

Special Interest House Criteria & Expectations

2019-2020

All students who wish to apply for a special interest house for the 2019-2020 academic year must apply as a group. Groups will be assigned to housing which matches the group application size. Please know that the quality of your proposal will affect whether your group will be awarded or be able to retain a legacy house.

In order to be approved, all groups must demonstrate the following:

- AVIATE & PATH Credit
- Expectations of living in a Special Interest House
 - General
 - Recognized Student Organizations (including Fraternity and Sorority houses)
- Adviser Information

AVIATE/PATH Credit

Housing and Residence Life has [A Vision for Integrated, Applied, and Transformative Education \(AVIATE\)](#) that will help guide your journey in residence at the University of Dayton. With the constant support of your community, you will discover the experience, skills and understanding you will need to succeed in your education and graduate — so you can embark on your next great journey.

AVIATE provides you with a series of learning goals that promote your growth throughout your time at the University of Dayton. The educational priority and the associated goals can be found in our Vision for Residential Learning.

As a part of this program, students will attend events and earn PATH Credits (Points Accumulated Toward Housing) that determine a group's priority in the Housing Assignment process for the following academic year. A group's priority is determined by the sum of the group members' points. Students who participate in Special Interest Housing have an opportunity to earn three additional PATH Credits while living in Special Interest Housing that are not available to other students.

Students wishing to obtain a Special Interest House must participate in their living community through AVIATE, and earn PATH Credits, in order to be considered for eligibility to obtain a house.

- Applications will initially be reviewed for congruence with the mission and vision of Special Interest Housing.
- After a group application is deemed eligible for Special Interest Housing, they are then placed in the pool to receive a house.
- Houses will only be awarded to a limited number of groups, starting with those groups who have the highest priority based on the number of PATH credits earned.
- There is a cap of 750 beds for Special Interest Housing. The top PATH earners will receive a house. It is imperative that groups who want a house earn PATH to have a strong chance.
- In order to be eligible for a Special Interest House, each student applying for the house must be involved in their living community by earning a minimum of 8 PATH credits each.
- If the house is a Legacy Special Interest house, not only must each applicant earn 8 PATH credits, but each person currently living in the Legacy house must also earn 8 PATH credits in order to maintain good standing for the Legacy House.

Expectations

The expectations below apply to all groups that are awarded a special interest house. Failure to meet any of the expectations below may result in revocation of the house as well as applicable disciplinary consequences:

General Interest Houses:

- Meet with the house adviser to review a plan to meet SMART goals and discuss safety and risk management. Advisers must complete an online form by October 31, 2019.
- Maintain full occupancy of the special interest house for both semesters by junior/senior students.
 - **NOTE:** Groups will be provided the opportunity to fill any vacancy that occurs within a special interest house. In cases where a group is unsuccessful in filling a vacancy, Housing and Residence Life can assign a student into the vacancy.
 - **NOTE:** Should a special interest house fall below half of the group's capacity, Housing and Residence Life may reassign the students living in the house to other housing as outlined in the housing contract.
- Completion of SMART goal progress reports and presentation to your community in a district Community Building Meeting.
- Condition of house/apartment (cleaning, damages): There must not be any excessive trash in any rooms of the house. In addition, the yard and porch (if applicable) must be kept free of trash.
- Alcohol: The use of alcohol containers, packaging, or signage for decoration is not permitted in common areas of Special Interest Houses/Addresses, as they contribute to a culture that promotes excessive drinking of alcohol.
- Housing Contract, Student Code of Conduct: All other policies and behaviors from the University Housing Contract and the Student Code of Conduct are applicable to Special Interest Houses.
- Adviser: All Special Interest Houses must have a faculty/staff adviser for the house who commits to helping the group establish and complete SMART goals that positively impact their group and the Student Neighborhood.

Recognized Student Organizations and Legacy Houses:

Legacy Houses are those Special Interest Houses that are retained year-to-year by a recognized student organization, Faith-Based groups, Academic/Department sponsored houses, or Athletic-related houses. It also includes students living in IACT at ArtStreet or the Global Learning Living Community in Caldwell apartments.

These groups have the option of working with the Special Interest Housing committee and Facilities Management to have signage placed on their house, identifying their group. Because these houses are representative of groups and are readily identified with their group, they have a higher standard to uphold. In addition to the expectations of all Special Interest Houses, Legacy houses and those of Recognized Student Organizations have a set of additional expectations.

- Alcohol: The use of alcohol containers, packaging, or signage for decoration is not permitted in common areas of Special Interest Houses/Addresses, as they contribute to a culture that promotes excessive drinking of alcohol. All decorations and signage should be considered for their alignment with group and institutional values. In addition, recognized student organizations with liquor liability insurance must follow all of the CSI policies (and their inter/national office policies) for hosting an event with alcohol. All alcohol, if present, must be stored responsibly. Because the house is identified with a group or organization, and that group or organization may be inviting others (who may be under the age of 21) into the house for purposes related to the group or organization, alcohol should not be visible in a common space to anyone visiting the house. If a group's inter/national parent organization does not allow alcohol in organizational housing, that policy must be adhered to as well.
- Warnings/Citations: Citations or warnings from any University official could result in a review of Legacy status for the group or ability for the Recognized Student Organization to attain a Special Interest House for the following academic year. Egregious violations could result in immediate removal from Special Interest Housing.
- Adviser(s): All Legacy houses, similar to other Special Interest Houses, must have a faculty/staff adviser for the house; for recognized student organization houses, that adviser must be the organization's adviser of record with the Center for Student Involvement. Groups may also have a second adviser who works specifically with Special Interest Housing-related concerns. The advisers must be committed to working with the students to ensure that the house is representative of the mission/values of the organization or group.

- PATH Credit: Each group member living in the house must demonstrate engagement with their living community by earning 8 PATH credits in order to retain the house for the following year.