

Colleges Explained for POSTGRADUATES

Presented by:

Sophie Holland-Francis (Vice Principal, Ustinov College) Matthew Deakin (Senior Manager Residential Student Services)



Our collegiate system will make your time with us special



At Durham you will become a member of a College community

Your College will be a hub of activity and full of opportunities to socialise and engage with others pursuing postgraduate degrees in many different subjects





College is a place to develop your skills and enhance your wellbeing, with dedicated support and guidance from staff

All our Colleges provide facilities to support your academic learning and personal development

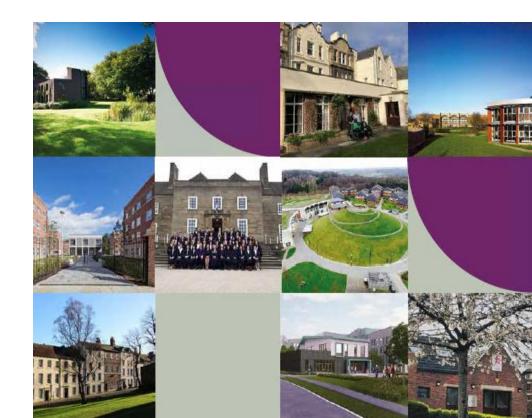




We have 17 different colleges meaning hugely increased opportunities for challenges and making memories

- √ 16 colleges accept both undergraduate and postgraduate student members
- √ 17th postgraduate only college





Every college has a representative body for postgraduate students, typically named the **Middle Common Room**

As a member of the Common Room you can:

- ✓ participate in elected student leadership
- ✓ engage in local, regional and global issues
- √ share academic research
- ✓ organise student-led events





Colleges Overview

A community to belong to whilst you are in Durham, and once you leave

Opportunities for student governance through the Common Rooms

Societies, student groups and sports

Shared facilities for all students of the College

A range of events and extra curricular activities



College staff to support your wellbeing





College Membership Allocation



Open, fair and transparent process

Automated process using college quotas Attempt to allocate to a ranked college preference



Eligible to rank college preferences once accept postgraduate academic offer

Contacted by the Accommodation and Allocations Office in 2025 to submit College Application

Rank three college preferences (first, second and third)

Resubmit College Application if want to change or update preferences (latest submission considered)





College Allocation process commences later in 2025

Automated process considers submitted preferences

Algorithm determines whether an allocation can be confirmed

College membership allocation is confirmed



Email confirmation by AAO will confirm *college membership* allocation

The Allocated College will contact applicants with more information about college membership

The allocated College will *not be changed* at an applicant request

Allocations continue throughout the summer for all new acceptances of postgraduate academic offer





Postgraduate accommodation is in single study bedrooms

Colleges have different facilities available across the campus

- Catered and self-catered
- Standard, ensuite and studio rooms





Steps to take:

- Accept postgraduate academic offer to Durham
- Complete College Membership Application
 - ✓ Confirm 'Yes' to be considered for accommodation
- Complete College Accommodation Application
 - ✓ Confirm **facilities** preferences
- Complete before the given deadline date



Accommodation Guarantee

Eligibility

Guarantee an offer of accommodation from the University:

- Full time applicant commencing studies September 2025
- Live in college accommodation for the full academic year
- Full details to be provided in November 2024



Accommodation Waitlist

Waitlist

- Will be contacted once we can be certain of making offers of accommodation to all those who have met guarantee
- Accommodation will be provided where available.
- Not solely rely on college accommodation being offered
- First come first served basis. One offer made. If refused, you go to the back of the waitlist.



Applicant accepted postgraduate academic offer



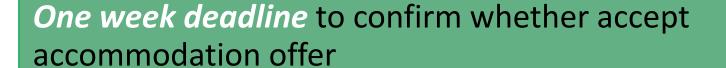
Complete *College Accommodation Application* – state *facilities preferences*

Added to eligible list for college accommodation:

- Accommodation Guarantee
- Accommodation Waitlist



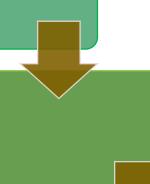
Offer accommodation *first* to those who met *Accommodation Guarantee*



One offer of accommodation from University only

If accommodation offer *declined* must find alternative in *private sector*





Offer accommodation second to those on Waitlist

First come first served basis – numerical order of date added to Waitlist

Accommodation offered where we have availability only

Usually contact students on Waitlist from around August time – not guaranteed accommodation



Accommodation Offers

- If you are provided with an accommodation offer:
 - Known as a Licence Agreement
 - Particulars of Offer:
 - College
 - Catering type
 - Room type
 - Total charge





Accommodation Offers

- To secure college accommodation:
 - payment of Advanced Rent
 - £400 payment via online system
- Not a deposit
- Offset from first instalment of accommodation charges





Accommodation and Allocations Office

Contact us at:

colleges.postgrad@durham.ac.uk



Questions?

