

ROTATION HANDBOOK



2026-27 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, even if you have already chosen to live in Bechtel! 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.

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

Table of Contents

A Message from the IHC	1
Table of Contents	2
IHC Roster	3
Rotation Information	4
Schedule	4
Big Events	4
Daily Schedule	5
Dinners and Desserts	6
Master Schedule	7
Frequently Asked Questions	11
Resources During Rotation	11
Student (Peer) Resources	11
Institute Resources	13
How it's Made: The Rotation Process	15
Rotation Flow Chart	18
QR Codes to Resource Links	19

2026 IHC Roster

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

To contact the entire IHC, email ihc-2026-2027@googlegroups.com; use your Caltech email.

IHC Chair

Ava Balanon (she/her)
Email: abalanon@caltech.edu
Room: Bechtel 256D
Phone #: 707-384-0144

IHC Secretary

Alana Nisperos (she/her)
Email: anispero@caltech.edu
Room: Page 228
Phone #: 708-965-3372

Avery Chancellor

Belinda Dong (she/her)
Email: bwdong@caltech.edu
Room: Avery 213
Phone #: 469-344-6019

Lloyd President

Shan Gupta
Email: srgupta@caltech.edu
Room: Lloyd 228
Phone #: 331-814-6077

Blacker President

Nat Hernandez
Email: nhernand@caltech.edu
Room: Blacker 245
Phone #: 818-917-4172

Page President

Jason "JT" Tran
Email: jhtran@caltech.edu
Room: Page 210
Phone #: 209-298-9646

Dabney President

ben yang
Email: byang2@caltech.edu
Room: Dabney 212
Phone #: 952-649-1713

Ricketts President

Claire Ellison
Email: ellison@caltech.edu
Room: Ricketts 216
Phone #: 601-529-9951

Fleming President

Ivy Brainard
Email: ibrainar@caltech.edu
Room: Fleming 215
Phone #: 704-309-2316

Venerable President

William Yang
Email: ywyang@caltech.edu
Room: Venerable 227
Phone #: 626-365-2247

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
Wednesday, 9/23	9:00pm-11:00pm	Lloyd	Lloyd Hot Ones
Thursday, 9/24	8:00pm-10:00pm	Avery	Avery Trivia
	10:00pm-12:00am	Page	Chill at Page
Friday, 9/25	10:00pm-2:00am (into 9/26)	Ricketts	Ricketts Open Mic Night
Saturday, 9/26	2:30pm-4:45pm	Blacker	Blacker M.O.L.E.
	10:00pm-12:00am	Fleming	Fleming Dirty Dodgeball
	11:59pm-2:00am (into 9/27)	Lloyd + across campus	Lloyd Capture the Flag + Milkshakes
Sunday, 9/27	3:00pm-5:00pm	Bechtel	Bechtel
	8:00pm-10:00pm	Venerable	Venerable Greens
	10:00pm-12:00am	Avery	Avery Tea and Karaoke
Monday, 9/28	8:30pm-10:00pm	Fleming	Fleming Fleptathlon
Tuesday, 9/29	9:30pm-11:30pm	Page	Page Carnival
Wednesday, 9/30	8:00pm-10:00pm	Fleming	Fleming Spikeball Tournament
Wednesday 9/23, Thursday 9/24, Monday 9/28, Tuesday 9/29	9:30pm-10:30pm	Dabney (hosted at Caltech Pond)	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 Tuesday, September 29 and Wednesday September 30.

Day	Wed 9/23	Thu 9/24	Fri 9/25	Sat 9/26	Sun 9/27	Mon 9/28	Tue 9/29	Wed 9/30
Lunch				D	F			
Dinner	A	B	C	E	G	H	Free	Free
Dessert	Free	Free				Free	Free	Rankings due

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 the IHC Secretary or the House's President. 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.

Date		Avery	Blacker	Dabney	Fleming	Lloyd	Page	Ricketts	Venerable
Wed 9/23	Dinner A	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:30pm	6pm	6:30pm	6pm	6:15pm
Thur 9/24	Dinner B	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:30pm	6pm	6:30pm	6pm	6:15pm
Fri 9/25	Dinner C	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:30pm	6pm	6:30pm	6pm	6:15pm
Sat 9/26	Lunch D	1:15pm	12pm	12:15pm	1:30pm	1:15pm	1pm	12:45pm	12:45pm
	Dinner E	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:15pm	5:40pm	6:15pm	6pm	6pm
Sun 9/27	Lunch F	1:45pm	12pm	12:15pm	1:30pm	1:15pm	1pm	12:45pm	12:45pm
	Dinner G	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:30pm	6pm	6:15pm	6pm	5:45pm
Mon 9/28	Dinner H	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:30pm	6pm	5:45pm	6pm	6:15pm
Tue 9/29	Free	6:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:30pm	6pm	5:45pm	6pm	6:15pm
Wed 9/30	Free	5:15pm	4:30pm	4:45pm	5:30pm	5pm	4:45pm	5pm	5:15pm

Note: The times listed above indicate the start of reception. Please show up at the house's courtyard at these times. Food will be served 30 minutes after the times listed.

