# Student Housing Industry Compensation Update 

Total compensation was up across the board for nearly all positions in 2022, though base salaries saw only marginal increases.
Compiled by Josh Logelin, Managing Director, Specialty Consultants

Specialty Consultants Inc. (SCI) sent an e-mail invitation and link to an online survey form to over 500 senior executives at student housing industry firms requesting 2022 salary and incentive information from their companies. Additionally, the survey was sent to approximately 4,600 professionals representing a cross-section of the positions covered in the survey. The survey was also open to readers of studenthousingbusiness. com via a banner advertisement and participation was also encouraged through a sponsored post on LinkedIn. The resulting information was compiled and analyzed to produce a statistical abstract of annual cash compensation categorized by company size (number of beds owned/ operated).

Total compensation was up across the board for nearly all positions in the survey for 2022, though base salaries saw only marginal increases. Bonus compensation accounted for most of the gains, with many employ-
ers reporting the widespread use of discretionary hiring and retention incentive payouts to counter the continued rise in the cost of living, while avoiding the longer-term financial commitment of salary increases with a potential recession looming.
2023 is shaping up to be a mixed bag for compensation across the functional position categories. Investor interest in student housing is increasing due to its stable rent growth, and in slowing economic cycles this typically equates to a focus on asset value enhancement/ preservation, which benefits professionals in the property operations category. At the other end of the spectrum, development and construction professionals whose skill portability drove up their compensation during the conventional multifamily boom of the past five years will face downward pressure as an unfavorable lending environment leads to significant staff reductions for market-rate developers and a flood of available talent.

| > 7,500 Beds | Base Salary |  |  |  | Bonus |  |  |  | Total Compensation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Low | High | Mean | Median | Low | High | Mean | Median | Low | High | Mean | Median |
| Chief Executive Officer | 200,000 | 775,000 | 379,300 | 375,500 | 0 | 875,000 | 281,300 | 226,500 | 200,000 | 1,650,000 | 663,700 | 614,700 |
| Chief Operating Officer/VP of Operations | 160,000 | 375,000 | 245,100 | 235,000 | 0 | 555,000 | 131,800 | 100,900 | 190,000 | 800,000 | 379,400 | 375,000 |
| Chief Financial Officer/VP of Finance | 110,000 | 525,000 | 259,900 | 250,000 | 0 | 600,000 | 130,900 | 90,000 | 121,000 | 818,700 | 390,800 | 343,600 |
| VP/Director of Human Resources | 92,700 | 290,000 | 165,100 | 170,000 | 0 | 125,000 | 52,300 | 46,400 | 92,700 | 375,000 | 217,400 | 225,000 |
| Regional VP/VP of Property Management | 78,500 | 225,000 | 152,000 | 151,400 | 0 | 206,300 | 43,300 | 31,000 | 83,500 | 382,600 | 192,700 | 196,400 |
| Regional Property Manager | 65,000 | 140,000 | 99,700 | 100,000 | 0 | 100,000 | 23,200 | 20,000 | 77,000 | 240,000 | 122,500 | 117,000 |
| Property Manager | 40,000 | 120,000 | 68,200 | 69,000 | 0 | 60,000 | 13,100 | 11,300 | 40,400 | 142,000 | 81,400 | 79,100 |
| VP/Director of Marketing/Leasing | 60,000 | 240,000 | 134,800 | 134,500 | 0 | 124,700 | 29,200 | 24,900 | 72,000 | 315,800 | 163,900 | 170,000 |
| Marketing/Leasing Manager | 38,500 | 80,000 | 52,600 | 51,000 | 0 | 38,000 | 10,200 | 8,000 | 39,000 | 103,000 | 62,700 | 63,500 |
| VP/Director of Acquisitions | 97,900 | 390,000 | 202,300 | 200,000 | 0 | 515,000 | 131,100 | 85,500 | 108,000 | 905,000 | 328,300 | 260,000 |
| Acquisitions Associate/Analyst | 53,000 | 122,000 | 81,400 | 71,000 | 0 | 90,000 | 23,700 | 12,000 | 63,600 | 197,000 | 105,000 | 83,400 |
| VP/Director of Asset Management | 93,000 | 435,000 | 203,200 | 216,700 | 0 | 250,000 | 84,200 | 55,000 | 99,000 | 832,200 | 294,000 | 270,800 |
| Asset Manager | 70,000 | 200,000 | 110,900 | 108,000 | 0 | 155,000 | 40,400 | 25,000 | 80,000 | 280,000 | 151,300 | 131,000 |
| VP/Director of Development | 100,000 | 375,000 | 186,600 | 194,000 | 0 | 300,000 | 73,100 | 65,000 | 110,000 | 675,000 | 257,300 | 257,500 |
| Development Manager | 72,100 | 210,000 | 118,000 | 118,500 | 0 | 240,000 | 32,700 | 28,000 | 81,600 | 365,000 | 143,700 | 130,300 |
| VP/Director of Construction | 140,000 | 275,000 | 195,600 | 195,700 | 0 | 220,000 | 48,600 | 41,000 | 180,000 | 420,000 | 245,100 | 228,400 |
| Construction Manager | 72,000 | 175,000 | 111,800 | 120,000 | 0 | 32,500 | 16,200 | 16,300 | 72,000 | 200,000 | 128,000 | 136,000 |


