



MSK Housing Policies and Procedures for PhD Students

Gerstner Sloan Kettering (GSK) Students
Weill Cornell Graduate School (WCGS) Students
Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs)

Please review the eligibility criteria below. If you meet the requirements, use [this link](#) to apply for MSK housing.

New Students Beginning their PhD Programs

a. New Student Eligibility

All new GSK, WCGS and GRA students whose training program lasts at least one year may apply for MSK housing during their onboarding process.

New students who chose not to apply for housing during onboarding may apply during one of the bi-annual application windows. New students who are offered an MSK housing assignment and decline that offer are not eligible to reapply.

All new GSK and WCGS students will only be offered a room in a shared accommodation. While we do our best to accommodate GRA students, this group is not guaranteed housing.

b. New Student Application Process

For GRAs:

- Applications can be submitted once a student receives an appointment letter for Sloan Kettering Institute GRAs.
- Applications must be submitted at least 60 days before the desired move-in date.
- If an application is not accommodated, applicants may reapply within the first two years of starting their program, provided at least 12 months have passed since the previous decision.

For GSK:

- Applications can be submitted once a student commits to GSK.
- Applications must be submitted at least 60 days before the desired move-in date. Housing approvals are subject to availability.

For WCGS:

- Applications can be submitted once a student obtains approval from WCGS to apply.
- Applications must be submitted at least 60 days before the desired move-in date. Housing approvals are subject to availability.

c. New Student Offer Timeline

- Housing applications must be **submitted at least 60 days prior** to the applicant's desired move-in date.
- If the applicant meets this deadline, their housing **decision is communicated at least 30 days in advance of** the desired move-in date.
- If the applicant misses this deadline, their housing **decision is communicated within 30 days** of applying, regardless of their desired move-in date.

Current Students

a. Current Student Eligibility

There are two bi-annual windows during which current GSK, WCGS and GRA students can apply to enter or move within MSK housing, provided they meet the following requirements:

Current students residing in MSK housing are eligible to apply for an upgrade or downgrade provided they:

- Have resided in their MSK apartment for at least one year.
- Have at least one year remaining in their program.
- Have not previously declined an MSK housing offer.

Current students that do not reside in MSK housing are eligible to apply to enter MSK housing, provided they:

- Have at least one year remaining in their program.
- Have not previously declined an MSK housing offer.
- Are within the first two years of their program (*applicable to GRAs only*).

b. Current Student Application Process

Current students that meet the above criteria may apply during two annual windows:

- January 1 – January 31
- September 1 – September 30

Applications are evaluated using a point system based on seniority. In the event of a tie, a random selection process will be used. Points are assigned according to the applicant's matriculation year:

Years 1-2 = 1 points
 Years 2-3 = 2 points
 Years 3-4 = 3 points
 Years 4-5 = 4 points
 Years 5+ = 5 points

- For students applying for shared accommodations as roommates, their individual points will be averaged.
- Offers will be made based on the applicant's total points, with higher point values prioritized for apartment offers, subject to availability.

- Requests for specific units or buildings cannot be accommodated.

c. Current Student Offer Timeline

- Current students will be notified within 90 days of submitting their application.
- Students who do not receive an offer during a transfer window are eligible to reapply during the next window.

Unit Size Eligibility

Housing unit sizes are assigned based on family size, defined as the student, their spouse/domestic partner, and children. Additional individuals (e.g., grandparents, sitters) are not included in family size calculations. All new GSK and WCGS students will only be offered a room in a shared accommodation. While we do our best to accommodate GRA students, this group is not guaranteed housing.

- **Shared unit:** Single students
- **Studio:** Single students; students with partners
- **One-bedroom:** Students with partners and/or children; students with children will be given priority.

Offer Acceptance

Once a housing offer is made, applicants have 15 days to accept it. If the offer is not accepted within this period, ***it will expire, and the applicant will be ineligible to reapply.***

Applicants may request a unit tour within the 15-day acceptance period if the unit is unoccupied. Media materials and building information will be provided due to the limited availability of viewable units.

Occupancy Requirements

Occupancy can begin up to 14 days before the program (GSK & WCGS) or MSK start date (GRA), subject to availability. Occupancy **must occur within 30 days of the desired move in date indicated in the application**, or the apartment offer is subject to cancellation.

GRAs and GSK students must vacate MSK housing within 14 days of termination. WCGS students must vacate MSK housing no later than their stipend termination date.

Cost of Rent & Unit Locations

Academic Year 2026 – 2027 Rental Rates*

Apartment Size**	Gerstner Sloan Kettering (GSK) & Weill Cornell Graduate School (WCGS) Students and Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs)
Share	\$1,208 - \$1,492 (pets are not permitted)
Studio	\$1,646 - \$1,819
One bedroom	\$2,039 - \$2,254

*Prices are subject to change annually. Utility costs, billing, and account setup vary by building.

** All student apartments are fully furnished; bedroom furniture includes XL full mattress, desk lamp, floor lamp, office chair, desk, chest, or drawers. MSK does not store furniture; students may remove furniture to replace with their own at their own expense provided the original is returned upon vacating.

Rent Collection

- For GSK students and GRAs, rent is MSK payroll-deducted bi-monthly, except for trainees with external funding, i.e., external grant funding, stipend, etc.
- For WCGS students, rent will be deducted bi-monthly via Cornell payroll.
- An initial, first months’ rent payment will be required upon move-in and will be paid electronically via ACH for no fee. Thereafter, students will be eligible for payroll deduction.