

George Barry Ford Hall
614 W. 114th Street
New York, NY 10025

Residence for Catholic Graduate Students
affiliated with the Catholic Campus Ministry
at Columbia University

APPLICATION FOR RESIDENCE

MISSION STATEMENT:

Rooted in the love of Jesus and His Church, the graduate students living in George Barry Ford Hall strive to support one another in pursuing holiness and study through intentional Catholic community.

Participation in prayer, sacraments, meals, and service form the basis of our communal life, teaching us to grow in virtue and encounter Christ in the Other.

We invite other graduate students into this experience of Christian fellowship through retreats, dinners, and Bible studies, and share the witness of our faith with the wider Columbia community.

Personal information:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Date of birth: _____

Local address: _____

Permanent address: _____

Email address: _____ Cell phone: _____

Religious tradition in which you were raised: _____

Faith community/ parish in which you currently participate: _____

Educational background:

College: _____ Major: _____ Yr. of grad.: _____

Graduate institution (if any): _____ Field of study: _____

Current or prospective graduate school at Columbia: _____

Field of study: _____ Degree: _____

Will you be a full-time student at Columbia University? _____

When do you expect to complete your degree? _____

Emergency contact person:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

Part I: What Ford Hall is

George Barry Ford Hall is a residence for Catholic graduate students at Columbia University who seek to live in a cooperative housing environment with other students who share their faith. We value prayer, community living, and volunteer work. We begin the year by spending a weekend together at a retreat center just outside of New York City. During the semester, we contribute to house governance by doing our assigned chores, cooking for each other, participating in once-a-semester house cleaning days, and being present at monthly house meetings. We provide opportunities for weekly house prayer and house Mass, and we support the Catholic Campus Ministry by participating in ministry events throughout the semester.

As Catholics, we commit to chaste living, drinking alcohol in moderation, and not using illegal drugs. We commit to attend mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation, to confess sins once a year, and to help provide for the material needs of the church through donations and volunteer work.

Part II: Basic Background Information: On a separate piece of paper, please respond briefly to the following...

1. When and how did you first hear about Ford Hall?
2. Have you visited Ford Hall? If so, please share a little bit about your experience.
3. Are there any family or personal obligations or situations, which might interfere with your service at Ford Hall? If yes, please explain.
4. Do you have any mental, physical, dietary and/or other health related conditions that you feel we should know?
5. As a Columbia University student, you will most likely have a great deal of school work alongside other activities. How will you reconcile your busy academic life with your community responsibilities?

Part III: Using a separate piece of paper, please respond to the following...

Essay 1: Motivation for living in Ford Hall

What do you imagine life at Ford Hall to be like? Why are you interested in living here? What experiences have you had with community living? Why, and in what ways, are you committed to the idea of living in an intentional, Catholic, faith-based community? Why is Ford Hall in particular the next best step for you in your life?

Essay 2: Personal Development

What unique talents, gifts and strengths will you bring to Ford Hall? How will they benefit Ford Hall and our ministry? What concerns do you have about living with 14 peers in a Catholic faith-based community? What are the problems or challenges that you anticipate?

Essay 3: Ford Hall Mission (possible tenets: community, prayer, learning, ministry,)

Why are you Catholic? Please describe a memorable experience in your faith journey. Tell us something about your prayer life. Tell us about some of your experience with ministry or social justice work.

Part IV: References (See Character reference forms below)

A total of TWO Character References are required with your Ford Hall Application. References should be supplied by the following people:

- 1. A Spiritual Reference** (*Priest/religious or Campus Minister*)
- 2. A Peer (past roommate, if possible)**

*References can be emailed separately from your application to Ford Hall at [<fordhallcolumbia@gmail.com>](mailto:fordhallcolumbia@gmail.com)

(Spiritual reference)

Name & phone number: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Please assess the applicant on her/his ability and readiness to thrive and to manage the demands of service work, community living and faith formation. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated and very helpful to us. You may answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper if this would be easier for you.

Your responses will remain confidential.

1. Why would you nominate/recommend this applicant?

2. How long and how well have you known this applicant? Describe the situation(s) in which you have known her/him.

3. How have you witnessed the applicant living out his/her religious convictions?

4. Is there anything else that you would like to add to help us better assess the applicant's ability to participate meaningfully in the program?

(A Peer)

Name & phone number: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Please assess the applicant on her/his ability and readiness to thrive and to manage the demands of service work, community living and faith formation. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated and very helpful to us. You may answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper if this would be easier for you.

Your responses will remain confidential.

1. How long and how well have you known this applicant? Describe the situation(s) in which you have known her/him.
2. We want to understand how the applicant would fit with our community. Please honestly describe her/his personality, for example his/her sense of humor, dependability, flexibility, and creativity.
3. Can this person be counted on to follow through on significant commitments? Please explain and give examples if possible (ie. Time management, quality of work, etc).
4. How does the applicant react to conflicts and problem situations?
5. Describe the applicant's ability to work with others. What qualities help or hinder her/him? Please give concrete examples.