Desserts are at **9:30 PM** on Wednesday (9/23), Thursday (9/24), Monday (9/28), and Tuesday (9/29).

Master Schedule

Time	Wednesday (9/23)	Thursday (9/24)	Friday (9/25)
12:00 PM			
12:15 PM			
12:30 PM			
12:45 PM			
1:00 PM			
1:15 PM			
1:30 PM			
1:45 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:15 PM			
2:30 PM			
2:45 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:15 PM			
3:30 PM			
3:45 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:15 PM			
4:30 PM			
4:45 PM			
5:00 PM			
5:15 PM			
5:30 PM			
5:45 PM			
6:00 PM			
6:15 PM			
6:30 PM			
6:45 PM			
7:00 PM			
7:15 PM			
7:30 PM			
7:45 PM			
8:00 PM			
8:15 PM			
8:30 PM			
8:45 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:15 PM			
9:30 PM			
9:45 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:15 PM			
10:30 PM			
10:45 PM			
11:00 PM			
11:15 PM			
11:30 PM			
11:45 PM			
12:00 AM			
12:15 PM			
12:30 AM			
12:45 PM			
1:00 AM			
1:15 PM			
1:30 AM			
1:45 PM			
2:00 AM			

Time	Monday (9/28)	Tuesday (9/29)	Wednesday (9/30)
12:00 PM			
12:15 PM			
12:30 PM		IHC Office Hours	
12:45 PM			
1:00 PM			
1:15 PM			
1:30 PM			
1:45 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:15 PM			
2:30 PM			
2:45 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:15 PM			
3:30 PM			
3:45 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:15 PM			
4:30 PM			
4:45 PM			
5:00 PM			
5:15 PM			
5:30 PM			
5:45 PM			
6:00 PM	Blacker Dinner		
6:15 PM	Dabney Dinner		
6:30 PM	Rickels Dinner		
6:45 PM	Lloyd Dinner		
7:00 PM	Avery Dinner		
7:15 PM	Ven Dinner		
7:30 PM	Fleming Dinner		
7:45 PM			
8:00 PM			
8:15 PM	Blacker Be There Do Stuff		
8:30 PM			
8:45 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:15 PM			
9:30 PM			
9:45 PM			
10:00 PM	Deserts		
10:15 PM	Dabney Boat Tours		
10:30 PM			
10:45 PM			
11:00 PM			
11:15 PM			
11:30 PM			
11:45 PM			
12:00 AM			
12:15 PM			
12:30 AM			
12:45 PM			
1:00 AM			
1:15 PM			
1:30 AM			
1:45 PM			
2:00 AM			

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

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.

House	Name	Email
Avery	Ioana Caraus	icaraus@caltech.edu
Blacker	Bhakti Ahir Ahir	bahirahi@caltech.edu
Dabney	Priscila Marquez	pmarquez@caltech.edu
Fleming	Emma Titus	etitus@caltech.edu
Lloyd	Anamaria Robertson	asrobert@caltech.edu
Page	Katelyn Waugh	clopez3@caltech.edu
Ricketts	Eddily De La Cruz	eddily@caltech.edu
Venerable	Grace Davis	gfdavis@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://wellness.caltech.edu/advocate-programs/health-advocate/program-staff-and-has>

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):

First Name	Last Name	Pronoun	Email	House	Other Affiliation
Belinda	Dong	she/her	bwdong@caltech.edu	Avery	
Anaya	Gokarn	she/her	agokarn@caltech.edu	Avery	Dabney
Hannah	Bowman	She/her	hb Bowman@caltech.edu	Avery	
Nicole	Ching	she/her	nching@caltech.edu	Avery	
Amina	Tajammal	she/her	amina@caltech.edu	Blackler	
Jiahui	Xie	she/her	jxie2@caltech.edu	Blackler	Ricketts
Miles	Stone	he/him	mstone@caltech.edu	Dabney	
Annie	Zhao	she/her	awzhao@caltech.edu	Dabney	
Ciara	Yu	she/her	clarayu@caltech.edu	Fleming	
Louise	Scriven	she/her	lscriven@caltech.edu	Fleming	
Sophia	Mobley	she/her	smobley@caltech.edu	Lloyd	
Jaldyn	Woods	she/her	jwoods@caltech.edu	Page	Fleming
Nora	Kane	she/her	nkane@caltech.edu	Page	Fleming
Eddily	De La Cruz	she/her	edelacru@caltech.edu	Ricketts	
Claire	Ellison	she/her	ellison@caltech.edu	Ricketts	
Victoria	Zhang	She/her	vzhang2@caltech.edu	Ricketts	Avery
Amrita	Pasupathy	she/her	apasupat@caltech.edu	Venerable	
Orna	Mukhopadhyay	she/they	omukhopa@caltech.edu	Venerable	
Maya	Keys	she/her	mekeys@caltech.edu	Venerable	
Madison Elle	Tongco	she/her	mtongco@caltech.edu	Venerable	
Anica	Ancheta	she/her	aancheta@caltech.edu	Venerable	
Lindsay	Taylor	she/her	ltaylor@caltech.edu	Venerable	
Ryan	Shahbaba	he/him	rshahbab@caltech.edu	Venerable	

