

ROTATION HANDBOOK



2023-24 EDITION

A Message from the IHC

Hello Prefrosh! Welcome to Caltech!

We are the IHC, the group of House Presidents (plus a Chair and Secretary) that are responsible for the Rotation process and other House-related issues. We're very excited to meet you and show you our campus and the housing options available to you at Caltech! Our residential life program is one of the things we are most proud of at Caltech. During the Rotation process, you'll get to see all residential options and determine which residences you feel most comfortable with. You'll have the option of attending dinners, desserts, and events in each House, as well as lunch and activities in Bechtel.

All rotation activities are optional. That said, we strongly encourage you to participate in the events, dinners, desserts, and activities we have planned, regardless of your decision to participate in the Rotation process itself! These events will allow you to gain a more accurate depiction of each residence, and its programs, traditions, and environment.

At the end of rotation, you will be able to indicate if you would like to be placed into a House or remain unaffiliated. Regardless of your choice, the events during rotation are still a good way to get to know your fellow students and engage yourself with a variety of social activities on campus. You are welcome to still attend rotation activities if you have opted-out of rotation, and you can opt-in at any time.

We know that rotation can be a stressful, confusing time for some students, and there are always questions about how it works. To help you, we have put together this Rotation handbook to share some of the resources available during Rotation (and really your whole career at Caltech). Rotation information, such as the Rotation Schedule, Rotation Rules, FAQs, and other useful things to know can also be found on the IHC website (<https://ihc.caltech.edu/rotation>). Please don't hesitate to contact any/all of us (see the roster on the following page) if you ever need anything.

Best,
The IHC

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2023 IHC Roster

Don't hesitate to contact us if you need anything or have questions!

To contact the entire IHC, email 2023-24ihc@googlegroups.com; use your Caltech email.

IHC Chair

Sophie Elam (she/her)
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Room: Fleming 240
Phone #: 541-500-9977

Avery Chancellor

Parul Singh (she/her)
Email: prsingh@caltech.edu
Room: Avery 216
Phone #: 850-296-1819

Blacker President

Aditee Prabhutendolkar (she/her)
Email: aditee@caltech.edu
Room: Blacker 234
Phone #: 626-861-0553

Dabney President

Tomas Wexler (he/him)
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Fleming President

Andrew Pasco (he/him)
Email: apasco@caltech.edu
Room: Fleming 215
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IHC Secretary

Emma Isella (she/her)
Email: emmaisella@caltech.edu
Room: Venerable 201
Phone #: 310-218-2607

Lloyd President

Leo Williams (he/him)
Email: lwilliam@caltech.edu
Room: Lloyd 210
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Page President

Rik Bose (he/him)
Email: rbose@caltech.edu
Room: Page 112
Phone #: 661-440-5012

Ricketts President

Meg Robertson (she/her)
Email: mlrobert@caltech.edu
Room: Ricketts 216
Phone #: 512-695-3635

Venerable President

Emily Choe (she/her)
Email: ecchoe@caltech.edu
Room: Venerable 212
Phone #: 2011-577-6453

Rotation Information

Schedule

Individual dinner schedules will be distributed individually, published in the Tech, and on the Schedule page on the IHC website:

<https://ihc.caltech.edu/rotation/schedule>.

Big Events

Big Events are open to everyone, and are additional ways to interact with and get a sense for each of the Houses. The schedule below lists when each of these events will be occurring. We encourage you to at least drop by each of them, but none of the events are required.

Date	Time	House	Event
Thursday, 9/21	10:30pm-12am	Page	Chill at Page
Friday, 9/22	10pm-2am	Ricketts	Ricketts Open Mic Night
Saturday, 9/23	3pm-5pm	Blacker	Blacker Olympics
	10pm-12am	Fleming	Fleming Dirty Dodgeball
Sunday, 9/24	12am-2am (basically Saturday night)	Lloyd	Lloyd Capture the Flag
	3-5pm	Bechtel	Welcome to Bechtel Land
	7:30pm-9:30pm	Venerable	Venerable Greens
	9:30pm-11:30pm	Avery	Avery Tea & Karaoke
Monday, 9/25	9:30pm-10:30pm	Fleming	Fleptathalon
Tuesday, 9/26	9:30pm-10:30pm	Page	Page Trivia
Wednesday, 9/20, Thursday, 9/21, Monday, 9/25, & Tuesday 9/26	9:30pm-10:30pm	Dabney	Dabney Boat Tours

Daily Schedule

Shown is an example schedule for each day of Rotation. The order of House A/B/C/etc. will vary between people depending on their individualized dinner schedule (which will be made available in a variety of locations), but everyone will have one assigned dinner at each of the Houses as well as two free dinners on Monday, September 25th and Tuesday September 26th.

