

Special Interest House Criteria & Expectations

2022-2023

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

- ☐ Complete an [SIH Application 21-22.docx](#)
- ☐ PATH Credit accumulation
- ☐ Agreement to uphold the EXPECTATIONS for living in a Special Interest House
 - ☐ General
 - ☐ Recognized Student Organizations (including Fraternity and Sorority houses)
- ☐ Submit 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. From the intentionally designed learning in residence and the 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 should reflect the group purpose and create a SMART goal connected to a learning goal through the University of Dayton Commitment to Community and Housing and Residence Life's Vision for Residential Learning. Groups should share their applications with their Adviser.
- Each student currently living in the legacy house must earn a minimum of 8 PATH credits each.
- Each student applying for the house must earn a minimum of 8 PATH credits each.

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 Expectations:

- Meet with the house adviser to review a plan to complete SMART goals and discuss living in community. A reflection form will be due by October 31, 2022.
- 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 and reflection forms sent throughout the semester.
- 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 is committed to helping the group establish and complete SMART goals that positively impact their group and the Student Neighborhood.

Recognized Student Organizations and Legacy Houses:

In addition to the general expectations above, Legacy Houses have an additional set of expectations. Legacy Houses are those Special Interest Houses that are retained year-to-year by a recognized student organization, Faith-Based group, Academic/Department-sponsored house, or Athletic-related house. It also includes students living 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.

Accountability

Groups that fail to meet the expectations set forth as a part of Special Interest Housing (SIH) will not be eligible to participate in the Special Interest Housing Process. Legacy Houses that fail to meet the expectations will lose their status as a Legacy House. Accountability to the expectation of SIH for Legacy Houses is based on a three-strike rule. If a group or organization receives three strikes within a rolling 3 year period, they will no longer be considered a Legacy House. Below are the reasons a group or organization can receive a strike:

- Failure to complete an approved application
 - Incomplete SMART Goal
 - A group that does not submit an application is forfeiting their legacy status and the house
- Existing members of the Legacy House did not earn the required 8 PATH Credits
- Members of the applying group did not earn the required 8 PATH Credits
- Full Occupancy not maintained
 - Application does not have enough members to fill all vacancies
 - One or more vacancies for more than 4 weeks in a semester
 - If a group falls below 51% at any point in the semester, they are subject to the Housing and Residence Life Consolidation Rule and can lose Legacy status immediately
- Repeated violation of University Protocols
 - Litter and Debris
 - Mass Gathering
 - Community Concerns
- Failure to present on the learning resulting from their SMART Goals

A group cannot be removed if it receives all three strikes within a single year. These groups will be placed on probation and a single violation of any expectation within the next two years will result in the loss of Legacy status.