



## QUESTIONS TO ASK A LANDLORD

- What is the deposit amount?
- How can I ensure that I get my security deposit back?
- What are your lease terms?
- Are utilities the tenant's responsibility?
- Will lawn care be the tenant's responsibility?
- What is your turn around on maintenance requests?
- What do I do if I lock myself out after hours?
- What is security like on the property? Is this a safe area?
- What appliances are included with the property?
- How will I be required to make my monthly payments? In check, cash, Venmo?
- What are your subleasing terms?
- Do you allow pets?
- Where do I park? Where can my guests park?

Living off campus comes with a new set of responsibilities. Study your lease and know what is required of you and your roommates. Keep in mind that as a TCU student, you represent your school. Respecting your landlord, neighbors and local community will make living off campus an enjoyable experience for everyone.



## STUDENT EXPERIENCES

I chose to move off campus to give myself a greater sense of independence. I've loved that over the past semester I've been able to take on more 'real-world' responsibilities in bite size pieces like grocery shopping, dishes and more cleaning to name a few.

—Maddy is a junior who lives in a GrandMarc apartment with friends.

After two years of being on campus, I felt like I was getting too comfortable. Looking after my own place with a few friends has challenged me to know what life after graduation is really like.

—Lorenzo is a junior living in a house with fraternity brothers.

We are in such close proximity to TCU that we still feel connected to campus but also have a little more freedom and are learning valuable skills that can help us in the future.

—Briana is a junior living in a duplex close to campus with friends.

I was thrilled to move off campus because I viewed it as a milestone in my young adult life. Throughout the two years I've lived in Village East this apartment has been the center of so many memories made.

—Audriana is a senior who lives in the Village East community.

## Living Off Campus AT TCU



STUDENT  
AFFAIRS

Housing & Residence Life

[rlh.tcu.edu](http://rlh.tcu.edu)

Your home is a place that should provide peace, relaxation, comfort and enjoyment. Moving off campus is an exciting time in the career of a college student. But as you prepare to make your transition off campus, be aware of the many differences off campus living provides when compared to on-campus living at TCU.



## DIFFERENCES IN LIVING OFF CAMPUS

- Independent living with new responsibilities
- Your own parking spot
- Cook your own meals
- Different style of living space
- Pets are often allowed
- Can be cheaper
- Monthly bills and potentially unexpected expenses
- Limited accessibility to management after-hours
- Locked into your lease
- Further from TCU, may feel disconnected from campus life



## HOW TO DETERMINE IF YOU SHOULD LIVE OFF CAMPUS

### Monthly Budget

Establish your monthly budget for rent, utilities and living expenses (internet, cable, groceries, etc.). This is a great place to start when looking for off-campus living.

### House or Apartment

Determine which is best for you. An apartment requires less maintenance, but lacks the space and privacy of a home.

### Proximity to Campus

Generally, the closer to campus you get, the more expensive your rent will be. If your place is further away, it also takes away some flexibility to go home in the middle of the day.

### Requirements

Know how many bedrooms and baths you want, along with your desired size, location and included amenities. All of these factors will play into how much your rent will be.

### Timeframe

Decide how long you plan to stay at your new home. Keep in mind that once you sign a lease, you are locked in. Sub-leases may not always be allowed.

