AUBURN RELOCATION GUIDE

2021-22

A GUIDE FOR NEWLY ARRIVING INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENTS TO AUBURN UNIVERSITY
GUIDE TO HELP YOU TO FIND YOUR HOME

There is currently no university-based housing for graduate students. Most international graduate students rent an apartment near campus. Many graduate students live alone in a 1 bedroom or efficiency apartment. Others live in a shared apartment with one or more students. Students with a spouse and/or family may want to explore 2 or 3 bedroom rental options.

We encourage you to begin exploring options as soon as possible. Due to a large intake of new students each Fall term, availability of units becomes more limited as the Fall term start date approaches. Also, availability may be limited if your arrival term is Spring or Summer.

LOCAL REALTY COMPANIES

The following is a list of local realty companies. Each of these manage multiple residential rental properties at various locations throughout the Auburn area.

360 MANAGEMENT
Phone: 1+334.887.3606
Email: rentals@concepttoclosing.com
Website: https://www.360managementservices.com/

AUBURN REALTY
Office Location: 233 W Glenn Avenue, Auburn, AL 36830,USA
Phone: 1+334.887.8777 / Fax: 1+334.887.8770
Email: rentals@auburnrealty.net
Website: https://www.auburnrealty.com/

EVANS REALTY
Office Location: 729 E Glenn Avenue, Auburn, AL 36831,USA
Phone: 1+334.821.7098 / Fax: 1+334.821.1120
Website: https://www.evansrealty.net/

FIRST REALTY
Office Location: 428 E Magnolia Avenue, Auburn, AL 36831, USA
Phone: 1+334.887.3425 / Fax: 1+334.887.8839
Email: info@auburnrentals.com
Website: https://www.auburnrentals.com/
LOCAL REALTY COMPANIES

**FUCCI REALTY**
Office Location: 429 Glenn Avenue, Auburn, AL 36830, USA  
Phone: 1+334.821.6581 / Fax: 1+334.821.1506  
Email: admin@fuccirealty.com  
Website: [https://www.fuccirealty.com/](https://www.fuccirealty.com/)

**HAYLEY MANAGEMENT COMPANY**
Address: 1943 S. College Street Suite E, Auburn, AL 36832, USA  
Phone: 1+334.319.4724  
Email: info@hayleymanagement.com  
Website: [https://www.hayleymanagement.com/](https://www.hayleymanagement.com/)

**LIBERTY PROPERTIES**
Address: 318 North College Street, Auburn, AL 36830, USA  
Phone: 1+334.821.1600 / Fax: 1+334.821.1616  
Website: [http://libertyproperties.info/auburn-rentals/](http://libertyproperties.info/auburn-rentals/)

**NORTHCUTT REALTY**
Address: 248 S Gay Street Auburn, AL 36830, USA  
Phone: 1+334.826.7720 / Fax: 1+334.826.7741  
Email: info@northcuttrealty.com  
Website: [https://www.northcuttrealty.com/](https://www.northcuttrealty.com/)

**PLAINS PROPERTIES**
Office Location: 930 Avenue A, Opelika, AL 36801, USA  
Phone: 1+334.209.1120  
Email: propertyontheplains@gmail.com  
Website: [https://www.propertyontheplains.com/](https://www.propertyontheplains.com/)

**PRESTIGE PROPERTIES**
Office Location: 472 N Dean Road Suite 101, Auburn AL 36830, USA  
Phone: 1+334.887.5274 / Fax: 1+334.887.0389  
Email: info@prestigeprops.com  
Website: [http://www.prestigeprops.com/properties/rental-properties](http://www.prestigeprops.com/properties/rental-properties)
INDIVIDUALLY MANAGED PROPERTIES

The following are individually managed properties that offer off-campus student housing. The typical arrangement is rental of a private suite (bed and bath) with shared living space among several other suites. One bedroom apartments may be available.

A. 160 Ross
B. 191 College
C. 320 West Mag.
D. Dwell Logan Square
E. Eagles West
F. Evergreen
G. Samford Square
H. The Avenue
I. The Balcony
J. The Beacon
K. The Connection
L. The Grove at Auburn
M. The Hub
N. The Magnolia
O. The Standard
P. The Union
Q. Two 21 Armstrong
R. Uncommon
S. West & Wright

TIP: Click on each property name above to be directed to the corresponding website.
ADDITIONAL LINKS FOR HOUSING RESOURCES

AU Student Affairs hosts the Off Campus Housing web page, which has postings for student rentals as well as roommate searches. You will also find helpful information about being a tenant in Auburn.

https://offcampushousing.auburn.edu/

The following are third party sites that allow users to search for rental listings using filters such as location, number of bed/bathrooms, price range, and amenities.