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 prefrush, upperclassmen, or residence.

Office of Student and Family Engagement (SFE)

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

SFE 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 prefrush, upperclassmen, or residence, you can contact SFE at (sfe@caltech.edu) or the Residential Life Coordinators (rlc@caltech.edu). The Assistant Vice President for SFE 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 [SFE 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 prefrush, 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 Ofelia Velazquez-Perez(ofelia.velazquez-perez@caltech.edu), the Deputy Title IX Coordinator. You are also welcome to reach out to Nour Bakai (confidentialadvocate@caltech.edu or 626-395-4770), 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/connect>).

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 (Browne Cafe is also open). 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 prefrish 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 prefrish during this period. Prefrish may be taken off campus as long as no more than \$20 is spent by upperclassmen on the prefrish and the prefrish return within 4 hours. You may ask upperclassmen anything about Rotation and the Rotation system. You should refrain from

discussing stereotypes with other prefrosh 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 prefrosh. Prefrosh 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://docs.google.com/forms/rotationviolationreport2026>).

End of Rotation

At the end of Rotation, we ask each prefrosh 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 Student 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, October 1st 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

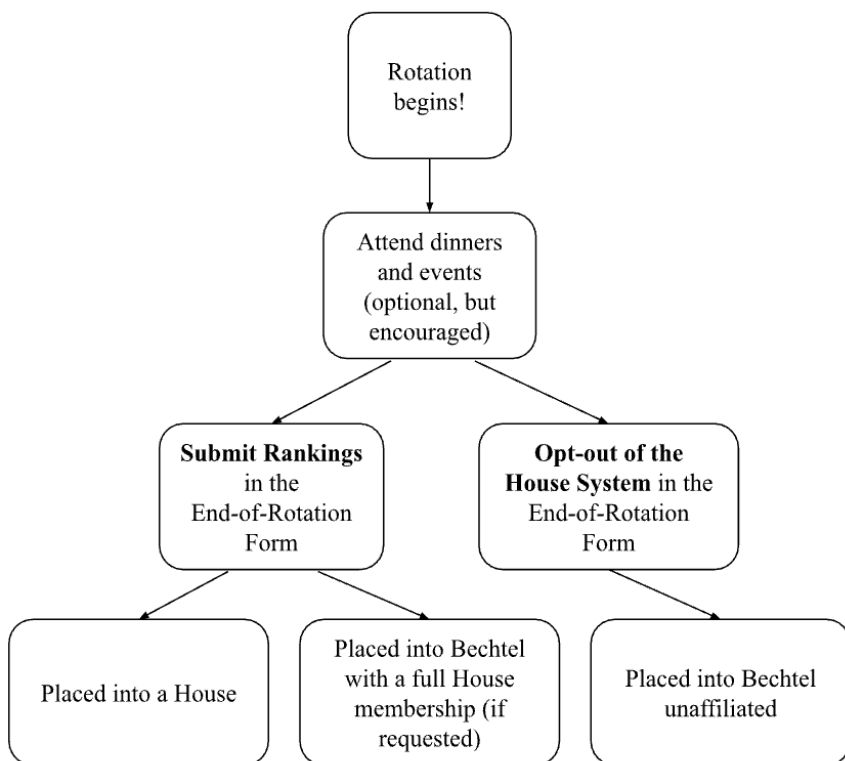
The algorithm uses student input to match students to a house so that student preferences are maximized. If students rank Bechtel first and decide they do not want a house affiliation, they will be automatically placed in Bechtel. If there are greater than 36 students to do so, students from that group 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 Student Experience. These concerns will then be reviewed by the RCC committee consisting of the IHC Chair, an Undergraduate Dean, the SFE 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, house input, 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



Rotation FAQs



Rotation Support
Committee Form



Rotation Violation
Report Form



Meet The Eight Houses!



SFE Homepage



Dean's Homepage



Counseling & Health
Services Homepage



Equity & Title IX
Homepage



Center for Inclusion &
Diversity Homepage



Rotation Rules



Student Resources
Master Roster



