

2020–2021

OFF-CAMPUS LIVING GUIDE





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PHYSICAL DISTANCING TIPS FROM THE CDC



Wash Your Hands Often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid Close Contact

Avoid close contact with people who are sick, even inside your home. If possible, maintain 6 feet between the person who is sick and other household members. Put distance between yourself and other people outside of your home.

- Stay at least six feet from other people.
- Do not gather in groups of more than 10.
- Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.
- Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings.

Cover Your Mouth and Nose With a Cloth Face Mask When Around Others

- Wear masks with two or more layers to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Wear the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.
- Everyone should wear a cloth face mask when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities.
- Masks should NOT be worn by children younger than two, people who have trouble breathing, or people who cannot remove the mask without assistance.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face mask is not a substitute for physical distancing.

The CDC does not recommend the use of gaiters or face shields. Evaluation of these face covers is on-going but effectiveness is unknown at this time.

Cover Coughs and Sneezes

- If you are in a private setting and do not have on your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and Disinfect

- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection. Then, use a household disinfectant.

Monitor Your Health

- Be alert for symptoms. Watch for:
 - Fever or chills
 - Respiratory symptoms, such as dry cough or shortness of breath
 - Sore throat
 - Fatigue
 - Headache
 - Body or muscle aches
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. Keep in mind, many people with COVID-19 have mild symptoms and are able to recover at home.

Especially important if you are running essential errands, going into the office or workplace, and in settings where it may be difficult to keep a physical distance of 6 feet.

 - Take your temperature daily and report it in the Ohio State app if you plan to be on campus.
 - Follow university procedures if symptoms develop. For more information, visit safeandhealthy.osu.edu.

This content been adapted from materials created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.





www.franklincountyauditor.com

ABOUT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE

The Franklin County Auditor's Office is a leader in public service, eliminating bureaucratic red tape and providing quality, cost-effective information and services to all of Franklin County's citizens. Residents and businesses access the Auditor's office for a variety of reasons, such as licensing our dogs; providing property tax relief to our disabled, veteran, and senior populations; and certifying each fuel pump.

RENTAL REGISTRATION

Each landlord or property owner is required to register with the Franklin County Auditor's Office. Make sure your property owner is abiding by the law and is registered with the Auditor's office. **If you have any questions, please email us at AuditorStinziano@franklincounty.ohio.gov or call us at (614) 525-HOME.**

DOG LICENSING FACTS

The dog license renewal period runs from December 1 through March 31 each year. After March 31, the fees for dog licensing are doubled. Dog licenses can be purchased for a one-year period, a three-year period, or a lifetime period. Dogs nine months old or younger that are not spayed or neutered are not eligible for a multiyear license. Licenses are discounted if one of the following conditions apply:

Your dog is spayed or neutered; your dog is under 9 months old; your dog is being bred for sale/show; your dog is intended for hunting. You can also register your dog online at www.franklincountyauditor.com.

For any other questions regarding dog licensing, please contact us at (614) 525-3260 or consumer@franklincountyohio.gov.

ALL DOGS OLDER THAN 3 MONTHS OF AGE:

-  Must be licensed
-  Must have their licenses renewed each year
-  Must have a rabies vaccination



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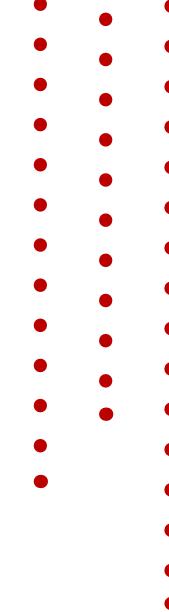
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WELCOME TO LIFE OFF- CAMPUS



The Off-Campus Living Guide outlines resources and tips to help all students have an extraordinary off-campus living experience. This guide provides you with answers about off-campus housing, university and city resources and helps you understand your rights and responsibilities as an off-campus resident.