- Hotpads.com
- Rent.com
- Apartmentlist.com
- auburnapartmentguide.com

FACEBOOK RESOURCES

The following are Facebook groups with housing-related posts.

- Auburn University (AU) Housing, Sublets, & Roommates (AU email required)
- Auburn Alabama Rentals
- Auburn Graduate Student Online Forum (moderated by AU Graduate Student Council)
- Facebook groups of various AU international and cultural organizations listed here.
## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

Living in another country can have many challenges. As you face these obstacles, your living space will be fundamental for your adaptation. Before deciding where you will live, it is essential to analyze your needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOW DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?</th>
<th>Individually</th>
<th>Roommate(s)</th>
<th>Local family</th>
<th>With my spouse/family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHERE DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?</td>
<td>Near main campus dept/lab</td>
<td>Near certain stores</td>
<td>In a certain environment</td>
<td>Near to public school/park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHAT KIND OF HOUSING DO YOU PREFER?</td>
<td>Efficiency</td>
<td>1 Bedroom</td>
<td>2-3 bedroom</td>
<td>Rental house</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- What is the monthly rent?
- What utilities will be needed for the rental? Are any of these utilities included with the rent?
- Is the apartment near a Tiger Transit route?
- Is the apartment within walking distance to my primary location for classes/research?
- Be aware that public transportation is not available on weekends.
- What is my earliest move-in date? Move-in dates for Fall term could be as late as mid-August, so it is important to ask.
- What amenities are included?
- Is the apartment near a grocery store, pharmacy, park, recreational or leisure destination?
- Consider what is important to know about your roommates before you decide to live with them. Assess/compare expectations of the household.
KINDS OF APARTMENT HOUSING

**Room/Suite:** Private bedroom and bathroom. Normally you share common areas (living room, kitchen, and laundry)

**Studio:** Single large room with attached kitchen or kitchenette and a separate bathroom.
KINDS OF APARTMENT HOUSING

**One bedroom:** one bedroom (1BR) apartments have a separate bathroom and a separate bedroom; some have a kitchen that is separate from the living room, while others are more open concept, with the kitchen open to the living room.

**Two bedroom:** in a typical two bedroom (2BR) apartment, each bedroom has a window, a closet, a door, and room for a bed and dresser. Usually there is only one bathroom, a kitchen, and a living room.
**KINDS OF APARTMENT HOUSING**

**Three bedroom:** three bedroom (3BR) apartments typically have 1 master bedroom with a private bath, 2 additional bedrooms with shared bath, a kitchen and a living room.

![Diagram of a three-bedroom apartment layout]

Usually the student who chooses the master suite pays a higher amount than the students who share the bathroom.

**ALTERNATIVES TO APARTMENT HOUSING**

The following are additional types of rental housing that may be available through the various rental companies or any of the online resources provided.

- Traditional single-family house
- Mobile Home
- Duplex
- Townhouse
WHAT IS REQUIRED TO RENT HOUSING

Documents
As an international student, you need to provide documents to an agent or property management company as part of your application to rent housing. These will likely include:

- The I-20 Form
- Passport

Fees
A rental will typically include the following fees:

- **Application fee**: A charge for processing your application
- **Security deposit**: Fee to secure against damage to the apartment. Tenants are refunded this fee at end of lease if rental remains in good condition.

Depending on included utilities, there may be a monthly fee and/or overage fee for utility usage. Be sure to ask.

COIN LAUNDRY

Many apartments do not have in-residence clothes washer and dryer units or on-site laundry facilities. If laundry facilities are not included, the following locations have coin-operated machines for public use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coin Laundry</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City, State ZIP</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wash House</td>
<td>3605 Pepperell Pkwy</td>
<td>Opelika, AL 36801</td>
<td>(334) 749-2433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thach Hut Laundry</td>
<td>1219 E Thach Ave</td>
<td>Auburn, AL 36830</td>
<td>(334) 826-6345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Avenue Cleaners Inc</td>
<td>1655 S College St</td>
<td>Auburn, AL 36832</td>
<td>(334) 707-8901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varsity Enterprises Laundry</td>
<td>343 N College St. (in Tiger Food Mart)</td>
<td>Auburn, AL 36832</td>
<td>(334) 821-6155</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following are essential household utilities. If a service is not included in your monthly rental fee and rental agreement, one individual in the household will typically need to open an account with the relevant utility company. The account holder will be billed monthly based on usage, and each roommate will agree to pay that person for his/her share.

