

Dinner with 12 Strangers - Host FAQs

How do I sign up to be a host?

Host registration for each academic year (for fall and spring semester dinners), opens in late July. The host registration link can be found at www.alumni.emory.edu/d12, along with additional details about the program. Registration is on a rolling basis and will remain open through February of each year, but please reference the webpage for specific host registration deadlines for each term. Host registration is first-come, first-served and capped at around 20-25 dinners each semester, so please register as soon as possible to ensure availability.

Can I co-host?

Absolutely. Co-hosting with classmates, colleagues, friends, or a spouse/partner is a great option, especially for first-time hosts. There is no limit to the number of co-hosts who can participate.

When can I host my dinner?

Dinner with 12 Strangers is organized around a weekend (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) in the fall and a weekend in the spring. Hosts may register for one of the dates during either or both weekends. Dinner start times are completely up to the host(s), though most dinners begin at around 6pm.

Where can I host my dinner?

Hosts may host their dinner at a location of their choosing, whether it is at home, at a favorite restaurant, or even at the Miller-Ward Alumni House, (all dinners hosted at the Miller-Ward Alumni House must use preferred caterers). We just ask that the location be a manageable distance from Emory, as most students carpool to the dinners. If interested in hosting at Miller-Ward, please contact Elizabeth Lee at e.h.lee@emory.edu for more information.

How many students can I host?

Though the average group size is around 12, hosts may host as many or as few students as they can comfortably accommodate.

Will I be reimbursed by Emory University for dinner expenses?

Emory University will not directly reimburse dinner expenses. However, hosts will be given in-kind gift credit for documented, (associated receipts must be submitted), dinner expenses. The in-kind gift amount may be allocated to an Emory school or designation of the host's choosing.

Is transportation arranged?

Carpooling is facilitated for most off campus dinners by members of the Student Alumni Board, who serve as dinner liaisons. Each dinner group is contacted prior to the dinner to encourage carpooling from campus. Please make sure to include the full address of the dinner location and any other informative details on the host registration form to help students find the location easily.

Can I target my student audience (i.e. to a specific school)?

Yes. If you prefer to host students from a specific school(s), please share those details on the host registration form. Audience preferences will be added to your dinner details on the student registration page. Note- student registration is on a first-come, first-served basis so staff will monitor registrations as best as possible, but 100% exclusivity is not guaranteed. If the dinner has not been filled closer to the

dinner date, we ask hosts for flexibility to open any remaining spots to other students who may be interested, even if not within their preferred audience.

Why is my dinner not full?

Students can register for a dinner of their choosing, which may be based on professional interests, shared hobbies, Emory activities, etc. Dinners with more detailed host descriptions (i.e., related to their career, hobbies, interests, Emory engagement), tend to fill more quickly, so we ask that hosts provide as much information as possible in their registration. Though we emphasize commitment expectations to students in all of our communications, please note that late cancellations and additions are common. We try our very best to fill open spots during the week of dinners and notify hosts as soon as changes arise, but we appreciate your understanding with regards to student emergencies and unexpected cancellations that may occur, sometimes the day of the dinner.

Will I receive a student list and dietary needs prior to the dinners?

Yes. We will email hosts a student guest list with names, ages, schools, dietary restrictions, special needs, and other details about a week before the dinner and/or as dinners fill. Since there are often changes leading up to the dinner dates, we stay in close communication with students and hosts and notify hosts as any updates or cancellations arise. We also mail hosts a “D12 host packet” approximately 2 weeks before the dinners. The host packet will include student sign in sheets, an in-kind gift form, a prepaid return envelope (for the gift in-kind form, receipts, and sign in sheets), thank you gifts, and nametags for the dinner.

Can alcohol be served at the dinner?

Yes; if providing alcohol, we ask hosts to use discretion and serve only to those who are of legal drinking age (21+). As mentioned above, ages are provided for reference in the student guest lists sent to hosts before dinners. It may be helpful to make a pre-meal announcement to remind students under 21 and drivers of carpools to refrain from partaking in adult beverages, if provided.

Can I host again?

Yes, of course! But please remember, host registration is first-come, first-served and capped at around 20-25 dinners each semester, so we encourage registering as soon as possible to ensure availability.

Other questions?

Please feel free to contact Elizabeth Lee at e.h.lee@emory.edu or 404.712.9679 if you have any other questions or would like more information about the program.