

# MAINE WORD ABOUT COLLEGE

## The Maine Word About College

### Questions about college from young Maine students, answered by old Maine students.

#### Today's writers

Larissa Holland, sophomore at Smith College, originally from Jonesboro, ME.

Aspen Cote, sophomore at University of Maine Augusta-Bangor, originally from Madawaska, ME.

Anna Martens, sophomore at Bowdoin College, originally from Denver, CO.

### Offered by Maine College Circle and the Mitchell Institute to great young students throughout Maine.

#### Q. What are the dorms & rooms like?

**A.** Depending on the school you attend, each dorm and dorm room will look a little different. For me, my first year dorm that I shared with my roommate was very tiny. It was a lot of fun to make the space work for the both of us! I did have my own dresser, desk, bookshelf, and closet which was enough for me because I never had had my own desk or bookshelf before! I never really had to wait for a shower, because my floor all talked about shower times to make sure that we could all get clean when we needed to. There were washers and dryers downstairs, as well as a kitchen and a living room with a TV. It's really all about communication, and if you communicate well- your dorm could end up being your new family!

— Larissa

#### Q. What if you want to live at home?

**A.** In the majority of cases, living at home is an option. However, some colleges require freshmen students to live on campus. When looking at colleges, make sure to pay special attention if there are any rules or regulations regarding off-campus living, especially for the first couple of years. In addition, it is also a great idea to take some time and identify how your off-campus living arrangement may affect your involvement in on-campus clubs and activities.



— Aspen



**Q. Can you have pets in the dorm?**

**A.** Most colleges will allow for you to have a pet fish, which can be super fun! A lot of schools will also work with you if you become interested in having an Emotional Support Animal, which can be a really helpful tool in feeling full and happy.

**Q. Do you have to clean your room?**

**A.** As long as you communicate with the person you are living with, and they are okay with you not cleaning your side of the room, nobody is going to make sure your bed is made and your clothes are put away! — Larissa

**Q. Do you choose your roommate?**

**A.** For your first year, sometimes you do and sometimes you do not. But after the first year, usually you can decide to live with your friends! My first year I got placed with 3 other roommates, and they were all quite nice. This year I chose what house to live in, and knew my roommate before we moved in! — Anna

**Q. What is your favorite thing about your college dorm?**

**A.** My favorite thing about living in my college dorm is living and sharing my home with my floormates. My roommate and I are best friends and we live across the hall from two of my other best friends, who are also roommates. We have so many movie nights, we go to the store together, we go to college activities and lectures together, we do homework together. It's really so different from growing up in such a small Maine town, where everything can seem so far away and it's hard to visit your friends without having a car or a family who can take you to your friends house whenever you want. Everyone I love and want to be with is right in the same building as me. My dorm is my home away from home. — Larissa



My favorite thing about living at college is that this year, I get to live with a big group of people my same age who all want to hang out together. We have parties, do homework, have food, and talk together all the time.

We all have roommates (my roommate is awesome) but we are all friends as a big group, too. Our house is old and funky, and really feels like a home, especially with us all there! — Anna



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**Blog:** <http://collegeanswers.weebly.com/>

**Youtube:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7bFHg\\_mbWIU6Kg8UTNpE4Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7bFHg_mbWIU6Kg8UTNpE4Q)