Date	Wed 9/20	Thur 9/21	Fri 9/22	Sat 9/23	Sun 9/24	Mon 9/25	Tue 9/26	Wed 9/27
Lunch				House D	House F			
Dinner	House A	House B	House C	House E	House G	House H	Free	Free
Dessert	Free	Free				Free	Free	

Please attend dinners/lunch at the House you have been assigned to for that meal. You are welcome to attend dinner at any House for Free dinners. Desserts are unassigned, so you are encouraged to go to your House of choice for the dessert. If you have to miss an assigned dinner for any given reason, please reach out to that House's secretary or the IHC secretary, Emma Isella. If you'd like you can always go to that House's dinner for one of your Free Dinners.

Dinners and Desserts

Houses will hold house dinners every night of Rotation. Additionally, on Saturday and Sunday, there will be lunches as well as dinner. House dinner/lunch times are staggered to allow CDS adequate time to prepare food for everyone. That being said, please be mindful of the fact that dinner times will change from House to House. All of these times will be provided to you in your individualized assigned dinner schedule.

Day	Assignment	Avery	Blacker	Dabney	Fleming	Lloyd	Page	Ricketts	Venerable
Wed 9/20	Dinner A	6:15pm	5:45pm	6pm	6:15pm	6pm	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:15pm
Thur 9/21	Dinner B	6:15pm	5:45pm	6pm	6:15pm	6pm	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:15pm
Fri 9/22	Dinner C	6:15pm	5:45pm	6pm	6:15pm	6pm	6:30pm	6:30pm	6:15pm
Sat 9/23	Lunch D	12:45pm	12pm	12:15pm	1pm	1:15pm	1pm	12:45pm	12:45pm
	Dinner E	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:15pm	5:45pm	6:15pm	6pm	6pm
Sun 9/24	Lunch F	12:45pm	12pm	12:15pm	1pm	1:15pm	1pm	12:45pm	12:45pm
	Dinner G	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:15pm	6pm	6:15pm	6pm	5:45pm
Mon 9/25	Dinner H	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:15pm	6:15pm	5:45pm	6pm	6pm
Tue 9/26	Free	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:15pm	6:15pm	5:45pm	6pm	6pm
Wed 9/27	Free	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:15pm	6:15pm	5:45pm	6pm	6pm

Note: The times listed above indicate the start of the reception at each house. Food will be served 30 minutes after the times listed.

Desserts are at 9:30 PM on Wednesday 9/20, Thursday 9/21, Monday 9/25, and Tuesday 9/27.

Master Schedule

Time	Wed 9/20	Thur 9/21	Fri 9/22	Sat 9/23
12pm				Blacker lunch & reception
1pm				Blacker lunch & reception
2pm				Blacker lunch & reception
3pm				Blacker lunch & reception
4pm				Blacker lunch & reception
5pm				Blacker lunch & reception
6pm	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception
7pm	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception
8pm	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception
9pm	House desserts	House desserts		
10pm	Dabney Boat Tours	Dabney Boat Tours		
11pm		Chill at Page		
12am			Ricketts Open Mic Night	Fleming Dirty Dodgeball
1am				Lloyd Capture the Flag
2am				

Time	Sun 9/24	Mon 9/25	Tue 9/27	Wed 9/27
12pm	Blacker lunch & reception			
1pm	Blacker lunch & reception			
2pm	Blacker lunch & reception			
3pm	Welcoem to Bechtel Land			
4pm	Welcoem to Bechtel Land			
5pm				
6pm	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception
7pm	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception	Blacker dinner & reception
8pm	Venerable Greens			
9pm		House desserts	House desserts	RANKINGS DUE
10pm	Avery Tea & Karaoke	Dabney Boat Tours	Dabney Boat Tours	
11pm		Fleptathalon	Page Trivia Night	
12am				
1am				
2am				

Frequently Asked Questions

For the most up-to-date FAQ, check FAQ page on the IHC website:

<https://ihc.caltech.edu/rotation/faqs>

Resources During Rotation

Rotation Concerns Committee

There is a Rotation Concerns Committee (RCC) that is available to address any questions or concerns you might have about the rotation process. You may also share any other information about you, your needs, or your identity that the RCC should take into consideration during this process.

