



Carl L. Becker House Active Citizen Application

Continued Occupancy Process

APPLICATIONS DUE by 11:59pm on Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is an Active Citizen of Becker House?

An Active Citizen is a Becker House resident invested in making 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 in Becker for the 2021-22 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 for the next two semesters (Spring 2021, Fall 2021). You may choose the same initiative for both semesters or you may register for different initiatives each semester. House Initiatives will be announced at the start of each semester.

Below you'll see the House Initiatives offered during Fall 2020.

- **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.
 - **Doc Watchers.** This initiative meets weekly and involves, suggesting, watching, and discussing documentary films. Participants may also lead post-film discussions.
3. **ORGANIZE AND LEAD A PROGRAM** You must organize and lead at least one social activity that will help build community on your floor or in the House 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, preferably in Becker House, that is meaningful to you. The photo needs to clearly show your face so we can recognize you (100mg max). If other people are in the photo be sure to identify who you are in the photo. You will need to explain why the photo is meaningful to you.
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. If you are blocking, you will need the first and last names and net IDs of the people with whom you are blocking. Also, if you have a 5-person block, you will need to identify which two people in your block will be living in the double occupancy room. You may block *only* with students assigned to Becker House for Fall 2020.

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

We accept up to 100 continuing residents through the Active Citizen/continued occupancy 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* in the Fall semester.

Who is eligible to apply to be an Active Citizens in Becker House? Who is eligible to be a blockmate?

Students who were *assigned to Becker House for Fall 2020 (and who are not currently living in another campus housing area)* are eligible to apply for Active Citizen status or to be listed as a blockmate on another student's Active Citizen application. Students assigned to, or living in, other West Campus Houses or other Cornell residential areas are NOT eligible to apply to be an Active Citizen or a blockmate of an Active Citizen in 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. 22, 2020. 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, URFs) and up to three non-returning Becker House residents. Applicants will be notified of the results of their application by December 24, 2020.

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 2021-22?

YES. We strive to distribute Active Citizens evenly throughout the House. We will cap the number of Active Citizens (and blockmates) per floor. If the cap on a floor has been reached, you'll need to choose a room on another floor possibly in the other wing of the building. If accepted as an Active Citizen you are guaranteed housing in Becker for 2021-22, but you are NOT guaranteed a particular room, floor or wing. Room selection will occur in February 2021.

What are the rules about blocking (pulling roommates in)?

You and up to four other students *who were assigned to Becker House for Fall 2020 (and who are not currently living in another campus housing area)* 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 occupancy room.

Your block may include different genders.

BLOCKING A SUITE

If you are blocking a suite, you must **FILL** the entire suite.

Suites in Becker are comprised of 3 single-occupancy rooms and 1 double-occupancy room.

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. 22, 2020.

Active Citizen applicants will be notified by December 24, 2020 regarding the status of their application.

FYI – Undergraduate Resident Fellow (URF) applications are due by 11:59pm on November 8, 2020. The URF application and selection process is completely separate from the Active Citizen/continued occupancy process. We just want you to be aware of these dates in the event you choose to apply for both Active Citizen status and a URF position for 2021-22.