



Berkeley Student Cooperative

Providing Low Cost Cooperative Student Housing Since 1933

The [Berkeley Student Cooperative \(BSC\)](#) is a 501c3 nonprofit housing cooperative. The BSC provides low-cost housing and board to students at UC Berkeley and other Bay Area colleges and universities. Presently the BSC has over 1300 student members living in or eating at seventeen houses and three apartment cooperatives around the UC Berkeley campus.

Each house is democratically run, and all residents contribute their labor (cooking, cleaning, grocery shopping, etc) to help keep the cost of housing low. The co-ops are a very “Berkeley” experience and if you’re looking for a unique living situation with Berkeley students, this could be a good fit for you!

Visit the Berkeley Student Cooperative’s website for more information:

<http://www.bsc.coop/housing/summer-housing>

More about the Berkeley Co-ops...the voice of a student!

Living in a co-op may be a very different experience from what you’re used to. Our co-op houses entail communal living and the houses range in size from 17 people to 120 people. This means cooperatively living with a diverse group of students. The smaller houses tend to be more quiet and clean, whereas the larger houses are often more loud and social. The larger houses might be a more extreme culture shock, so be prepared for this when choosing housing preferences. Cloyne Court, our substance-free academic themed house of 100 people, is a good fit for those who want to meet a large number of new people, but also want a calmer environment.

The houses are democratically run, wherein decision about the house culture, spending habits, and everyday community agreements are decided upon as a collective house. For example, at the beginning of each semester and summer each house votes on its own quiet hours, such as between 11pm and 9am, which are times when members of the house are required to be quiet in common spaces. Additionally, the idea of a “safe space” is an important concept in the houses, which often entails a liberal environment where respect and sensitivity for the beliefs of fellow house members are strongly enforced. Consent is a key component to facilitate this safe space. It is taken very seriously that all members’ respect each other’s space and don’t pressure anyone to do anything they don’t feel comfortable with.



In order for a communal space to operate smoothly everyone contributes 5 hours of workshift a week in the room and board houses, 3 hours a week in the room only houses and 6 hours per 6 week session in the apartments. These are chores around the house based on each member’s preference and schedule. Some workshifts include cooking dinner, washing dishes, gardening, or any number of other things. All of the food in the houses is collectively shared and the kitchens are stocked with supplies, so members can cook for themselves if they want, although dinner is prepared 6 nights per week. Additionally, in the houses, most members share bedrooms and bathrooms

The co-ops are a very “Berkeley experience”. The Berkeley Student Cooperative is the largest non-profit housing cooperative in the country so for most people living in the co-ops is their only chances to experience communal living on such a large scale. This is a unique opportunity that should definitely be taken advantage of, but understand that it might be an adjustment upon first arriving