The Rotation Cases of Concern form (<https://forms.gle/yfmJ5FrSwMh9pdYF6>) will remain open during Rotation. Cases of concern can be anonymously reported or self-reported, for reasons including but not limited to: experiencing disconnection from the Rotation process, individual/specific needs regarding House affiliation that are not being addressed, discomfort with an individual or situation, or any suggestions for assisting members of the Rotating class to affiliate successfully. Alternatively, you may report this same information to anyone on the IHC or to any Dean, an RA, or an RLC.

Student (Peer) Resources

You can find the contact information (email, room #) of all student resources on **ASCIT Donut** updated by each House:

https://donut.caltech.edu/campus_positions. We recommend spending some time exploring the ASCIT Donut website. There are many useful features including the Directory, Course Scheduler/Planner, and more!

Peer Advocates (PAs)

PAs are a group of dedicated students trained in mental health support who look out for and emotionally support the student body. If you have any concerns over rotation or life at Caltech, need to discuss an issue, or want some advice, please consider coming to a PA. They really do care about you and can direct you to the

right resources to get the help you need. There are many PAs in every house; look for an identifying sign or plaque by the door. If you're unable to find someone or want to contact someone directly, you can talk to one of the Head PAs (students who organize the PAs in each house) or PA contact below, and they can help you connect with a PA or other resource.

Avery: Amelia Burns (she/her)- amelia@caltech.edu
 Blacker: Maya de Luis (she/her)- mdeluis@caltech.edu
 Dabney: Winter Pearson (they/them)- winter@caltech.edu
 Fleming: Sophie Elam (she/her) - selam@caltech.edu
 Lloyd: Bea Avila-Rimer (she/her) - bea@caltech.edu
 Page: Avi Sundaresan (he/him) - avirath@caltech.edu
 Ricketts: Anna Mortari (she/her) - amortari@caltech.edu
 Venerable: Suchitra Dara (she/her) - sdara@caltech.edu
 Bechtel: Katelyn Sulett (she/her) -ksulett@caltech.edu

List of PAs (also available on Donut):

<https://wellness.caltech.edu/advocate-programs/peer-advocate/peer-advocate-coordinators-and-PAs>

Health Advocates (HAs)

The Health Ads are students who can perform everything from emergency first aid to more mundane things (such as bandaging cuts or providing cough drops/simple over the counter medicines). Usually health ads also have menstrual products and condoms available for anyone. If you ever need a health ad, ask any upperclassmen, and they should be able to direct you to one. Alternatively, yell “HEALTH AD” at the top of your lungs. This is shockingly effective.

List of HAs (also available on Donut):

https://ihc.caltech.edu/documents/25801/Health_Advocate_Roster_2023-24.pdf

Advocacy Committee

The Advocacy Committee (AdComm) is a student group that addresses issues related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility. AdComm has a Representative from each House, and we meet on a biweekly basis to address concerns as a group. Don't hesitate to reach out to the Chair or a Representative about any issue that you (or a peer) is facing, and we will help you find the right resources or people to resolve your issue. If there aren't resources in place, we are here to advocate for a solution that addresses your needs. You can contact all of AdComm at adcomm@caltech.edu or find our information on Donut.

AdComm Chair: Suchitra Dara (she/her)- sdara@caltech.edu
 Avery Rep: Ru Pan (she/her)- rpan2@caltech.edu
 Blacker Rep: Mars Arechavala- mars.arechavala@caltech.edu
 Dabney Rep: Melissa Foster (she/her)- mefoster@caltech.edu
 Fleming Rep: Maddie Gilbert (she/her) - mgilbert@caltech.edu
 Lloyd Rep: Claire Hays (she/her)- chays@caltech.edu
 Page Rep: Tami Soyebo (she/her) - osoyebo@caltech.edu
 Ricketts Rep: Anna Mortari (she/her) - amortari@caltech.edu
 Venerable Rep: Rupa Kurinchi-Vendhan (she/her) - rkurininch@caltech.edu

Equity & Title IX Advocates

The Equity and Title IX Advocates are students trained to be accessible resources for Caltech community members seeking information or support around issues relating to equity, inclusivity, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or other forms of discrimination. An Equity and Title IX Advocate is not a confidential resource. Instead, an Advocate is a great "first stop" to get support and to learn about your rights and options.