MEET THE OFF-CAMPUS AND COMMUTER STUDENT SERVICES TEAM

Student Life Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services is The Ohio State University's resource center for off-campus living and commuter life. We can provide you with tools to find housing and roommates, resources to encourage safe practices in the off-campus area and support you while being a responsible neighbor in the Buckeye community. Our dedicated team can provide you with a variety of resources, such as free safety devices, peer to peer mentoring and support, and access to many helpful online resources at [offcampus.osu.edu!](http://offcampus.osu.edu)



Willie Young

Senior Director



Dilnavaz Cama

Department Manager



Rachel DeMooy

Program Manager



Samuel Shallenberger

Graduate Administrative Associate

As an off-campus student, you will want to get to know your Community Ambassador, a peer Ohio State student who lives near you in the University District. Your Community Ambassador builds community in your neighborhood, while delivering important safety and off-campus living information. They also take time to get to know you, learn about what you'd like to see in your community and what you would like to get out of your off-campus living experience.

“As a Community Ambassador, I am able to connect with off campus students every week and support them in our neighborhood, making sure they feel at home in our Buckeye community.”

– Amber

“I enjoy working with a dedicated team at Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services and developing bonds with my coworkers and the off-campus community.”

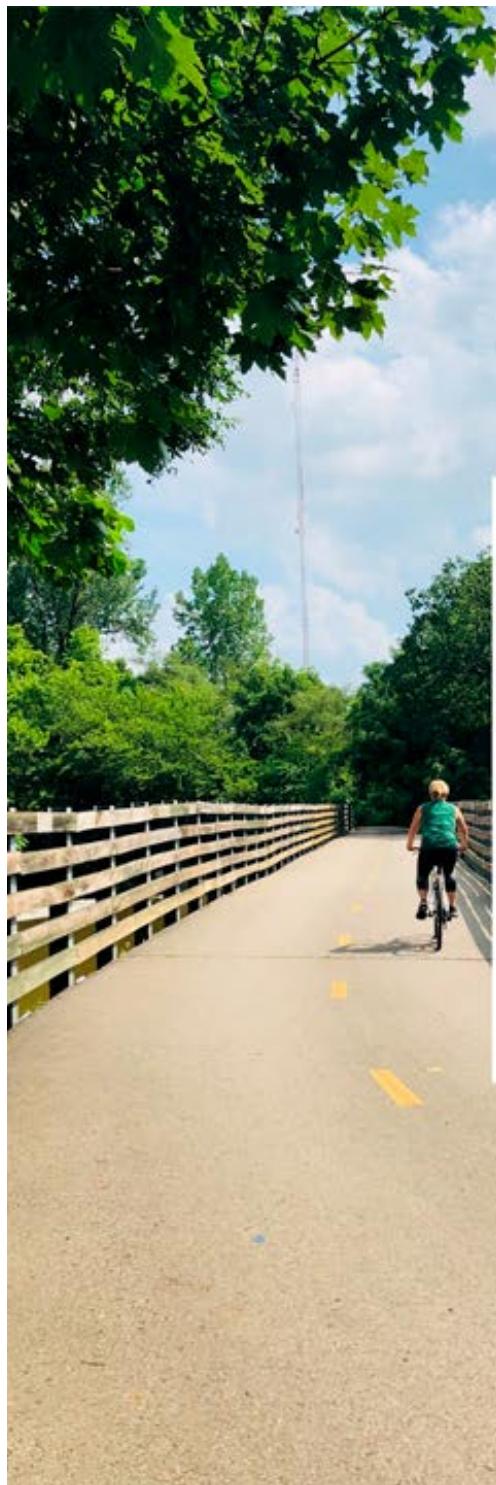
– Kari





EVENTS AND SERVICES

- Roommate Fair
- Commuter Preview Day
- Access to the Commuter Kitchen and Lockers
- Complimentary Safety Devices



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FINDING OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING



THE SEARCH FOR OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING: WHAT TO CONSIDER WHILE HOUSE HUNTING

Before making a decision on where you are going to live, it is important to set a budget and calculate the affordability of a potential home. Schedule an appointment with Scarlet and Gray Financial to access coaching to establish strategies to budget for your transition off campus.



Below are a few things to consider when calculating your budget:

- Rent
- Utilities
- Renters Insurance
- Parking

Tips to Consider

- Check out crime statistics at communitycrimemap.com.
- The Undergraduate Student Government offers a Renter's Guide which contains a compilation of ratings from students renting from local property owners/managers.
- To understand more about your lease and subleasing, talk to Student Legal Services studentlegal.osu.edu
- Prepare your roommate agreement so it aligns with your health and safety preferences.

