LIVING OFF CAMPUS

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Graduate Assistants
YOUR SEARCH

- Facebook Group: UAlbany International Students
  https://www.facebook.com/groups/161720563847596/

- UAlbany Housing Registry
  http://suny.housingregistry.us/bapp/login

- Student Organizations

- Craigslist
YOUR NEEDS

- How many bedrooms and bathrooms?
- Furnished or unfurnished?
- What amenities, (dishwasher, central heat and air, microwave, washer and dryer)?
- Pets?
LOCATION

• Consider first where your classes are located

• Most students live in Pine Hills area (See Map)

• If you don’t have a car, choose a neighbor that is close to bus lines or within walking distance.
CDTA BUS LINE

- Route 11 - UAlbany Shuttle
- Route 12 - Washington Avenue
- Route 10 - Western Avenue (stops on Western Ave. in front of the campus)
- Route 114 - Madison / Washington
- Route 190 - Fuller / Wolf

See more at:
http://www.cdta.org/node/182#ualbany
YOUR LEASE

- READ THE LEASE!
- Utilities included?
- Lease automatically renewed?
- Ask around to see if others have been happy living there.
- If two or more people sign the lease, what happens if one person moves out? Are there penalty fees for moving out early?
- Who do you call for repairs? How long will it take to be fixed?
- Security Deposit
- Sub-letting rules
SECURITY DEPOSIT

- Most rentals require a deposit-usually the equivalent of one month’s rent. At the end of your lease you will get this deposit back, less any fees for damages.

- Landlord must return the refundable part of the deposit within two weeks of the time you vacate an apartment. Deductions from the deposit must be itemized in writing.
Need Legal Help?

- Undergraduate students who are registered for classes can contact Student Legal Services of the Student Association at 518-442-5654.

- Graduate students can call the Legal Aid Society at 518-462-6765.
YOUR MOVE-IN

- Do a walk-through with the landlord.
  - Is it clean? Is anything broken? Do the locks work?

- Write down problems and give to landlord. Date and sign. (keep a copy)

- Take dated pictures of each room before you move in and before you move out.
YOUR MOVE-OUT

• Consult your lease and give required notice.

• Leave the property in the same or better condition as when you moved in.

• Do a walk-through with your landlord to check for any damages.

• Use the dated photos you took when moving in as documentation.
SAFETY ISSUES

- YOU are responsible for your own safety.
  - Know emergency contact information
  - Lock your doors and windows
  - Never use a basement or attic as a bedroom, these are traps in a fire.
  - Smoke detectors required
  - Ask for CO and fire extinguishers
  - Don’t travel alone, especially at night
  - Report any crime by calling 911
80% of student fatalities due to fire occur in off-campus housing.

Know the location and proper use of fire extinguishers.

By law your landlord must provide fire alarms but you must test and maintain them.

Cooking styles
YOUR PLACE

• Keep your home clean and in good condition.

• Pay rent by due date.

• Don’t allow other people to live there if their name is not on the lease.

• The lease is a legal document. By signing it, you agree to obey its rules. Be sure to keep a copy.
TENANT’S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Garbage Day! & Shovel the Snow!
PARKING

**Off Campus**
- Pay attention to Signs on the street
- Snow emergency parking

**On Campus**
- Parking requires a permit
- Please Obey Signs
- Register your vehicle/pay tickets at your myUAlbany account or go to [ww.Albany.edu/pmts](http://ww.Albany.edu/pmts)
Common Things to Look Out For

- You are entitled to your privacy. Before entry, the landlord must provide you with advanced notice, usually at least 24 hours in advance and during reasonable hours.
- It is illegal for a landlord to rent you a room in a basement or an attic unless equipped with a fire escape. Additionally, there must be a fire alarm in each bedroom.
- United Tenants of Albany Hotline (518)436-8997
LANDLORDS

- The relationship between you and your landlord is business first.
- Get everything in writing and keep copies of all correspondences.
- It’s the landlord’s responsibility to fix/repair the damage occurred during rental period. Contact Division of Building & Regulatory Compliance at 518-434-5165 to ensure that landlord makes the necessary repairs.
CULTURAL DIFFERENCES
SHOPPING

- Walmart & Crossgates Mall (Bus #12)
- Stuyvesant Plaza (Bus #10)
- Hannaford (900 Central Ave)
- Price Chopper (Bus #10 or #11, 1060 Madison Ave)

- Asian Supermarket (91 Colvin Ave & 1245 Central Ave)
- Parivar Spices and Food (1275 Central Ave)
- Halal Market (264 Central Ave)
PLANNING A GET TOGETHER

- Make sure cars are parked in appropriate areas.

- Keep the noise down, or your neighbor might call the police.

- Drinking age in United States is 21!
BEING A GOOD STUDENT

- Remember that ultimately you are still here for your education.
- But also keep in mind that ALL student services are still available to you:
  - Counseling Center
  - Gym
  - Health Center
  - Meal Plans
  - Career Resource Center
Thank You!