

Spring 2023

Interest House Community Application

Thank you for applying to live in the Interest House Community (IHC)!

This is the application used for all Interest Houses, *if you are applying to more than one Interest House you must complete a separate application for each house.*

The Interest Houses are designed to:

- Be great places for students to live and grow
- Allow students to focus on a particular language, culture, and/or area of interest
- Serve as resource centers for the campus and community
- Sponsor and organize fun, educational, and social activities for the campus
- Create close communities through regular house meals and activities together
- Provide students with leadership opportunities
- Create a student community of diverse interest
- IHC residents are on the meal plan *except* those in the Community Service Co-op

HOW TO APPLY

- On a separate sheet of paper, complete the application (questions are on page 2 of this form).
- Complete a separate application for each house you are applying to
- Applications are due at 11:59 pm Friday, March 10th to ihcapplications@whitman.edu
- After applying, you will interview with the RA(s) of the house(s) you applied to, and join the house for dinner or an alternative group activity (i.e.; tea time). You will be contacted after applying to sign up for the interview and dinner.

If invited to live in the IHC, the house you are placed in will be based on available space, your preference, and assessment of your application components (application, interview, etc). Applicants will be notified of decisions by the week of April 3rd. Applicants are encouraged to have alternative housing plans in the event that the IHC does not have sufficient spaces for all qualified applicants.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, feel free to contact the IHC Resident Director, Alyssa Ortiz at ortizal@whitman.edu

Application Questions

Please respond to these questions on a separate document. Be *specific* with your answers and make sure that the information you provide is *tailored to the house to which you are applying*.

Complete a separate application for each house. You do not need to include this form with the application.

*At the top of each application, please include your *name, class year, campus address, phone number, and e-mail*.*

1. If you are applying to multiple interest houses, please rank your preferences and provide a brief paragraph describing why you have picked this order. Please ensure this response is identical on each application you turn in. If you decide to change your preference classification, please contact the Resident Director, Alyssa Ortiz.
2. To which house(s) are you applying? *Remember to fill out a separate application for each house to which you are applying.* Why do you want to live in this house?
3. What skills, talents, and/or experiences do you have to offer the house and the Interest House Community? Please describe your previous exposure to a culture and/or language if applicable.
4. Interest House life is different from living in a Residence Hall. What aspects of Interest House life most appeal to you? What aspects are you potentially concerned about?
5. What extracurricular commitments will you have next semester, and how will you make time for the house? Do you have any questions about the responsibilities of living in an Interest House (chores, dinners, programming, etc.)?
6. Do you have a strong rooming preference (i.e. single, double, triple) or concerns about others applying to the same house you are? Feel free to describe your optimal living environment here.
7. What else should we know about you?
8. What questions do you have about the house?
9. (A) If you are applying to the ***French, German, or Spanish House*** please include a writing sample 1-2 pages in length in the foreign language of the house to which you are applying. Please note that this can be an old class assignment, essay, or other work representative of your written language level. **OR**, describe yourself in 150-250 words in the appropriate language.

(B) If you are applying to the ***Tekisuijuku***, explain in writing (in English) how you plan to continue your study of Japanese.

(C) If you are applying to ***Multicultural House, ASH, FAH, Wellness, Writing, Community Service, or Environmental House***, please choose one of these options: On a separate single piece of paper, creatively express yourself (i.e. draw a picture, write down a favorite poem or quote, share a song, etc.) and briefly explain its importance, **or** write a 150-250 word response describing who in the world, alive or dead, you would most like to share a meal with and why.

*Remember to turn in all applications to ihapplications@whitman.edu by **11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 10th***