

Gender Inclusive Housing Policy

Moravian College offers gender-inclusive housing, a residential space in which residents of any combination of biological sexes, gender identities, or gender expressions to choose to live together in the same wing (in first-year halls only) or suite. It is not intended for romantic couples, but rather for students seeking to live in an open and inclusive community.

The following is applicable to students who elect to live in a gender-inclusive housing option and reside with a person(s) of a different gender.

1. Housing Options

a. First-Year Building

Moravian College offers gender-inclusive housing in a traditional style building (usually Rau-Hassler). This community is unique in that students share double-bedrooms and a community bathroom. Students are able to request their direct roommate through the *Student Life Questionnaire*; students who do not request roommates will be assigned based on sex. The community bathroom will also be designated as gender-inclusive (to be used by all members of the community regardless of sex/gender). However, there are single-gender use bathroom (male and female) on the surrounding floors.

b. Upperclass Apartment Spaces

Moravian College offers gender-inclusive housing in some designated units within the Hillside and Hurd Integrated Living Learning (HILL) communities. Specifically, housing options that contain two single-use bathrooms (aside from gender-specified units). These communities are automatically considered gender-inclusive spaces. Groups are welcome to select these spaces regardless of their gender make-up during General Housing Selection.

c. Special Interest Housing & Gender Inclusive Spaces

Special Interest Housing is a unique opportunity in which we recognize groups with members spanning across gender identities. In an effort to not deter smaller groups from applying and succeeding in this program, a limited number of Special Interest Housing groups may be offered the opportunity to form a gender inclusive space in a housing assignment with only one single-use bathroom facility.

2. Eligibility

- a. All students in gender-inclusive housing must be full-time undergraduate students.

3. Roommate Selection

a. First-Year Community

- i. Students must select the gender-inclusive housing option on the electronic *Student Life Questionnaire*.
- ii. First-year students seeking to live in the community who do not indicate a roommate in the *Student Life Questionnaire*, will be assigned a roommate of the same sex.
- iii. First-year students seeking to live with someone of a different gender or sexual identity must indicate the name of the student in roommate preferences section of the *Student Life Questionnaire*. In order for the

request to be honored, both parties must indicate one another as preferred roommates on the *Student Life Questionnaire*.

- iv. Agreement
 1. Students assigned to the gender-inclusive community will be contacted over the summer to sign and return an agreement for that community, prior to arrival.
 2. Failure to sign the document before arrival may result in the relocation of the student.
 - b. Upperclass Apartment Selection
 - i. During General Housing Selection mixed gender groups have the opportunity to select from available gender-inclusive units in the HILL or Hillside.
 - ii. There is an inherent risk in entering the Housing Lottery in a mixed gender group. Should all rooms, suites, or apartments that have the gender inclusive optional designation be selected by the time a mixed gender group's number is called, the group will be unable to select any housing unless it can divide up into single-gender groups and select separate suites or rooms.
 - c. Special Interest Housing Selection
 - i. Mixed gender groups seeking to participate as a Special Interest Community would submit their application, roster, and presentation as outlined in the application guidelines.
 - ii. If a special interest group is selected by the committee, but is not offered a traditional gender-inclusive unit, they will be given the opportunity to have all members of the group sign an agreement accepting to live as a gender-inclusive community in an apartment with one (1) single-use restroom.
4. Room Changes & Vacancies
- a. Double Bedroom
 - i. When there is a vacancy in a gender-inclusive double, the student remaining in the room may elect to pull in any new roommate.
 - ii. If the resident wants to maintain a gender-inclusive space but cannot identify a new roommate, the Office of Housing & Event Management will try to identify a student interested in gender-inclusive housing. Both students must agree to live together.
 - iii. If a roommate cannot be identified, the room will default back to single-sex status. In this case, the Office of Housing & Event Management may place a student of the same sex in the room.
 - b. Suite or Apartment (Single Bedroom)
 - i. When there is a vacancy in a gender-inclusive apartment, the students remaining in the apartment may elect to pull in any new roommate.
 - ii. If a roommate cannot be identified, the Office of Housing & Event Management may place a student of any sex or gender identity in the room.
 - c. Issues relating to room reassignments and vacancies will follow the procedure set forth the Office of Housing & Event Management. Please call 610-861-1418 or email housing@moravian.edu to establish direct contact and schedule an appointment.
5. Restrooms Usage

- a. Community Restrooms
 - i. In traditional halls there are communal restrooms with shared toilet and shower stalls.
 - ii. The bathroom in the Gender Inclusive Community will also be designated as gender-inclusive (to be used by all members of the community regardless of sex/gender).
 - iii. There are single sex use bathrooms (male and female) on the surrounding floors in the event that members of the community opt to use those spaces.
 - b. Single-Use Restrooms
 - i. Single-use restrooms can be found in the HILL & Hillside gender inclusive apartment units.
 - ii. The residents of the units may determine how they want to define the restroom use within their apartment.
6. Community Standards
- a. Moravian College has established standards of conduct to which all students are held accountable, including conduct standards relating to abusive, threatening, intimidating, or harassing actions (including, but not limited to, those based on race, religion, gender, disability, age, economic status, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression) and sexual misconduct. These resources in the Student Handbook at the following website:
<https://www.moravian.edu/static/studentLife/handbook/>
 - b. It is our expectation that students who choose to live in gender inclusive communities on Moravian's campus, are respectful and understand the purpose of these spaces. Again, this policy is not intended for romantic couples.

Adapted from:

Gettysburg College, *Gender-Neutral Housing*

Brown University, *Gender-Neutral Optional Housing Policy and Conditions for Participation*