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- All units have an easily accessible fire extinguisher on every floor that is professionally inspected and tagged annually.
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"IF A RENTAL PROPERTY IS NOT FIT FOR MY CHILDREN,
IT'S NOT FIT FOR ANYONE'S CHILDREN

ROOMMATES 101

Finding a compatible roommate is important. Take as much time and care in choosing your roommate(s) as you do in choosing where you live.

Online Roommate Search

Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services offers a secure, central platform to assist the Ohio State community in their off-campus roommate search. You can post and/or browse roommate ads at offcampus.osu.edu

Roommate Fairs

Are you looking for a roommate? Do you need someone to replace you and live with your current roommates? Check out the Roommate Fair, held each semester, allowing you the opportunity to connect with potential roommates.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR LEASE

When renting off campus, you will be asked to sign a lease, which is a legally binding document between you (the tenant) and the property owner. It is important that you understand your rights and responsibilities before signing this lease. Everyone who signs the lease may be asked to fill out an application which is usually associated with a \$30-\$75 fee per person. Most campus-area property owners require all tenants on the lease under the age of 23 to have a co-signer, often a parent or guardian.

Student Legal Services offers lease reviews to students. This provides a great opportunity to learn everything about your lease.

Tip to Consider:

- Once all documents have been signed, make sure each roommate keeps a copy.
- Once your lease is reviewed and signed, you will also be asked to pay a security deposit (typically equivalent to one month's rent); the signed lease and security deposit will be submitted together. Protect your security deposit by taking pictures and videos of the entire property prior to moving in furniture, and always stay up to date on rent.



TAKE TIME BEFORE YOU SIGN

Before signing a lease, it is important to thoroughly inspect the entire rental property. Utilize this checklist to guide you with your inspection and ensure that if you do discover any issues, you have the property owner commit to a resolution in writing.

- Turn on all faucets and shower heads to make sure the hot and cold water works
- Confirm that there is at least one smoke detector per floor, especially in or near each bedroom (ideally there would be one smoke detector per bedroom as well)
- Check the thermostat and make sure the heat and air conditioning work properly
- Make sure there is enough outdoor lighting for your safety
- Open windows to check the condition of their hardware and to make sure they are not painted shut. Bedroom windows should be large enough to escape through in case of emergency
- Inspect the walls, floors and carpet for moisture damage or mold
- Make sure all exterior doors have functioning locks
- Check all appliances to be certain that they work
- Talk to the current tenants to see if they have had any problems or issues with the unit or appliances
- If you see any issues or needed upgrades, discuss each item with the property owner; if they agree to your requests, be sure to put each item in writing in the lease



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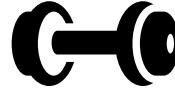
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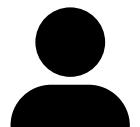
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LIVING OFF- CAMPUS



TIPS FOR MOVING INTO YOUR NEW HOME

Preparing for your move into your rental property is important.

Follow these tips to have a smooth move:

- Schedule a date to pick up your keys. This is a great opportunity to ask your property owner to do a walk-through before you move your furniture into the unit.
- Document the condition of your property with pictures and videos.
- Set-up utilities (gas, electric, water, internet, etc.)
- Purchase a renters insurance policy.
- If you plan to park on Ohio State's campus, you will need to purchase a campus parking permit through CampusParc.
- If you plan to park on an off-campus street, keep in mind that many streets require you to purchase a **City Parking Permit.**

You're Moved In...Now What?

- Pay your rent on time
- Notify your property owner of repairs needed in writing, keeping a copy of all communication

- For a notice-to-repair template letter, Student Legal Services can help!

Your Rights and Responsibilities

Did you know there is a law in Ohio that regulates the relationship between property owners and tenants? This is known as Ohio Landlord-Tenant Law and it sets forth the rights and responsibilities for both property owners and tenants.

Code of Student Conduct

It is a violation of The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct to participate in off-campus behavior that causes substantial property damage or serious harm to the health and safety of members of the community, including but not limited to:

- Hosting a gathering of ten or more indoors or outdoors
- Setting fires
- Throwing glass bottles or other dangerous items
- Setting off fireworks
- Standing on or rocking cars

The Office of Student Life provides the full Code of Student Conduct.

MOVING OUT

**To help create a smooth move-out experience,
follow the tips below:**

- Double-check your lease for your defined move-out notice period
- Clean the property thoroughly
- Document condition of the property
- Cancel all utility accounts

Trash Talk

Trash is collected once a week and is managed by the City of Columbus Department of Public Service - Division of Refuse Collection.