**Alabama Power is the company that provides residential electricity.**
- Website: [https://www.alabamapower.com/](https://www.alabamapower.com/)
- Address: 1699 S College St, Auburn, AL 36832
- Residential Customer Service: 1-800-245-2244
- Work hours: Monday - Friday 8:15 am - 4:45 pm
- Initial Costs: Deposit and Electric Service

**City of Auburn Water Works Board is the utility provider for residential water.**
- Website: [https://www.auburnalabama.org/utility-billing/forms/](https://www.auburnalabama.org/utility-billing/forms/)
- Address: 1501 West Samford Avenue, Bailey-Alexander Complex
- Residential Customer Service: (334) 501-3050, option 4
- Work hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
- Initial cost: Charges to initiate services are $27.50 for water deposit, $30.00 for sewer deposit, $30.00 for garbage deposit (refundable), and a $15.00 nonrefundable service charge.

**Spire is the company that provides natural gas.**
- Website: [https://www.spireenergy.com/](https://www.spireenergy.com/)
- Residential Customer Service: 800-292-4008
- Customer charge $7.99
INTERNET SERVICE

The following companies provide residential internet, cable TV, and landline telephone service in the city of Auburn.

Charter Spectrum
- Website:  https://official.spectrum.com
- Residential Customer Service: 1-855-710-8180
- Address: 1990 Mall Blvd, Auburn, AL 36830
  - Business hours: Monday–Friday 10AM to 6PM

WOW
- Website:  https://www.wowway.com/
- Residential Customer Service: 1-866-376-7003
- Address: 1570 S. Phillips Rd, Lanett, AL 3686.

CELL PHONE SERVICE

- Verizon:  https://www.verizon.com/
- AT&T:  https://www.att.com/
- T-mobile:  https://www.t-mobile.com/
- Cricket:  https://www.cricketwireless.com/stores/

CELL PHONE SERVICE - PREPAID

Prepaid cell phone service or “pay as you go“ service does not require a formal contract. You pay for a designated amount of phone service upfront and can cancel at any time without penalty.

- Walmart Family Mobile:  https://www.walmart.com/
- Mint Simm:  https://www.mintmobile.com/
**LOCAL SHOPPING - FURNITURE & HOUSEWARES**

**Thrift Stores/Charity Shops** sell gently used donated items such as furniture, clothing, appliances, household items and more. The proceeds from their sales support a specific charitable cause.

- **Goodwill Store** – 3740 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL
- **Salvation Army** – 1038 Opelika Road, Auburn, AL
- **Life-Savers Mission Thrift Store** – 2051 East University Drive, Auburn, AL
- **Harvest Thrift Store** – 2540 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL

**Yard Sales/Garage Sales** are held by members of the community – usually on a Saturday – at a private residence or other designated location. Gently used items for sale are typically displayed in a lawn, garage, or parking lot. Sale hours, location, and prices are determined by the individual(s) who organize the sale. Purchases are typically made via cash.

Ways to learn about upcoming yard sales/garage sales include roadside signs, printed classified ads in local publications, and postings on websites, including:

- **Craigslist**: https://auburn.craigslist.org/
- **Opelika-Auburn News**: https://oanow.com/

TIP: International student organizations may be a good resource to find items that students or recent graduates are willing to pass along for no cost or reduced costs.
LOCAL SHOPPING - FURNITURE & HOUSEWARES

Facebook Groups:
- Auburn Opelika Online Classifieds/Garage/Yard Sale Community
- Free & For Sale in Auburn (AU email required)
- Auburn Classifieds: Wanted & For Sale (AU email required)
- Buy Nothing Auburn

TIP: Please exercise safety precautions if agreeing to meet someone to view/buy a listed item.

LOCAL SHOPPING - GROCERY & PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Groceries, personal care items, and cleaning products can be found at the following local supermarkets. Please note that certain culture-specific ingredients or products may be more difficult to find in these stores or may be costlier than they would be in a larger city with culture-specific markets.

