



HOUSING CHOICES IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

There are many choices for housing in the towns of Champaign and Urbana. The costs for housing are much less here than in huge cities like Chicago and New York. English Center USA does not provide housing and does not make specific recommendations. We suggest students carefully check all conditions before signing a lease. Helpful advice may be found at <http://www.tenantunion.uiuc.edu/> and <http://cutenantunion.org/>

APARTMENTS: There are many apartments nearby campus and all throughout town. We have an excellent and inexpensive public bus system, so you don't need a car to get around town. If you find a roommate, you can save a lot of money. (Always meet them first and see the apartment or house before making an agreement.) Before signing a lease for an apartment, walk through the apartment with the leasing company's agent and write down any needed repairs or problems. Give them a copy and keep a copy for your records. Apartments usually start at \$350/month and higher as you get closer to campus. (See advertisements for furnished (with furniture) and unfurnished apartments and ads for students looking for roommates at the following websites:

www.illinimedia.com/classifieds

www.news-gazette.com/classifieds

HOME-STAY:

The home-stay program is organized by OVECS Ltd. The cost is \$600 for 4 weeks, including meals. Home-stay hosts (whose primary language is English) have students live in their private homes and provide meals for them, as well as spend time with them in typical household activities or outings (for example, ball games, movies, picnics, concerts and county fairs.) Reference and background checks are required of selected home-stay families. Home-stay offers students a unique opportunity to interact with hosts and fully experience daily life with members of the community. For more information or to apply, go to **www.azhomestay.com** and when asked to choose a location, select "The English Center, Champaign Illinois."

PRIVATE RESIDENCE HALLS:

There are several private residence halls nearby in which many undergraduates from the University of Illinois live. Most residence halls also offer meal plans within their building.

For more information see **<http://certified.housing.illinois.edu>**

ROOMS FOR MALE STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY YMCA:

There are five older double and triple dorm-style rooms on the 3rd floor with a central bathroom, kitchen and lounge, patio and air conditioning. Doubles are \$345 a month and triples are \$310 a month (or just \$195 and \$160 per month during the summer). Utilities and internet are free and laundry is on the premises. A meal plan can be purchased from Newman Hall, located next to this building. See **www.certified.housing.illinois.edu** and click on University YMCA for more information or call 217-337-1500.

ROOMS FOR RENT IN PRIVATE HOMES:

There are several homes in town with individuals renting a private bedroom. Students usually have their own private locked bedroom, plus full use of the home's living spaces and kitchen. See for example, **<https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/rcarbona/rental>**