

International Student Guide to Living Off-Campus



Where To Look for an Apartment

- rentoffcampus.uwm.edu/listing
- Facebook Sublet/Renting Groups **
- Third Party Renting Sites **

** Please note that the OCRC does not monitor these groups and is not affiliated with them in any way.

If you are unable to tour the apartment, ask for pictures or videos of the space.

Milwaukee Ordinances

- **House Occupancy:** No more than three (3) unrelated people can share a unit. The residents not on the lease can be evicted within 24 hours for noncompliance
- **Snow Removal:** Snow and Ice should be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours of snowfall ending
- **Garbage & Illegal Dumping:** Large items such as furniture will not be taken with regular trash and require a pick-up to be scheduled with the City of Milwaukee
- **Noise:** Keep volume at a respectful level for neighbors, especially late at night or early in the morning

Utilities/Amenities

Check for whether utilities are included in the cost of rent or an additional expense:

- Heat, Air Conditioning, Laundry, Wi-Fi, Water, Gas, etc.
- If utilities are not included, make sure to budget for them.

Leases/Security Deposits

- **Lease:** a legally binding contract for an apartment. Enrolled students can have leases reviewed at the UWM Legal Clinic for free.
- **Security Deposit:** a required payment to ensure that a tenant pays rent on time and keeps the rental unit in good condition. This is refundable if there is no damage and rent is paid.

Tips for Renting

- Purchase renters insurance. This is required by some landlords
- Get communications with your landlord in writing
- Your landlord is required by law to provide a check-in sheet when you move-in
 - Document all Damages-Photo and Video
 - Get updates and repairs in writing with date of completion
- Don't sign your lease until 2-3 months before your anticipated move-in date
- Do not smoke in your apartment (this is prohibited in most places), stay in designated smoking areas
- Guests are great, but you're responsible for their behavior in your unit. Unauthorized people are not allowed to live your apartment long-term.

Questions? Contact the
Off-Campus Resource Center

Phone: (414)229-6999
Email: rent-offcampus@uwm.edu
Website: uwm.edu/off-campus-resources/

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Finding Roommates

- Create a roommate profile on the roommates page on rentoffcampus.uwm.edu/listing
- Check with friends and colleagues
- Ask in the CIE Whatsapp group

Where To Find Furniture

- Panther Cycle Facebook Page
- Thrift Stores - Goodwill
- Buy Nothing Groups - Facebook **

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Transportation

Milwaukee Bus System - U-Pass

- Available free for enrolled UWM Students - allows access to the MCTS Buses
- uwm.edu/transportation

UWM B.O.S.S

- Free shuttle service from 6pm - 2am ; Only works within a certain radius of campus
- uwm.edu/boss

Budgeting

Plan to have enough money to cover at least one month's rent, your security deposit, and utilities!

- uwm.edu/off-campus-resources/average-rent-prices

Groceries

There are many places to buy food near campus, these are a few options:

- Metro Market: 4075 N. Oakland Ave.
- Pick 'n Save: 1100 E. Garfield Ave.
- Sendik's: 2643 N. Downer Ave.
- Trader Joe's: 5600 N Port Washington Rd.
- Whole Foods Market: 2305 N. Prospect Ave.
- UWM Food Pantry: Food available to students who have difficulty purchasing enough food to avoid hunger.

University Housing

Alternatively, live on campus at one of the many residence halls! Contact University Housing: housing@uwm.edu.

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