



Howard Plaza Towers Renovation FAQ Sheet

What is the Howard University and Corvias partnership?

In January 2017, Howard University and Howard Dormitory Holdings 1, LLC, a wholly-owned and title-holding company of Howard University, (collectively, the “University Parties”) announced its 40-year partnership with privately-owned company, Corvias, to enhance student housing facilities on-campus. Through this innovative partnership, Corvias will renovate and manage the East and West Howard Plaza Towers, as well as manage the University’s Drew and Cook residence halls.

The project will deliver approximately 1,740 newly renovated beds in the West and East Towers, and 522 existing beds in Drew Hall and Cook Hall will be under Corvias’ management. Over the course of the partnership, Drew and Cook Halls will also receive capital improvements. The University Parties will soon be able to offer students an up-to-date live/learn environment. The partnership was formed under the premise of mutually aligned goals.

Who is Corvias and what is their role in the Partnership?

Corvias is a Rhode Island-based company that pioneers in sustainable, long-term partnership solutions. Corvias partners with higher education and government institutions nationwide to solve their most essential, systemic problems and create long-term, sustainable value through their unique approach to partnership.

During the partnership, Corvias will manage the renovation and operations of the aforementioned facilities on a day-to-day basis. Corvias also oversees residence life programming and will therefore, work closely with the University’s Residence Life and Student Services teams to manage the residence halls.

Why did the University choose the Towers for renovations versus other on-campus housing facilities?

The Howard Plaza Towers were identified as priorities for upgrades to the standard of living for student residents.

Is the project being done in phases? If so, when does each start and finish?

Corvias started construction on the West Tower in September 2016. Renovations to the West Tower will be completed in August 2017. Construction on the East Tower is scheduled to begin in Fall 2017 and will be completed by Fall 2018.

Will any students lose their housing temporarily during the renovation? If so, what will happen to them?

Half of the tower units will be offline for a total of two years, beginning September 2016 through Fall 2018. To avoid gaps in beds during this period, students will be placed in other on-campus housing facilities until both towers are back online.

Once the project is complete, will both Towers house the same number of students and feature the same amenities?

Once complete, the West Tower will house approximately 820 students and will include the following amenities:

- Fully upgraded residential units
- Lounge areas with flexible, comfortable furnishings
- Sodexo grab-and-go
- Academic space for class sessions, seminars and study hall gatherings
- Computer Lab
- Contemporary Furniture & Appliances
- Dining/multipurpose room
- Renovated on-site laundry facilities
- Gaming and recreation room
- Modernized fitness center
- New mail and parcel center
- New management and hall support staff offices
- Controlled building access

The East Tower will house 928 students and will be equipped with the following features:

- A large entry social lounge with finishes and furnishings
- Modernized community room
- Fully upgraded residential units
- Enhanced on-site laundry facilities

Will students living in the East Tower be allowed to utilize the amenities in the West Tower?

Students living in the East Tower will be able to utilize the amenities offered in the West Tower.

How did the University take into account students' opinions when designing the renovations and redevelopment plans?

Both Howard University and Corvias spoke with students and residents of the Plaza Towers on multiple occasions to assess their needs and interests. The University and Corvias conducted student focus groups and incorporated comments from the University's housing market study.

If interested in living in the Howard Plaza Towers, who should I contact?

Students interested in living in the Howard Plaza Towers should visit www.housingathoward.com or visit the Howard University Office of Residence Life webpage at www.howard.edu/residencelife. You may also contact the Corvias office directly at 202-470-2862.

Continuing undergraduate students may participate in the annual room selection process each spring to select from the fall housing options available. Transfer and graduate students may also apply for housing in Howard Plaza Towers through the Residence Life website.