Who is an Active Citizen of Becker House?

An Active Citizen is a Becker House resident invested in having Becker House be the Best on West. Active Citizens are involved in helping build community among residents and are interested in resident-led governance. Being an Active Citizen fosters personal discovery and growth, civic engagement, and nurtures scholarship and creativity in an environment of collegiality, civility, and responsible stewardship. As a gesture of appreciation for your work in building a thriving community at Becker, we guarantee Active Citizens housing at Becker for the 2020-21 academic year. We want all our residents to thrive at Becker House, but are particularly interested in retaining residents who are currently involved in various activities in the House.

What is my commitment as an Active Citizen of Becker?

1. **COMPLETE THE APPLICATION AND TELL US WHY BEING A BECKER RESIDENT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU**

2. **PARTICIPATE IN A HOUSE INITIATIVE** You have to register and participate fully in one of the House initiatives listed below for the next two semesters (Spring 2020, Fall 2020). You may choose the same initiative for both semesters or you may register for different initiatives. NOTE: House Initiatives offerings may change. If your choice isn't available in a given semester, you will be expected to participate in another House initiative that semester.

   - **Cornell University Becker in Service (CUBS) – Volunteer for Service Projects.** Requirements include leading and participating in various service projects at Becker, Cornell or in the local community. Can be taken as a one credit p/f course.
   - **Becker House Café – Conversations over Coffee and Cookies.** Requirements include attending and participating in a weekly discussion with visiting speakers every Wednesday following House Dinner. Can be taken as a one credit p/f course.
   - **Becker House Council – Help Govern Your Home Away from Home.** Meets weekly and is led by an executive board. Requirements include planning, participating and implementing community programs and facilitating resident participation in governing Becker.
   - **Other Weekly House Initiative TBD** -

3. **ORGANIZE AND LEAD A FLOOR SOCIAL** You must organize and lead at least one social activity that will help build community on your floor each semester (individually or with another active citizen). Your floor GRF/SA will work with you on budget and logistics.

What information will I need in order to complete the Active Citizen application?

1. The usual demographic information (e.g., name, net ID, etc.)
2. A clear jpg photo of yourself (showing your face so we can recognize you) at Becker House that is meaningful to you (100mg max). If other people are in the photo be sure to identify who you are in the photo.

3. 250 word maximum answers to the following questions:
   a. In what ways have you been active in Becker House?
   b. Why is being an active citizen at Becker House important to you?
   c. What do you plan to do to live up to your Active Citizen status?

4. List House Initiatives that you will be involved in during Spring 2020 and Fall 2020.

5. List your first, second and third choice of housing in Becker; your second choice must be on a different floor from your first choice, and your third choice must be in the other wing of Becker House (South Wing rooms end in 39 or below, North Wing rooms end in 40 or above).

6. If you are blocking, with whom you are blocking (names and net IDs). Also, if you have a 5-person block, the names of the two people who will be living in the double room. You may block with current Becker House residents only.

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**How many residents will be chosen to be Becker House Active Citizens?**

We accept up to 100 continuing residents through the Active Citizen process. If any of the 100 beds remain after the Active Citizen process is completed, we will host a mini-lottery in January or February for the remaining beds giving preference to Becker residents, including new January transfers, who did not have a chance to participate in the Active Citizen process because it took place before they moved into Becker House.

**Who selects the Active Citizens? When will I find out whether I’ve been selected?**

The application is available on the Becker House website (carlbeckerhouse.cornell.edu). Applications are due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Nov. 24, 2019. All applications are reviewed and final decisions made by a selection committee chaired by House Professor, Neema Kudva. The Committee includes Assistant Dean, Amanda Carreiro, members of the Becker House staff (GRFs, SAs) and up to three non-returning Becker House residents. Those selected as Becker House Active Citizens will be notified in mid- to late-December.

**Is there an advantage for second year Becker House members?**

There is no advantage – selection is based on how active you are, how active you have been, and your application.

**Does being selected limit what rooms/suites in Becker House I can choose to live in for 2020-21?**

YES. We will be assigning Active Citizens to live throughout the House; intentionally distributing them as evenly as possibly on each floor throughout Becker. You do NOT get to choose your room/suite. On the application, you will be asked to list preferred locations within Becker to live for 2020-21 year, but you are NOT guaranteed to get one of your choices.

**What are the rules about blocking?**

You and up to four other current Becker House residents are allowed to block adjacent rooms on a corridor or a suite.

**BLOCKING ADJACENT ROOMS ON A CORRIDOR**

Up to 5 students total may block adjacent rooms on a corridor. If 5 students block together on a corridor, they MUST fill at least one double room. Your block may include different genders.
BLOCKING A SUITE
If you are blocking in a suite, we STRONGLY encourage you to fill the suite. We will allow a LIMITED number of Active Citizens to block in a suite and NOT fill the entire suite. If you do not fill the suite and we have reached our limit, you will be assigned rooms on the corridor. If you fill the suite you have a significantly better chance of being assigned to a suite.
Your block may include different genders.

You MUST identify who is in your block when you apply to be an Active Citizen.

You may NOT change your block after your application is submitted.

When is the application due?

Active Citizen Applications are due by 11:59pm on Sunday, Nov. 24, 2019.
Active Citizen applicants will be notified in December regarding the status of their application.

FYI - Student Assistant Applications are due by 12:00pm, Monday, November 4, 2019.
NOTE: The Student Assistant application and selection process is completely separate from the Active Citizen application and selection process. We just want you to be aware of these dates in the event you choose to apply for both.