- Determine your designated trash-collection day.
- Recyclables are collected every other week.
- Schedule a bulk item pick-up. Remember, bulk items such as mattresses and couches are not collected unless the resident schedules a pick-up. Download the MyColumbus app, where you can schedule bulk pick-ups and have several other city resources at your fingertips.
- If you have old furniture, appliances, clothing and other items in good condition, consider donating them to a local organization.

1 BEDROOM
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186 E. Norwich Ave.
214 E. Norwich Ave.
33 E. 13th Ave.
1540 Neil Ave.
118 King Ave.
410 King Ave.

2 BEDROOM

28 W. Maynard Ave.
190 E. Norwich Ave.
198 E. Norwich Ave.
220 E. Lane Ave.
34 E. 13th Ave.
130 W. 9th Ave.
102 W. 8th Ave.
112-114 King Ave.
400 King Ave.
410 King Ave.
109 E. Tompkins St.

3 BEDROOM

20-22 W. Maynard Ave.
63 W. Maynard Ave.
66 E. Norwich Ave.
215 E. Lane Ave.
220 E. Lane Ave.
51 E. 17th Ave.
54 E. 13th Ave.
96-98 W. 8th Ave.
118 King Ave.
406 King Ave.
127 E. Tompkins St.

4 BEDROOM

2390 Neil Ave.
398 King Ave.
404 King Ave.

5 BEDROOM
87 E. Lane Ave.
221 E. Lane Ave.
65 W. Maynard Ave.
21 W. Patterson Ave.
2403-2405 East Ave.
120 E. Norwich Ave.
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51 ½ E. 17th Ave.

6-7 BEDROOM

235 E. Lane Ave.



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RESOURCES FOR YOUR SAFETY



FIRE SAFETY

**To help create a smooth move-out experience,
follow the tips below:**

Since 2000, Campus Firewatch has documented that 87% of fatal campus fires nationally occurred in off-campus areas.

Follow these important steps to help prevent house fires.

- Test smoke alarms once per month and change batteries each semester.
- Don't grill on a porch or within 20 feet of a building. Check out grilling safety tips here. ↗
- Keep a working fire extinguisher near your kitchen and know how to use it. Student Life Facility Services offers complimentary fire extinguisher education.



PERSONAL SAFETY

Ohio State offers resources and services to help support your safety; it is up to you to take the necessary precautions to stay safe. By creating a close-knit community, you can look out for one another by informing each other of suspicious activity in your neighborhood. Buckeye Block Watch helps you and your neighbors to be the eyes and ears of the community. To show your support, request your own Buckeye Block Watch sign. Below are additional recommendations to aid in your safety.

- Introduce yourself to your neighbors and exchange contact information.
- Walk in well-lit areas, never walk alone at night; remain alert and aware of your surroundings.
- Keep all windows and doors locked, even when you are home.
- Ask a neighbor or friend to keep an eye on your home while you're away.
- Avoid posting on social media that you are away.
⚠️
- Utilize Lyft Ride Smart at Ohio State it offers eligible students discounted rides inside the university-designated service area.

- Download the free Rave Guardian app. This service allows you to select friends or family as a virtual guardian to follow you via GPS tracking, using a destination-based timer.
- Schedule a date and time to pick up complimentary safety devices from the Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services office in 3106 Ohio Union.
- Maintain physical distancing and use facial coverings to prevent the spread of COVID-19 so that we can stay together as buckeyes.

***Be smart, be safe,
be a Buckeye.***



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DON'T FORGET TO UTILIZE YOUR RESOURCES

1. Utilize Student Life Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services for your off campus living needs
2. Schedule a Scarlet and Gray Financial Coaching session
3. Allow **Student Legal Services** to provide you with a free lease review.
4. Pick up complimentary safety devices at 3106 Ohio Union
5. Be part of your neighborhood **Buckeye Block Watch**
6. Get involved in your community and get to know your Community Ambassador



***This guide is brought to you by The Office of
Student Life Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services***

Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services

3106 Ohio Union, 1739 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43210

Available Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. by phone and/or by appointment.

CONTACT

Phone: 614-292-0100

Email: offcampus@osu.edu

Website: offcampus.osu.edu

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