List of currently trained Equity & Title IX Ads* (also available on Donut):
https://ihe.caltech.edu/documents/25802/TIX_Advocate_Roster_2023-24.pdf

The Interhouse Committee (IHC)

The IHC is the committee to ask any questions you have about the process of Rotation. If you have questions about whether you can make up a dinner, concerns you have about certain Houses or other students, or potential Rotation violations, feel free to reach out to the IHC. You can also ask Presidents about their individual Houses.

Institute Resources

The RAs, RLCs, and Deans are good resources to speak with if you have a serious concern about another prefrish, upperclassmen, or residence.

Office of Student Experience (ORE)

<https://ose.caltech.edu/residential-experience>

OSE consists of the Residential Experience Team (includes a Director, Resident Associates and Residential Life Coordinators), staff members in Student Activities & Programs, Faculty who live in Residence and the First Year

Experience. If you have a serious concern about another prefrish, upperclassmen, or residence, you can contact OSE at (ose@caltech.edu) or the Residential Life Coordinators (rlc@caltech.edu). The Assistant Vice President for OSE is Felicia Hunt (fhunt@caltech.edu) and the Residential Experience Director is Vanessa Tejada (vtejada@caltech.edu) who are also available to answer questions or concerns. More information on the administrative resources available to you can be found on the [OSE website](#).

Dean of Undergraduate Students Office

<https://deans.caltech.edu/>

The Dean's office is available to help students with academic concerns, personal well-being, and community issues. The Deans are also available to reach out to if you have a serious concern about another prefrish, upperclassmen, or residence. You can contact the deans at deansoffice@caltech.edu.

Counseling and Health Center

<https://wellness.caltech.edu/counseling>

The Counseling Center is a great resource if you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed about the Rotation process or starting classes. All of the counselors are confidential resources. The Health Center is the place to go if you're feeling physically sick. It's free for all Caltech students, even if you do not have Caltech insurance. Both the Health and Counseling Center are located on 1239 Arden Road. You are welcome to call Counseling Services and be connected to a counselor at 626-395-8331 (press "2" when prompted for after-hours support).

Equity and Title IX Office

<https://titleix.caltech.edu/>

The Equity and Title IX office is the place to go if you feel you are facing any discrimination based on race, national origin, ethnicity, sex, pregnancy, gender, sexuality, disability, and more. If you feel uncomfortable for any reason in any climate (including a residence, classroom, social space, or lab), the Equity and Title IX Office can support you. If you have any questions or issues, you can reach out to Hima Vatti (hvatti@caltech.edu), the Title IX Coordinator. You are also welcome to contact Pilar Montenegro (confidentialadvocate@caltech.edu), the Campus Sexual Violence Advocate and a confidential resource.

Center for Inclusion & Diversity (CCID)

<https://diversity.caltech.edu/>

The Caltech Center for Inclusion & Diversity provides resources that support a variety of student identities. They host educational events and affinity spaces

that relate to race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality. You are welcome to reach out to any of the CCID staff members at any time (<https://diversity.caltech.edu/about/meet-our-team>).

Informational Resources

You can find all of this information on the Resources During Rotation tab on the IHC website: <https://ihc.caltech.edu/rotation/resources-during-rotation>

Questions?

Feel free to reach out to the IHC with questions! You can reach out via Facebook messenger or email.

How it's Made: The Rotation Process

Participating in Rotation and attending all of the offered events can be demanding, and we want to remind you that you are not required to go to everything. Some people will, but that might not be right for you and that is okay. Our primary goal is to welcome all incoming students to Caltech and help them find a community through this fun, exciting tradition. As you go through Rotation we ask that you keep in mind that this is not meant to be stressful; remember to have fun, relax, and enjoy the experience. We're all happy to have you here.