- **Aldi**
  400 Frederick Rd, Opelika, AL*

- **Publix (2 locations)**
  - 2900 East University Dr, Auburn, AL
  - 2415 Moores Mill Rd, Auburn, AL

- **Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market (2 locations)**
  - 1810 Shug Jordan Pkwy, Auburn, AL*
  - 12047 East University Dr, Auburn, AL

- **Kroger (2 locations)**
  - 300 North Dean Rd, Auburn, AL
  - 2460 Enterprise Dr, Opelika, AL*

- **Winn Dixie**
  Tiger Crossing Shopping Center
  1619, South College St, Auburn, AL

- **Wal-Mart Super Center (2 locations)**
  - 2900 Pepperell Pkwy, Opelika, AL*
  - 1717 South College St, Auburn, AL

The following pharmacy stores have grocery, toiletry, and healthcare items.

- **CVS (2 locations near campus)**
  - 333 S College St, Auburn, AL
  - 770 East Glenn Ave, Auburn, AL

- **Walgreens**
  765 East Glenn Ave, Auburn, AL

TIP: Stores marked with * are on the route of the Tiger Transit Friday Evening Shopping Shuttle.
LOCAL SHOPPING - SPECIALTY & DISCOUNT STORES

Specialty Grocery Stores
- **Asian Supermarket*** has a large selection of Asian grocery items
  - 3750 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL 36801
- **Parkway Farmer’s Market** sells fresh produce and select other foods
  - 2180 1st Avenue, Opelika, AL 36801

Discount Stores
- **Ollie’s Bargain Outlet**
  - 2440 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL 36801
- **Dirt Cheap**
  - 1625 East University Drive, Auburn, AL 36830
- **Family Dollar Stores**
  - 316 N Donahue Drive, Auburn, AL 36832
- **Dollar Tree**
  - 1915 S College Street, Auburn, AL 36832
  - 3000 Pepperell Parkway Ste 2, Opelika, AL 36801
- **Bargain Hunt**
  - 3724 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL 36801
- **Dollar General**
  - 196 East University Drive, Auburn, AL 36830
  - 1106 Opelika Road, Auburn, AL 36830
- **Ross Dress for Less***
  - 2087 Tiger Town Parkway, Opelika, AL 36801

*TIP: Stores marked with * are on the route of the Tiger Transit Friday Evening Shopping Shuttle.*
The City of Auburn

**Toomer’s Corner** is a well-known location at the intersection of College Street and Magnolia Avenue, across from the main entrance to the AU campus. Within a few blocks are a number of restaurants, local shops, and cafes as well as a large concentration of apartments.

Auburn has been given the nickname the “**Loveliest Village on the Plains**” by long-term residents. Though the population continues to grow, Auburn residents appreciate the small town charm and sense of community Auburn offers.

Learn more about the city you will call home during your time at Auburn University. Visit the City of Auburn website.

Also, a great resource for recreational opportunities as well as cultural and community events is the Auburn Opelika Tourism site.

**Auburn Stats**

- Population (2019): 66,259
- Average Temperature: 12°C - 24°C
- Median Resident Age: 25 years
Lease: A lease is a rental agreement between the property manager/owner and the person paying rent. Most lease agreements in Auburn are for a 12 month period, beginning in August and ending in July of the following year. Before you sign a lease, be sure to read the agreement thoroughly. Clarify any items you do not understand.*

Sublease: A sublease involves renting (to a third party) a portion of the tenant’s existing lease contract. Even if a tenant subleases a property, the original tenant is still liable for the obligations stated in the lease agreement, such as the payment of rent each month.

Roommates: In the U.S., we use the term roommates to describe 2 or more unrelated people sharing an apartment or house, though each individual usually has their own bedroom.

Utilities: Utilities are services that are necessary or useful to living, such as electricity, natural gas, water, cable television, internet service, etc. Most rental agreements do not include utilities, so it is often required for the occupant to have an account with each utility company and pay a monthly bill for the service.

Amenities: Amenities are extra benefits or on-site facilities that may be included as part of the lease agreement for residents in a particular apartment complex. Examples of common amenities are swimming pool, gym, laundry facilities, business center, parking space, playground, etc. These amenities are not often available when renting houses, mobile homes, townhouses, or duplex apartments.

*For assistance with understanding the conditions and terms of a lease agreement, a helpful resource for students is the University Ombuds Office.