| 2,500-7,500 Beds | Base Salary |  |  |  | Bonus |  |  |  | Total Compensation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Low | High | Mean | Median | Low | High | Mean | Median | Low | High | Mean | Median |
| Chief Executive Officer | 170,000 | 550,000 | 255,200 | 250,000 | 0 | 600,000 | 111,100 | 75,000 | 218,400 | 1,150,000 | 365,000 | 309,000 |
| Chief Operating Officer/VP of Operations | 90,000 | 324,000 | 193,700 | 203,000 | 0 | 120,000 | 44,400 | 35,000 | 100,000 | 444,000 | 234,600 | 234,800 |
| Chief Financial Officer/VP of Finance | 103,000 | 360,000 | 193,700 | 195,000 | 0 | 130,000 | 44,000 | 12,400 | 115,400 | 490,000 | 227,700 | 195,000 |
| VP/Director of Human Resources | 80,000 | 289,000 | 129,500 | 129,000 | 0 | 100,000 | 19,000 | 17,000 | 80,000 | 389,000 | 147,700 | 144,200 |
| Regional VP/VP of Property Management | 80,000 | 190,000 | 142,800 | 144,200 | 0 | 70,000 | 26,400 | 27,200 | 103,000 | 232,000 | 169,200 | 175,100 |
| Regional Property Manager | 60,000 | 150,000 | 95,700 | 90,800 | 0 | 50,000 | 15,100 | 10,300 | 70,000 | 163,000 | 110,800 | 108,700 |
| Property Manager | 40,000 | 90,000 | 66,400 | 67,000 | 0 | 20,600 | 8,600 | 9,500 | 40,000 | 97,900 | 75,000 | 77,000 |
| VP/Director of Marketing/Leasing | 64,900 | 266,000 | 122,100 | 125,000 | 0 | 100,000 | 24,300 | 17,000 | 66,000 | 281,000 | 146,400 | 146,000 |
| Marketing/Leasing Manager | 35,400 | 98,000 | 53,700 | 53,000 | 0 | 13,000 | 4,000 | 2,000 | 41,000 | 108,000 | 57,400 | 60,000 |
| VP/Director of Acquisitions | 128,000 | 290,000 | 192,300 | 190,600 | 0 | 300,000 | 71,700 | 41,000 | 180,000 | 520,000 | 264,000 | 235,000 |
| Acquisitions Associate/Analyst | 52,000 | 170,000 | 94,400 | 90,000 | 0 | 50,000 | 18,800 | 18,000 | 57,200 | 210,000 | 113,200 | 110,000 |
| VP/Director of Asset Management | 120,000 | 310,000 | 189,200 | 164,800 | 0 | 75,000 | 29,100 | 30,000 | 132,000 | 365,000 | 218,300 | 200,000 |
| Asset Manager | 85,000 | 175,000 | 122,100 | 128,800 | 0 | 100,000 | 36,400 | 35,500 | 95,000 | 240,000 | 158,500 | 172,000 |
| VP/Director of Development | 103,000 | 310,000 | 196,400 | 215,000 | 0 | 200,000 | 88,600 | 98,000 | 130,000 | 510,000 | 285,600 | 303,000 |
| Development Manager | 82,000 | 225,000 | 126,500 | 130,000 | 0 | 70,000 | 18,900 | 20,300 | 102,000 | 250,000 | 146,800 | 144,600 |
| VP/Director of Construction | 125,000 | 280,000 | 197,000 | 195,700 | 0 | 120,000 | 38,100 | 25,800 | 143,000 | 346,600 | 235,100 | 223,500 |
| Construction Manager | 64,900 | 155,000 | 104,800 | 100,900 | 0 | 25,800 | 13,900 | 15,000 | 80,000 | 171,500 | 118,700 | 115,000 |


