



The Ballot Process

The college administers its student accommodation allocation through a ballot process. This randomised method is designed to provide a fair and equitable opportunity for all applicants to secure accommodation. This document outlines the procedures and guidelines governing the ballot process.

While the College endeavours to provide accommodation for as many full-time new students as possible, the demand often exceeds the number of available rooms. It is important to note that admission to the College or the submission of an accommodation application does not guarantee the allocation of a room.

The college does offer a limited number of rooms to student continuing in their studies, further details are shared below.

How to apply

Applicants to Kellogg College receive an offer letter to the college, which includes details about available accommodation and a link to the Accommodation Application form. Students are encouraged to submit this form to participate in a ballot for accommodation.

To be eligible for the ballot, you must:

1. Be a full-time student at Kellogg College.
2. Be a new student (unless specified otherwise).
3. Have met the financial criteria set by the college or your department, if applicable. This is typically through the submission and acceptance of the Financial Declaration Form
4. Have met any other criteria set by the college or your department, if applicable.

Note: Applicants are responsible for ensuring they have met the conditions outlined in their College offer letter or outlined by their department by the stipulated deadlines each has given.

To ensure fair allocation of accommodation, a ballot for our rooms is held following the below steps:

1. Eligible applicants' names are entered into a draw.
2. The names are shuffled and drawn at random by a staff member.
3. Another staff member reviews the drawn applicant's accommodation preferences.
4. The preferences are checked in descending order until available room type or band is found.
5. The available rooms within that type or band are shuffled, and a room is randomly selected.
6. The applicant is then assigned that room and informed of their allocation.

This process continues until all names or all rooms are allocated, whichever occurs first.



The Ballot Process

Kellogg College Accommodation room ballots overview





Further details on the standard ballot process – New Students

The First Ballot Process and Timeline

Midday July 1st: Applications for the ballot close.

- We will then process all applications, verify eligibility, and address any unclear information.

July 3rd: Provisional date for the first ballot.

- Eligible applicants will have their names entered into the ballot.
- Eligible applicants will be notified of their entry into the ballot.
- Ineligible applicants will be contacted with an explanation and will be added to the second ballot for re-evaluation.

July 3rd – 8th Approximate dates for processing results

- Successful applicants will be contacted and formally offered a room. They will have 7 days to accept or decline the offer.
 - After the deadline has passed, those who accept the offer must then pay a one-month deposit within the 7- day deadline.
 - Once the room is accepted and the deposit paid, the room is secured, your room contract will be sent to you. This must be signed and returned by the deadline listed. You will then become contractually bound by the terms of this contract. This is the completion of this process.
 - Applicants who do not respond by the deadline will have the offer rescinded. No further accommodation will be offered.
 - Applicants who accept the offer and then fail to pay the deposit on time will be contacted, their offer will be rescinded. They will not be offered further Kellogg accommodation.
 - Applicants who decline the offer will not be offered further Kellogg accommodation.
- Applicants who do not receive a room in the first ballot will be notified and entered into the second ballot.
- Any unallocated or declined rooms will be included in the pool of rooms for the second ballot.

The Second Ballot

Midday July 31st: Deadline for applications for the second ballot.

- The process will mirror the first ballot.
- The ballot will be held on August 4th, and applicants will be informed of their results by the end of that week.
 - Applicants who are successful but decline the room offer will not be considered for further Kellogg accommodation.
 - Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waitlist.
- All dates and deadlines will be included in the confirmation emails.

Any unallocated or declined rooms will be included in the pool of rooms for the second ballot.



Further details on the standard ballot process – Continuing Students

For students continuing their studies into subsequent years, the College allocates 10-15 rooms annually. These rooms are assigned through a separate ballot process, as outlined below.

Applications for these rooms will open in the Spring, with allocations finalised by early Summer. Specific details, including deadlines and procedures, will be provided when the application form becomes available.

To be eligible the applicant must:

- Be up to date with your rental payments
- Be a full-time Kellogg College student
- Remain a full-time student for the entire next academic year
- Have no outstanding conduct concerns in your current accommodation

Mid May – Date To be confirmed: Applications for the ballot close.

- We will then process all applications, verify eligibility, and address any unclear information.

Late May – Date to be confirmed: The Ballot will be held.

- Eligible applicants will have their names entered into the ballot.
- Eligible applicants will be notified of their entry into the ballot.
- Ineligible applicants will be contacted with an explanation and will be added to the waitlist.

By the start of June

- Successful applicants will be contacted and formally offered a room. They will have 7 days to accept or decline the offer.
 - After the deadline has passed, those who accept the offer must then pay a one-month deposit within the 7- day deadline.
 - Once the room is accepted and the deposit paid, the room is secured, your room contract will be sent to you. This must be signed and returned by the deadline listed. You will then become contractually bound by the terms of this contract. This is the completion of this process.
- Applicants who do not respond by the deadline will have the offer rescinded. No further accommodation will be offered.
- Applicants who accept the offer and then fail to pay the deposit on time will be contacted, their offer will be rescinded. They will not be offered further Kellogg accommodation.
- Applicants who decline the offer will not be offered further Kellogg accommodation.

