

Housing

Do not sign a lease until you arrive in Minneapolis or send any down payment unless you have your visa in hand plus a plane ticket and are assured the flight will occur.

For information about on campus housing, contact:

University Housing Services

Comstock Hall-East

210 Delaware Street SE

Minneapolis, MN 55455

Telephone: (612) 624-2994

E-mail: housing@umn.edu

Website: <https://housing.umn.edu/>

Off-campus housing website: <https://housing.umn.edu/off-campus> and <http://ocl.umn.edu/>

It is not useful to contact Housing Services for help in finding an apartment before arriving in the Twin Cities. However, the website has a lot of useful information regarding housing overall and can help you search for an apartment. You can find additional apartment and house rental ads at www.startribune.com, www.mndaily.com and www.twincities.com. Craigslist is also a good resource for apartments: <http://minneapolis.craigslist.org/> but you need to be **careful**; see: <http://www.craigslist.org/about/scams>.

Housing Services can provide information about residence hall (dormitory) housing. If you are interested, contact them right away because they may already have waiting lists.

University Co-operative housing

The University of Minnesota operates two co-operative housing properties. They offer reasonably priced apartments, easy access to campus and a vibrant student-residential community.

Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative (CTC) is located near the St. Paul campus and offers housing to University of Minnesota Students and their families, married/ domestic partnered couples, single graduate students, post-doctoral research fellows and eligible research associates. CTC allows students to have up to 2 cats, although dogs are not allowed. This location offers easy access to the West Bank on the #3 bus line or the free Campus Connector. For more information, visit: <http://www.umnctc.org/index.html>.

Como Student Community Cooperative (CSCC) is located between the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses and offers housing to students with children, married couples, domestic partners and single graduate students. CSCC is located on the #3 bus line and is also a short bike ride to the West Bank. For more information, see: <http://csccl.umn.edu/>

For temporary housing when you first arrive:

University residence halls: If you are not bringing a family with children, one of the University residence halls has rooms available at a daily rate. Payment for the entire stay is due when you check in, and payment must be in U.S. dollars. Check payments are acceptable if funds are drawn from a U.S. bank. Credit card payments are not allowed and there are no refunds for early departures. This option will be available from May 31 through August 10. Rooms will cost \$56 per night for shared room or \$66 per night for a private room. See: <https://housing.umn.edu/other/guest>

Temporary housing is available for newly admitted international students at the International Student Reception Center from July 27 through late August in the Centennial Hall dormitory on the East Bank Campus. The rooms are \$38 per night for a single room. You need to have your U of M account set up to make a reservation, and most of the information should still be correct: <http://housing.umn.edu/international>

Note: *the cost will be charged to your student account and will appear on your fees bill for Fall Semester.* Also visit the International Students and Scholars Services website at: <https://isss.umn.edu/new-students/prepare/housing>

Local Hotels: A reasonably priced hotel is the Days Inn, 2407 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414, 612-254-6418, call them & say you are affiliated with the U. <http://www.daysinn.com/hotels/minnesota/minneapolis/days-inn-hotel-university-ave-se/hotel-overview>. Ask for the U of M rate. It should include a daily continental hot breakfast, parking (one space per registered room), and wireless internet. The hotel is along the light rail that goes through campus, and is about a 20-minute walk from the West Bank.

The hotel closest to the department is the Courtyard by Marriott, 1500 Washington Ave. So. <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mspdc-courtyard-minneapolis-downtown/>. Phone (612) 333-4646. This hotel is 3 blocks from the department, you can book a reduced [UMN Friends and Family Rate](#).

Take advantage of acquaintances: When I asked current graduate students on how they found housing when they first arrived, most students (including international students) stayed with students they already knew (some in other departments) until they found an apartment. There are also many nationality groups at the University, which can offer help in moving to Minneapolis. You can find them on the web at: <http://sua.umn.edu/groups/> and click on one of the links under “Search for a Group.”