Rotation Period

During Rotation, each prefrish will be able to visit all eight Houses and Bechtel (together referred to as "residences"). Though you will be living in one randomly assigned room throughout the Rotation period, you will each be given a schedule where you will be assigned one dinner at each House. All houses have an official event where they show off their culture (and many houses put on other unofficial events as well). You are welcome to attend as many events as you like. During the week, there will be two days of free dinners where you can eat in any of the Houses or Bechtel (or Browne Cafe if you choose to opt-out of Rotation). Use this as a chance to visit residences you are particularly interested in again or to make up for an assigned dinner you may have missed. The free dinners can be an opportunity to determine your top choice if you are still deciding between residences. You can also use this time to get a better sense of any residence you didn't get a good feel for at first.

During this time, we advise reaching out to upperclassmen, getting a sense of each residence, and asking lots of questions! Though dinners and desserts are not mandatory, we encourage you to go; even if you do not think you will fit in a certain place, you may be surprised!

Rotation Rules

We also ask during the Rotation period that our Rotation Rules are followed. The full list of rules can be found on the IHC website (<https://ihc.caltech.edu/rotation/rotation-rules>), but we are providing a brief overview of the important things you should know: Rotation is a period that allows for prefrash and current students to provide accurate representations of each other. Thus, no participant should unfairly bias any student for or against any residence. Upperclassmen may say anything truthful about their experiences or about any stereotypes of their own House, but may only speak of facts or their experiences (size, number of beds, etc.) about other residences they are not a part of. Upperclassmen living in Bechtel are allowed to speak of their experiences in Bechtel (and why they chose it) as well as any other Houses they belong to. Upperclassmen may not provide alcohol, drugs, expensive gifts, or other extraordinary favors to prefrash during this period. Prefrash may be taken off campus as long as no more than \$20 is spent by upperclassmen on the prefrash and the prefrash return within 4 hours. You may ask upperclassmen anything about Rotation and the Rotation system. You should refrain from discussing stereotypes with other prefrash in order to ensure that your peers get an accurate representation of each House for themselves. You may, though, speak about your actual experiences in each residence. You should not share your rankings with any other prefrash and should not feel pressured to share rankings with upperclassmen. Prefrash are not to consume psychoactive substances or alcohol during Rotation regardless of source.

Violations of Rotation Rules should be reported to the IHC here: (<https://forms.gle/nFPEMCx5ROTznB5b6>).

End of Rotation

At the end of Rotation, we ask each prefrash to submit an ordered preference list of all residences. You will do that on a survey sent out to your email by the IHC and Office of Residential Experience via Qualtrics. You may have ties between residences, but can only mark one first choice. If you do have ties, your next lowest rank will be the next lowest ordinal number. For example, if you have one House ranked number one and two Houses ranked number two, the next House you rank will be ranked number three. You will also be asked to indicate

whether, in the event that your assigned first year residence is Bechtel, you would still like a membership to one of the eight Houses. The survey will be released near the end of Rotation and will be due on the night of Wednesday, September 27th following last dinner. All of this information will be presented to you again when we send the Qualtrics survey, so don't feel compelled to memorize it all!

Alcohol during Rotation:

Prefrosh are not allowed to drink during rotation until the cannon fires, even if they are of age. Upperclassmen may not give prefrosh substances or other drugs.

