field applications and provide accommodation for applicants and students of LSE.
- publish information about each residence, prices and facilities.
- allocate spaces fairly and offer spaces as close to an applicant or student's preferences as availability allows.
- continually improve our operational processes and systems to develop services.

4. Allocations

We allocate spaces in our residences for the following five groups:

Group 1 - Applicants and students with disabilities or other priority

Groups 2 and 3 - First year undergraduate and General Course applicants and students



All first year undergraduate and General Course students are guaranteed an offer of accommodation as long as they apply by the deadline of **30 June 2016**.

Group 4 - New graduate students

New graduate students are allocated the remaining bed spaces. The deadline for graduate students is **30 July 2016**.

Group 5 - Continuing students

Continuing students are generally current Hall Committee members (elected) or Peer Supporters (selected) who play an important part in informally inducting and supporting new residents. The deadline for continuing students is **20 May 2016**.

4. Eligibility

Any full-time student is eligible to apply for accommodation.

5. Mode of operation

We field applications and communicate decisions to applicants using a lottery system to allocate spaces.

Offers of accommodation will not be made to students who have not yet accepted their offers to study at the School. Once applicants accept their offers of study, they will be entered into the lottery for the allocation of accommodation.

Within group 4 only, (new graduate students), applicants with unconditional offers to study will be prioritised in the accommodation lottery ahead of applicants with conditional offers to study.

All new undergraduate and General Course students are guaranteed accommodation. There are only three residences that operate on a first-come first-served basis. These are Lilian Knowles House, King's Cross and Westminster Bridge.

Within group 2 (new undergraduate students) applicants who hold LSE as their insurance choice will not be offered accommodation until their course place at LSE becomes firm.

6. Our residences

We field applications for 17 residences.

LSE Residences

Bankside House
Butler's Wharf Residence
Carr-Saunders Hall
Grosvenor House
High Holborn Residence
King's Cross
Lilian Knowles House
Northumberland House
Passfield Hall
Rosebery Hall
Sidney Webb House
Westminster Bridge

University of London Intercollegiate Halls¹

College Hall
Connaught Hall
International Hall
Lillian Penson Hall
Nutford House

¹ The Garden halls will re-open from September 2016 and LSE students will be eligible to apply. The process for application is yet to be confirmed, however, please see <http://www.lse.ac.uk/lifeAtLSE/accommodation/forStudents/home.aspx> for more information.

7. Waiting list

We make offers to anyone eligible who joins the waiting list as and when rooms or spaces become available.

We have waiting list priorities to determine who is made an offer first. We will process all applications in a priority group before moving on to the next.

In each category, those who have not been made an offer by LSE before for the academic year 2016/2017 will be made offers first:

- First priority – applicants and students with disabilities
- Second priority - New undergraduates and General Course students
- Third priority - New graduates
- Fourth priority - Returning undergraduates
- Fifth priority - All others

8. Pastoral Support

Under the oversight of the Head of Residential Life, and/or their nominated representative, pastoral support in residences will be connected to other student support initiatives and roles at LSE. Other residential roles include:

Hall Committee members

Returning students elected to serve in a committee position will be offered accommodation for the year following their election only. Their place in the residence is subject to the approval of the Warden and/or School Resident.

Peer Support programme

Peer Supporters are recruited in Lent Term and trained in Summer Term (presently) with 30 hours of intensive development. Their appointment to this residential role is for one year only. For 2016/2017, the Peer Support programme number is proposed to be capped at 18 returning undergraduate or graduate students.

Date last reviewed: December 2013

Approved: Residences Management Team – January 2016

Date next reviewed: March 2016 by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee²

² This v.1 of the 2016/2017 Accommodation Policy is scheduled for approval by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee on 2 March 2016 and may be subject to minor changes at that time.