You can also find temporary off-campus housing listings on the University’s Off-Campus housing website. The site offers short term rentals, by the day, week or month, on a variety of rooms and apartments. <https://housing.umn.edu/off-campus>

Guides: [2024-25 Twin Cities Living Relocation Guide](#) and [CLA Housing Guide](#)

Neighborhoods close to campus are: Marcy-Holmes, Como, Dinkytown (noisy), Stadium Village, and Cedar-Riverside. There are also a lot of newer apartments and condos towards downtown Minneapolis, including the "North Loop." Bus maps:

<https://pts.umn.edu/Transit/Transit-Services/Campus-Circulators>

The tenant resource guide is full of important information from Student Legal Services. Under the first heading here: <https://sls.umn.edu/advice-and-representation>

Housing viewpoints from former students:

I am happy to hear that you are joining the program. You are going to love it. I lived at Seven Corners. It is kind of difficult to find a place there. Maybe once you are here you can sign up for the wait list in December (wait lists for summer open then). Having said that, we were really lucky. I shared with another student and got ours in May to start in July. We had to pay in July and we were not using it until August but it was worth it. That is an option, since everything is packed for August. But if you are willing to pay for July they might give you some preferential treatment. My only two pieces of advice are (1) Call them at 612-440-3623. They don't work well via e-mail and they want to talk to you personally. (2) Try to share with someone, because there are few studios and 1 bedroom, most of the units are 2 bedrooms. Check here for info and prices: <http://www.forrent.com/apartment-community-profile/1019876.php>

Similar to Seven Corners there is Karinsplass Apartments (612-338-4204), closer to the dept., <https://www.apartments.com/karinsplass-minneapolis-mn/t0ck4wc/>, 2015 Riverside Ave. Also, on the cheaper-not-too-far, Minnehaha 94 is really close, but a bit south. It is cheaper and there may be more people from the department living there. I would totally check those 3 if your priority is being close to the department before trying anything else. Unluckily, they don't operate very well via the internet, so you are going to have to call them at 612-339-5590. Try Google phone in your gchat to make calls to the U.S. for free.

Other options are fancier, more expensive buildings. My favorite part in town is the North Loop. That is by the Federal Reserve Bank. Check Hennepin 222, Creamette or Paxson for reference prices. They are really nice, and it is the most dynamic area in town, with many restaurants. Well connected with public transportation. There are some around the U, but I wouldn't pay that much for those, they are almost as expensive as the nice ones I mentioned above. Not sure how much, but you can check one called 7 West at 1800 Washington Ave, So., right by the Courtyard by Marriott at 7 Corners. That one is also close to the department. It is better to call them (612-643-5527) as they don't seem to provide much info online.

Finally, some students live in Marcy-Holmes or Dinkytown. Dinkytown is primarily an under-grad area -- now with fewer restaurants since many buildings have been torn down for new apartment construction.

Rocio Madera-Holgado

And, from George Stefanidis: (East Bank and West Bank refer to sides of the Mississippi River)

East Bank: It is the "undergraduate" part of campus. Many departments (not economics) are on that side and as a result, since there are many students, there is more food and entertainment (more than on the West Bank). This means that you get a few more options in terms of restaurants, and a high end supermarket called Lunds is on that side as well. In terms of entertainment, there are a lot of bars. Disadvantages: undergraduates are annoying when they are drunk, and you need to walk (20-30 mins. depending on where you are) to get to the department.

West Bank: This is where the department is located. It is a huge advantage if you do not like working at home and you like working late. There are some options for food but not a lot. People want to be on the West Bank I think mainly because of its proximity to the department. Disadvantages: some neighborhoods are shady. You will need to start cooking after some point because of the limited options for food.

You probably can tell from my description of the two that I lived on the East Bank but I am really trying to be as objective as possible!

So given that these are the pros and cons, the following are the student neighborhoods (read affordable and good/student quality): East Bank: Marcy Holmes, Dinkytown; West Bank: Seven Corners.

If you choose to live in the East try to be as close as possible to the 10th Avenue Bridge or the Washington Avenue Bridge. If you are in Stadium Village or further down University Avenue (past the Gopher Stadium) the light rail train will bring you to the West Bank. I was at this place: <http://www.selainvestments.com/property/717-university-ave-apartments/>