

Off-Campus Housing Guide

When it comes to finding a place to live in Worcester, many of our graduate students choose to live off-campus with roommates. You will find a variety of off-campus housing options located near campus, as well as in downtown Worcester and the surrounding areas.

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Right to a Decent Place to Live

Landlords are required to provide their tenants a decent place to live. For example, if there are problems with your apartment's water, electricity, heating, and/or a rodent/bug infestation, your landlord is required to take steps to address the issue within 14 days. If they don't, you can report them to the Massachusetts Board of Health, or take them to court.

ARE YOU A FIRST TIME RENTER?

If you are renting a House/Apartment/Room for the first time.

Get started early:

When looking for housing, make sure to start your housing search early (at least 2 months before you plan on moving in). That way, you won't feel rushed to move into an apartment that doesn't fit your wants/needs.

Ask to speak with the previous tenants and ask to see the apartment in-person:

If possible, see if you can speak with the previous tenants to hear about their experience living in the apartment. Also ask if you can take an in-person tour of the apartment before signing your lease. That way you can see the condition, size, and layout of the apartment before moving in.

READ YOUR LEASE VERY CAREFULLY!

The lease is a contract between you and your landlord that states your expectations of one another, and is legally binding. Make sure to carefully read the terms of your lease before signing it. It should include the **name and contact information of the landlord**, the **address of the apartment** you are renting, the **amount of the security deposit**, the **total monthly rent, when payments are due**, and **how and to whom it needs to be paid; the dates you will rent the apartment, late payment fees**, and **early termination conditions**. Knowing all of this information up front will prevent conflicts down the line.

DO YOU NEED SOMEWHERE TO STAY SHORT-TERM?

When students arrive in Worcester, they often need a place to stay for a few days before they can move into an apartment. Below is a list of hotels and other suggested places to look for short-term housing. **Please note, Worcester is a busy city so if you know you will need to stay in a hotel or Airbnb, you should book this early!**

Hotels:

[AC Hotel by Marriott Worcester](#)

[Homewood Suites by Hilton](#)

[Hilton Garden Inn Worcester](#)

[Holiday Inn Express Worcester Downtown](#)

[Holiday Inn Express & Suites Auburn](#)

[La Quinta Inn by Wyndham Auburn](#)

[Residence Inn by Marriott Worcester](#)

[Hampton Inn](#)

[Grafton Inn](#)

House or Room Rentals:

[Vrbo](#)

[Airbnb](#)

*If you have any questions, contact the International Center at internationalcenter@clarku.edu.
Happy hunting!*