

House Hunting Tips

Living On Campus

GRADUATE STUDENTS and EXCHANGE STUDENTS: You are eligible to live on campus. If you are interested in Central Campus or Townhouse apartments, go to the Housing Office located at 218 Alexander Avenue, or call 919.684.4304. You can also go to the website: <http://rlhs.studentaffairs.duke.edu/>

Please note that prices vary depending on the apartment and your school. The 2009 - 2010 Graduate School rate for the academic year is \$6,820 per person for a two-bedroom apartment (with 2 people) and \$5,800 per person for a three-bedroom apartment. You must sign a contract for the entire academic year unless you are a one-semester exchange student. Your housing fee will be billed to your bursar account at the beginning of each semester. You do not need to pay a deposit. Unfortunately anyone who is not a full-time Duke student CANNOT live on campus.

Living Off Campus

The Duke Community Housing Office was created to help EVERYONE of the Duke community find housing off-campus.

Duke Community Housing Office

Crowell Hall, Room 216 (East Campus)

E-mail: communityhousing@duke.edu

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm

Phone: (919) 684-6711

Web <http://communityhousing.duke.edu>

Other Places to Look for Housing Off-Campus

- Duke Dialogue (online newspaper) <http://tradingpost.dukenews.duke.edu>
- Via the following websites: www.rent.net, www.apartments.com, www.raleigh.craigslist.org
- Bulletin Boards in your department, Bryan Center, Medical School, etc.
- Join various list serves such as intlhouse@duke.edu or gradwomen@duke.edu To subscribe to intlhouse@duke.edu, send a message to: sympa@duke.edu Leave subject blank. In the text area type: subscribe intlhouse

Shared Housing Options

1. Private Homes

Students rent a room in a private home of a Durham resident. Typically a student will have general use of the entire house. Bath and/or toilet facilities may be private or shared with the family. Be sure to ask what will be included if you are thinking of renting a room in someone's home. Prices range from \$400-\$600/month.

2. Roommates

It is typical in the U.S. for students who do not know each other to share a house or an apartment. Normally you have your own bedroom and share the rest of the house or apartment. If you are considering this type of arrangement for the first time, be very specific about what will be shared and what will be private. Discuss the obligation of bills, including utilities.

Don't be afraid to ask questions about the personal habits of the people with whom you will be living. Your expectations and your housemate's expectations very likely will not be the same. Be sure to discuss each of your expectations - cooking, cleaning, visitors, policy for having boyfriend/girlfriend over, etc. Ask questions such as: Are you a smoker? Do you study late? Get up early? Have a boyfriend/girlfriend? It is okay to ask these types of personal questions.

Having a roommate is one of the cheaper housing alternatives. Try to be as clear as possible about expectations before moving in! It should save you a lot of heartache in the long run.