

Congratulations on your admittance to ICU!

There are many things to worry about when starting your new life in ICU, and housing is one of them. To get the most out of your time in ICU, I definitely encourage you to live in a dormitory - and more specifically - our unique **Third Women's Dormitory (3WD)**!

Why 3WD in particular, you ask? Before I answer this question in detail, let's begin with the physical features of our dorm!

1st Floor

- **Social Room:** Residents of 3WD gather here to socialize, and guests are warmly welcomed as well. In this room we have equipment such as the A/C, bookshelves full of Japanese *manga* and novels, dining tables, sofas, microwaves, toasters, and a TV. People usually hang out, eat meals, chat and just relax in general in this room. "Dorm Meetings" and various parties are also held in this room. By the way, 3WD has the largest social room amongst the five undergraduate dorms!
- **Tatami Room:** Japanese-style room equipped with a *kotatsu* (traditional Japanese table with a built-in heater), electric piano, sewing machine, and an ironing station. In winter, we gather around the *kotatsu*, chat, study, and often fall asleep.
- **Kitchen:** Four electric stoves (IH), a microwave oven, and just about everything needed to fulfil your cooking/baking desires! You get your own shelf to put your seasonings. It's nice that those who are good at cooking can teach you how to cook.
- **Laundry Room:** Two washing machines and one clothes-dryer (free of charge 24/7).
- **Study Room:** A quiet room for those who need to concentrate on their work. You can use this room when you want to refresh your mind or when you want to focus in a quiet environment. During exam periods, many of us use this room while sharing snacks and encouraging each other.
- **Smoking Room:** This is the only room where smoking is permitted. It is a private room for smokers or just for spending time with others. We also have bookshelves here filled with textbooks and novels (Japanese and English).
- **Bathing/Showering Room:** One large bathtub and four showers, no barriers or curtains. Don't worry about being embarrassed when taking a bath with others because you'll get used to it pretty quickly!

2nd & 3rd Floors

- **Rooms:** Each room is equipped with 2 beds, closets, chest of drawers, desks, chairs, bookshelves, and a refrigerator. 3WD may have the smallest rooms, but we definitely do not want you to miss the chance to live with us just because of this. When I first came to 3WD, I too was surprised by the size of the room. However, I soon realized that the rooms are far more spacious than imagined, and it now feels more cozy than small! I also learned to manage space and think twice before buying unnecessary things. You save money, all while staying cozy & comfy! Not bad, right?
- **Washing Room/Restrooms:** Three toilet stalls and four sinks are available on each floor.

4th Floor/Rooftop

- **Trunk room/Cardboard room:** Store all your extra suitcases or boxes of stuff here!
- **Rooftop:** You can dry your clothes here on sunny days! You can also stargaze at night, watch the sunrise in the morning, and enjoy the breathtaking scenery of ICU from atop!

Forgot to mention that we also have Wi-Fi. Now, you may wonder - **Why 3WD?**

Firstly, 3WD is the closest dormitory to the main classroom building (15 seconds by bike)! This means that you don't have to wake up extra early to get to class. Even if you wake up 5 minutes before class, you can and will still make it to class on time! **Secondly**, the residents here are ready and more than happy to help you get accustomed to ICU life. There will always be someone around when you need help or advice, which is a huge relief especially when you don't know many people in the school yet. We support one another like family, but still respect each other's private space. 3WD even takes the newcomers on a shopping tour, where we will show you around the neighborhood and help you get your daily necessities. **Thirdly**, 3WD does not have any hierarchy amongst our residents (you know, the senior-junior relationships). We treat each other equally, and you don't need to use complicated *keigo* (formal Japanese) based on seniority at all. **Lastly**, 3WD has a reputation for being the most *energetic, daring and craziest* dorm on campus! If you are willing to do something crazy with our gals, then 3WD is the perfect home for you!!!

One thing you will need to keep in mind before entering the dorm is your **responsibility as a dorm resident**. Like in all the other dorms, each resident has duties and roles we must fulfil in order to keep our self-governed dorm running smoothly. Cleaning, answering the door and receiving letters or packages, and sorting mail are some examples of our duties. But most importantly, we have **mandatory** dorm meetings once a month, which can be long at times, but it is an important opportunity to voice your opinions about how to make our dorm life better.

I know that living in a dormitory may be a totally new and anxious experience for you. I just want to let you know that nothing beats the unique experience of living in a dormitory. This may be the only place where you get to share your life with 40 people from different countries and backgrounds. You will gain friends that will last for a lifetime, and those relationships will continue even outside of this campus, across borders, across the seas, and throughout time. Your experiences in our dorm will definitely enrich your life and will surely create unforgettable and precious memories. Personally, 3WD has helped me a lot physically and mentally especially since my family lives overseas. So I can proudly promise you: once a 3WD family, *always* a 3WD family.

Thank you for taking interest in Third Women's Dormitory, and we look forward to meeting you soon!

Hanami Takahashi (Junior)
Dorm Representative of Third Women's Dormitory



Social room



Kitchenette



3WD All members



Study room



Bathroom



Double room