- Applicants who do not receive a room in the ballot will be added to a waitlist.
- Any unallocated or declined rooms will be offered to the waitlist.

The Waitlist

The waitlist consists of applicants who:

- Were unsuccessful in the ballot process,
- Applied but were initially ineligible (e.g. students who received late offers from the University),
- Have extenuating circumstances.
- Continuing students who were not successful in their ballot.

Applicants in this category will have their details forwarded to the Collegiate Accommodation Support Service (CASS), which will make every effort to secure a room if possible. CASS serves as a central hub for students seeking accommodation, coordinating with colleges that have available rooms. These rooms will be offered to students on the CASS list, and applicants may be offered a room in a different college. For further information, please consult the CASS webpages.

Important Notice: Due to the high volume of applicants, not all individuals will receive an accommodation offer from either the College or CASS. Applicants are strongly encouraged to explore private housing options alongside this process

Continuing students: Those who were not successful in the ballot will be held on a waitlist by the college initially until all rooms aside for continuing students have been allocated. After this has taken place, those names (along with the new students) will be given to CASS.

Priority Allocations

We recognise that some applicants may require special accommodations due to disabilities. During the application process, you will be asked if this applies to you. If so, we advise contacting the University Disability Advisory Services (DAS) for guidance as soon as possible. You should also discuss your needs with our Academic Registrar. In collaboration, they will inform the accommodation team how to allocate the applicant accordingly.

Based on the required level of support, we will take one of the following actions:

1. Allocate you a room in advance that meets the requirements outlined by DAS

First Allocation: For students with significant medical needs that necessitate a specific type of room. For example, students with mobility issues or who require a live-in carer are often given rooms through this allocation.

2. Add your name to the Priority Pool.

Priority Pool: For applicants with less severe physical or sensory medical conditions where a room in College is beneficial but any type of room in any location



is acceptable. These applicants are entered into the Priority Pool draw and allocated a room based on their preferences at the start of the ballot process.

3. If no special accommodation is needed, the applicant will be entered into the regular ballot.

Standard Ballot: For those who may have a medical condition requiring support, but no special accommodation is needed. These applicants will be entered into the regular ballot.



Frequently asked Questions

Will all applicants receive a room offer?

Unfortunately, the number of applicants will always exceed the number of rooms we have available. The college is working hard to be able to offer further accommodations over the coming years. This means that despite meeting the criteria and deadlines, some applicants will regretfully be unsuccessful and should seek accommodation in the private sector.

I am an International student – can I be prioritised? Is there any way to be prioritised?

Our college is proud to welcome a diverse body of students, including many from international backgrounds. However, to maintain fairness, our allocation process does not prioritise based on an applicant's home country or other personal circumstances (with the exception of more severe medical issues as described previously). Our approach aims to ensure fairness and avoid subjective judgments on personal circumstances, as we believe every applicant has valid and important reasons for seeking university accommodation.

What happens if I am not eligible by the deadline?

These applicants are held over to a second ballot and re-checked in advance of the second ballot. If their status has changed, they will be contacted and entered into the second ballot. Should you remain ineligible by the second ballot, you will be added to the waitlist and your status will be re checked at the periodically throughout August.

What happens if my name was not drawn in the first ballot?

This group of applicants are contacted after the first ballot and will have their names entered into the second ballot.

What happens if I have not been successful in either ballot?

These applicants will be contacted after the second ballot. They will be added to the waitlist. Please see the description of this process above.

Am I likely to get a room if I am on the waitlist?

Rooms may become available throughout the year as students' circumstances change. However, it is difficult to predict the timing or number of such changes, which may arise when students leave the University or College for various reasons. On average, approximately five rooms become available between August and September.

Applicants on the waitlist will be referred to CASS, which manages access to vacant rooms across other colleges. CASS will make every effort to accommodate as many students as possible during the summer months.



Can I change the room I am allocated in the Ballot?

Rooms are randomly allocated during the ballot based on your preferences. Unfortunately, once a room has been assigned, it cannot be changed. Each successful student will be offered only one room. If you decline the offered room, you will not be eligible to participate in any further ballots nor added to the waitlist.

How are room bands determined?

Room bands are assigned based on several factors, including the amount of natural light, room size, available facilities (e.g., ensuite bathroom, double bed), house size, and the number of people sharing communal facilities. For example, a spacious, well-lit room with a kitchen or bathroom shared among fewer than 5–6 students will likely fall into Band A or B. Smaller rooms on lower ground floors with a higher ratio of shared facility usage will typically be categorized as Band E or F.

Can my contract be amended if I want to arrive before or after the start date?

Unfortunately, contract start dates are fixed and cannot be amended. You may arrive after your contract start date, but please note that you are still responsible for rent from the official start date, regardless of when you move in.

Does the college offer couples accommodation?

Yes we do have a limited selection of couples flats available. Please contact the accommodation team at accommodation@kellogg.ox.ac.uk for further information. They will send you a form to complete. Couples accommodation is balloted too with the same deadlines as the main ballot.

Does the college offer family accommodation?

No, we are not able to accommodate anyone under the age of 18 years old, including babies.

Further FAQs regarding accommodation can be found on our webpage in the 'Useful Information' section.