The Sorting Hat

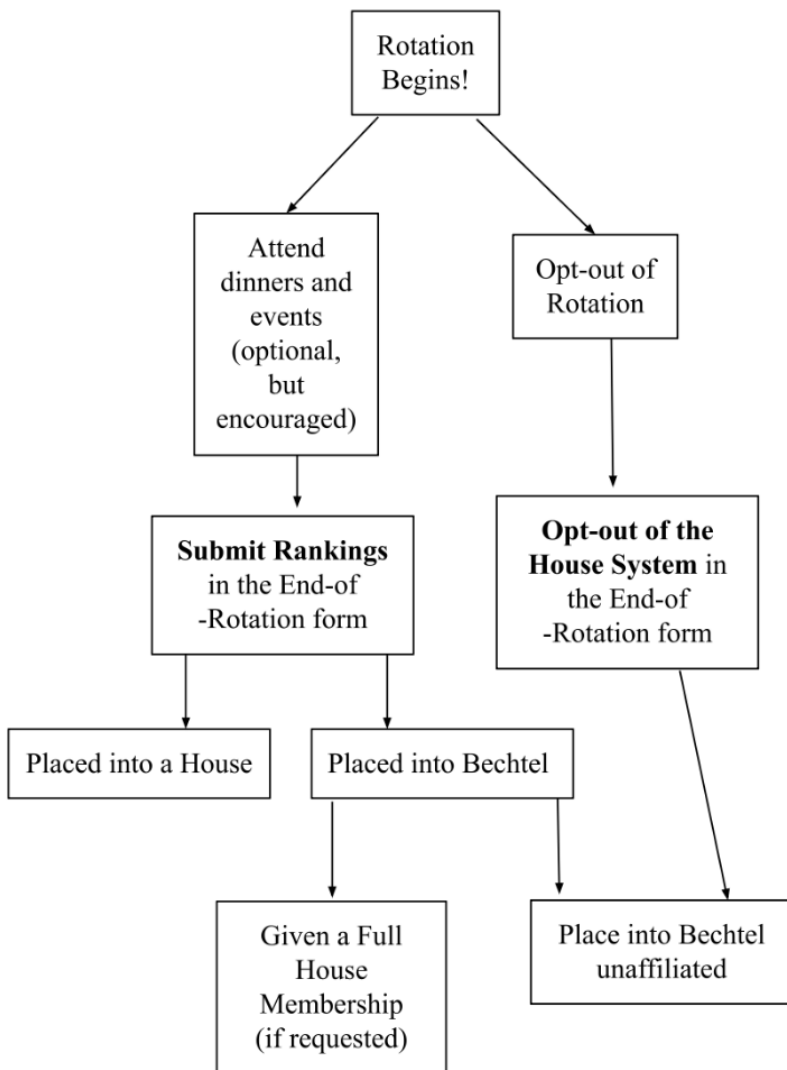
Like prefrosh, each House is allowed to give input into the Rotation process. House feedback is considered in addition to new student rankings by a faculty-made algorithm. This algorithm combines both student and House input to match students to a house so that student preferences are maximized. If students rank Bechtel first and decide they do not want a house affiliation, they will be automatically placed in Bechtel. If there are greater than 36 students to do so, students from that group will be randomly selected for Bechtel. The remaining students from that group will go through the algorithm. Students may also bring up concerns they have about prefrosh to the IHC, RAs, RLCs, the Deans, or the head of the Office of Residential Experience. These concerns will then be reviewed by the RCC committee consisting of the IHC Chair, an Undergraduate Dean, the ORE director, the director of Residential Experience, the ADA coordinator, and the director of the Center for Inclusion and Diversity. Any prefrosh may also go to the IHC, an RA, or this Committee if they have any concerns about other prefrosh or their own living situation. These students will be placed before the algorithm. Only members of the RCC committee will know which cases were placed before the algorithm. After cases of concern allocations are completed, the rest of the prefrosh will be allocated via a convex penalty algorithm. The way this algorithm works is it attempts to minimize the sum of the squares of the rank each prefrosh gave a House or Bechtel. For example, if a prefrosh ranked Booty House first, the penalty of placing them in Booty House is 1, and if they ranked Booty House ninth, the penalty of placing them in Booty House is 81. This is done in order to optimize for the preferences of prefrosh. The algorithm will likely have many solutions. Prefrosh who rotate into Bechtel but indicated they still desire House membership in that case will be assigned a House membership by a similar process as the algorithm explained above. The algorithm also accounts for gender inclusivity, gender balance, maximizing the

number of students each house gets on their house list, and maximizing the % each house fills.

The Aftermath

After the Rotation algorithm is run and assignments are finalized, we will give you your assignments. As per tradition, assignments will be given out on the Saturday after Rotation is over. At 5pm the cannon fires, and then your assignments will be handed to you on the Olive Walk. Once you receive your assignment, you will also be given welcome event information for your new House or Bechtel (if you rotate into Bechtel but have also been assigned a House membership, we encourage you to also join your House's welcome activity). Sunday is moving day. Frosh will have all day Sunday to move into their new room assignments. Room Move forms will be sent via email from the Housing office. Frosh should submit their forms by the posted deadline. Upperclassmen will be around to help move - just ask! More information can be found on the IHC website: <https://ihc.caltech.edu/rotation/moving>

Rotation Flow Chart



QR Codes to Resource Links

Rotation Homepage



Individual Dinner Schedules



Rotation FAQs



Rotation Violation Report Form



Rotation Concern Report Form



OSE Homepage



Dean's Homepage



Counseling & Health Services Homepage



Equity & Title IX Homepage



Center for Inclusion & Diversity Homepage



Rotation Rules



Student Resources Master Roster



