

# **GENDER NEUTRAL HOUSING**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: What is gender neutral housing and why is it available?**

**A:** It is the policy of Skidmore College to assign housing to students in the majority of our residence halls based on their legal sex. As the majority of our halls are comprised of suite-style living arrangements, our policy dictates that each suite will be made up of, on average, seven students of the same legal sex who share a common bathroom amongst them. We have designated spaces where we will house students without regard to legal sex and/or gender.

**Q: Where is gender neutral housing available?**

**A:** Gender neutral housing is available in Northwoods Village, Scribner Village, selected suites, and on the center of the third floor of Wiecking Hall, which is a corridor style residence hall.

**Q: What is the layout of gender neutral housing, including bathroom setup?**

**A:** The gender neutral section of Wiecking is comprised of single, double and triple rooms. There are two gender neutral bathrooms in this section with single-stalled toilets and showers. There is also one separate, single stall bathroom (ADA accessible) at the end of the hall. Additionally, separate male and female bathrooms are also available on the third floor; they are located around the corner from the gender neutral section.

**Q: How are rooms assigned in gender neutral housing?**

**A:** Students are housed without regard to legal sex and/or gender. Returning students are housed in doubles and singles and may select gender neutral housing through the room selection process.

First-year students are housed in double and triple rooms and may select gender neutral housing on their housing questionnaire. First-year students who are interested in gender neutral housing will be assigned a roommate(s) based on preferences indicated on the housing questionnaire without regard to legal sex and/or gender (e.g. based on smoking/non-smoking, cleanliness, music preference, and so on).

**Q: Is gender neutral housing for lesbian/gay/bisexual students?**

**A:** It has nothing to do with sexual orientation. In providing a gender neutral option, we are simply seeking to accommodate students who do not feel comfortable being housed based on legal sex. The floor is open to all students.

**Q: How is this different from the all women's floor?**

**A:** The all women's floor serves a different purpose, as it provides housing for women only. Gender neutral housing is open to all students.

**Q: Will there be programs that focus on sexual orientation/gender?**

**A:** Not specifically. We will hold information sessions to ensure students are comfortable and aware of resources available to them. However, this is not “themed” housing. Rather, gender neutral housing is a housing *option*. Wiecking Hall Staff receive training and are able to answer questions and make referrals to accommodate student’s needs.

**Q: Are there additional gender neutral housing options available on campus?**

**A:** All of Scribner and Northwoods Villages provide gender neutral apartment-style housing. These apartments are available for sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

**Q: If you have any questions, please contact the following:**

**A:** Office of Residential Life, Rounds Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Office of Student Diversity Programs, Case Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Skidmore Pride Alliance  
Wiecking Residence Hall Staff (Head Resident, Resident Assistants)