| <2,500 Beds | Base Salary |  |  |  | Bonus |  |  |  | Total Compensation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Low | High | Mean | Median | Low | High | Mean | Median | Low | High | Mean | Median |
| Chief Executive Officer | 95,800 | 400,000 | 211,800 | 177,200 | 0 | 500,000 | 135,600 | 41,200 | 95,800 | 900,000 | 347,400 | 218,400 |
| Chief Operating Officer/VP of Operations | 118,500 | 244,000 | 165,800 | 181,000 | 0 | 80,000 | 33,700 | 34,500 | 140,000 | 292,000 | 199,600 | 187,000 |
| Chief Financial Officer/VP of Finance | 100,000 | 225,000 | 143,500 | 148,300 | 0 | 78,000 | 29,300 | 32,400 | 103,800 | 257,000 | 172,800 | 168,900 |
| VP/Director of Human Resources | 71,200 | 195,000 | 114,400 | 103,700 | 0 | 30,000 | 11,100 | 9,800 | 77,300 | 195,000 | 125,600 | 120,300 |
| Regional VP/VP of Property Management | 70,000 | 165,000 | 111,400 | 121,000 | 0 | 30,000 | 13,900 | 14,200 | 76,000 | 190,000 | 126,000 | 134,500 |
| Regional Property Manager | 74,200 | 125,000 | 95,500 | 89,200 | 0 | 25,000 | 12,400 | 12,000 | 81,900 | 140,000 | 107,900 | 106,400 |
| Property Manager | 41,200 | 142,000 | 64,600 | 63,800 | 0 | 35,000 | 9,500 | 10,000 | 42,000 | 142,000 | 74,000 | 69,500 |
| VP/Director of Marketing/Leasing | 64,900 | 127,000 | 90,600 | 91,200 | 0 | 29,000 | 12,200 | 12,400 | 70,000 | 143,000 | 102,800 | 108,000 |
| Marketing/Leasing Manager | 36,400 | 80,000 | 47,900 | 42,500 | 0 | 26,000 | 5,800 | 1,600 | 37,600 | 97,800 | 53,700 | 45,400 |
| VP/Director of Acquisitions | 130,000 | 285,000 | 195,400 | 191,900 | 0 | 51,500 | 38,500 | 44,000 | 181,500 | 335,000 | 234,200 | 224,500 |
| Acquisitions Associate/Analyst | 64,900 | 145,000 | 83,700 | 80,000 | 0 | 45,000 | 14,600 | 13,700 | 78,900 | 175,000 | 98,300 | 85,700 |
| VP/Director of Asset Management | 108,000 | 375,000 | 198,200 | 218,000 | 0 | 77,300 | 39,600 | 35,000 | 139,100 | 420,000 | 237,000 | 242,100 |
| Asset Manager | 71,100 | 150,000 | 91,800 | 92,700 | 0 | 65,000 | 25,700 | 20,000 | 77,300 | 215,000 | 119,000 | 115,400 |
| VP/Director of Development | 80,000 | 310,000 | 152,100 | 139,100 | 0 | 250,000 | 52,900 | 25,000 | 96,000 | 560,000 | 205,000 | 165,000 |
| Development Manager | 55,000 | 200,000 | 113,200 | 124,100 | 0 | 35,000 | 17,300 | 18,000 | 65,000 | 200,000 | 130,500 | 142,500 |
| VP/Director of Construction | 90,000 | 238,000 | 160,600 | 175,000 | 0 | 51,000 | 20,600 | 20,600 | 90,000 | 258,600 | 181,300 | 200,000 |
| Construction Manager | 68,800 | 135,000 | 102,900 | 112,000 | 0 | 30,000 | 8,000 | 7,700 | 70,000 | 145,000 | 107,900 | 118,500 |

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    July/August 2023

