



Off-Campus Housing



The Office of International Student Services strongly recommends on-campus housing for first year international students, not only for the convenience but for the strong community environment. Students who wish to consider off-campus housing for the future, must be aware that they will need to buy a car, which can be quite costly (see “Local Shopping, Dining & Transportation”). In addition, very few apartments come furnished and those furnished are far more expensive, so students living off-campus may need to buy or rent furniture. Renting furniture can be expensive. Sometimes you can buy used furniture at a low cost at yard sales or through classified advertisements in the newspaper. Various items are also available to the Regent community through an online forum called TheBranch, located through a tab on the myRegent web page. (Students can sign in to the myRegent web page using your myRegent ID name and password). Most apartments provide a fully equipped kitchen (stove, refrigerator, dishwasher), but not cooking utensils and dishes.

There is a wide spectrum of housing options available in the nearby cities of Virginia Beach and Chesapeake, but they are not within walking distance of the campus. Living options can range from sharing an apartment in an up-scale residence with a swimming pool and a tennis court to renting a dorm-like room off-campus. Rent ranges from \$400 per month for a room or shared apartment, or much more if a high-end or single residence is sought. Most landlords require a security/damage deposit (usually one month’s rent) and a signed lease. A lease is a legally binding contract that must be read very carefully before signing. Once you sign a lease, you will be responsible for paying the rent for the entire period of the lease. Most leases are for one year, but some can be signed for a six-month period. If you share an apartment with a friend, both of you will be required to sign the lease. Students choosing to live off-campus must be prepared to pay for utilities (gas/electricity, phone, water, internet etc.), which can run as high as \$300-400 a month. Students who plan to live off-campus should also be prepared to pay an advanced security deposit for telephone, cable, internet, and electricity services (up to \$400-500 per service).

Regent’s housing office provides an off-campus referral service that includes listings of individual rooms, apartments, townhomes and houses for rent. To view these listings, go to <http://www.regent.edu/campus/housing/> and search under Off-Campus Housing. For private-owner listings, choose Off-Campus Login under Off-Campus Housing (myRegent ID and password are required).