

## Booking

- **How do I book a room?**
  - Once your housing portal opens, use the link provided by your event planner to book your room(s). Enter your check-in and check-out dates and click the "Search" button to be shown a list of hotels matching your search criteria. From there, select your hotel of choice and you will be taken through the booking process.
  - Once the housing portal has closed, we are no longer able to accept reservations. Please reach out to the hotels directly to inquire about availability. It is at the hotel's discretion whether they will offer the room at the special group rate.
- **How do I edit my reservation?**
  - If the housing portal is open, select "Manage Existing Reservation" found in the middle of the screen on the housing portal. You will need the acknowledgment number and the email associated with the reservations you wish to modify.
  - If the housing portal has closed, we are unable to make cancellations or modifications to reservations. Once you receive your final hotel confirmation number, please contact the hotel directly to cancel or modify your reservation.
- **There are no rooms showing as available, what do I do?**
  - Please continue to monitor the housing portal for room availability or book outside the room blocks with a hotel directly. The housing portal consistently updates to reflect the most current inventory availability for rooms at the group's contracted rate.
- **Why does the hotel say there is availability when I call, but your website shows no availability?**
  - The hotels have a block of rooms set aside for your event, but will not receive final booking information until the housing portal has closed, approximately 30 days before your check-in. Rest assured, the availability at the group rate is accurately displayed on the Housing Services booking portal.
- **The hotel I want isn't available. Can I be placed on a waiting list for cancellations?**
  - Unfortunately, we cannot accept waiting lists for cancellations at specific hotel properties. We recommend you book a property that is available and check back with Orchid Events periodically for cancellations. Orchid's customer service can move you from hotel to another easily if a cancellation does occur.

## Billing & Payment

- **If you need an invoice or would like to pay by check:**
  - Your hotel invoice information will not be available until after the housing portal has closed, typically 30 days prior to your check in date. Once you've received a final hotel confirmation email, contact the hotel directly to request an invoice and, if

necessary, arrange payment via check. Please note that all hotels require a credit card on file for reservations, and many hotels require checks to be delivered 2-4 weeks prior to arrival.

- **Will the hotel charge a deposit/hold amount on my credit card when I make the reservation through the housing portal?**
  - While a credit card is necessary to confirm your reservation, your credit card **will not be charged during this initial stage** and will be held as a guarantee only. Hotels have the right to charge a deposit of one night's room and tax per reservation on or after July 30, 2026. If your card declines the deposit, you run the risk of the hotel cancelling your reservation.
- **Tax Exempt Form info**
  - If you wish to submit tax exempt forms for your upcoming stay, you must contact the hotel directly before your check-in date. The hotels will be able to advise you on their individual hotel policies and provide further directions.

## Acknowledgements & Confirmations

- **What is the difference between an acknowledgment number and a confirmation number?**
  - An acknowledgment number is a number that guarantees your reservation has been received in the housing portal. This acts as the reference number for your reservation while the housing portal is open. Once the housing portal has closed you will receive a final hotel confirmation number. Please do not be concerned if your hotel cannot reference your acknowledgement number - they will not be able to access full booking information before July 30, 2026. Please contact Orchid Events customer care for any questions or concerns.
- **Why doesn't the hotel have a record of my reservation?**
  - The hotels have a block of rooms set aside for your event but will not receive final booking information (including your name) until your housing portal has closed at 10 PM ET on July 30, 2026. If you have received an acknowledgment email from booking through Orchid Events' reservation portal, rest assured that your reservation has been received.

## Housing Portal Overview

- **Why is there a 15-minute time limit to book my reservation?**
  - This time limit exists in accordance with security standards set in place by the PCI Security Standards Council for collecting payment information. This helps us to keep your payment information safe and secure.

- **How many rooms can I book?**
  - You can book up to 3 rooms for the event.
- **Why do I need to provide individual names for my rooms by June 1<sup>st</sup>?**
  - For safety and security purposes the hotel requires a unique name to be listed for each guest staying in the room. When the same or similar information is provided to book multiple reservations, these would be considered duplicate reservations. Duplicate reservations are flagged by our booking system, and any hotel system, to minimize any accidental double bookings and prevent any loss to the guest and the hotel.