

How College Students Can Complete the 2020 Census

Filling out the 2020 census is more important now than ever! Your responses will impact how billions of dollars are spent in our local community. They will determine the number of seats each state has in Congress and your political representation at all levels of government. Your responses could also impact things like school safety, mental health services, and Pell grants. So, complete your 2020 census form today! Please keep in mind that all US citizens are required by law to be counted in the census.

College students should be counted where they would normally be living for school purposes on April 1, 2020:

1. **If you normally live in a dorm** or college-owned Greek housing, your college is already working with the census to count you. No action is needed!
2. **If you normally live in an apartment or house** along with roommates or others during the school year, you must respond to the census. You can respond three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. Make sure you use your “normal” address—where you usually live while you are in school. You should also include everyone else who normally lives there, too. You will need their names, birthdays, and how they identify racially. If you can't verify that information—respond anyway. The census will unduplicate data if needed.
3. **If you normally live with your parents** during the school year, they should include you in their response.
4. **If you were studying outside of the United States** on April 1, 2020, you are not counted in the census. Students who are no longer living abroad are counted where they are living in the United States on April 1, 2020.
5. **Foreign students living and attending school in the United States** should be counted at the on- or off-campus residence where they live and sleep most of the time.
6. **If you are living somewhere temporarily due to COVID-19**, you should be counted where you would ordinarily be living on April 1, 2020.
7. **If you do not have a permanent address**, you should count yourself where you were living on April 1, 2020. For example, if you are temporarily staying with a friend, you would be counted as part of the census form for their address. The Census Bureau has specific processes in place to count people who are experiencing homelessness, including people who are in shelters, at soup kitchens and mobile food vans, and in nonsheltered, outdoor locations such as tent encampments. In these cases, census takers will coordinate with shelter directors, service providers, partners, and local census offices. People experiencing homelessness can also go to a public library and complete a census questionnaire online by providing a description of the location where they were sleeping on April 1, 2020.

3 Ways to Submit Your Census Information:

1. The census can be completed online in just a few minutes at <https://my2020census.gov/>.
2. The census can be completed over the phone every day from 7:00AM-2:00AM EST. English speakers will call 844-330-2020. Those who speak languages other than English can find their census phone number at <https://2020census.gov/en/ways-to-respond/responding-by-phone.html>.

3. The census can also be completed over mail. Most households received their invitation to respond to the 2020 Census in March of 2020. In mid-April, the Census Bureau began mailing paper questionnaires to homes that have not yet responded online or by phone.

FAQs for College Students:

Q: What information do I need to include on my census form?

A: You will need to include your name, date of birth, and your racial identification.

Q: If I live in a group living facility, such as a college dorm or nursing home, but I received a questionnaire in the mail. How do I respond?

A: If you live in a group living facility (such as a college dorm, military barracks, or skilled nursing facility), the Census Bureau has special processes in place to collect your responses to the 2020 Census. Please do not complete the paper questionnaire that was mailed to you.

Q: If a college is temporarily closed (including on April 1), where should college students be counted?

A: Per the Census Bureau's residence criteria, in most cases students living away from home at school should be counted at school, even if they are temporarily elsewhere due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information on the 2020 census, go to: <https://2020census.gov/>