



A GUIDE TO OFF-CAMPUS LIVING

WHAT TO QUESTION AND CONSIDER

PLAN AHEAD



- You can start planning well in advance, preferably a semester or more before your intended move-out date.
- Consider your budget, location preferences, and the type of housing you want (i.e., apartment, house, shared accommodation).



BUDGETING

- Calculate all anticipated expenses, including rent, utilities, groceries, transportation, and renter's insurance.
- Create a budget and stick to it.



RESEARCH

- Explore different off-campus housing options near TCU by attending our Off-Campus Housing Fair and using sites like Rent College Pads to help navigate your options.
- Consider factors such as safety, proximity to campus, public transportation access, and amenities.



UTILITIES & FACILITIES

- Set up utilities (i.e., electricity, water, gas, internet, cable, garbage/recycling) in your name or coordinate with roommates.
- Ask what facilities are provided and where they are located.

LEASE AGREEMENT

- Carefully read and understand your lease agreement before signing. Pay attention to the terms, lease duration, and any penalties.

ROOMMATES

- Decide whether you want to live alone or with roommates. Sharing expenses can be cost-effective.
- If you choose roommates, ensure your living habits, cleanliness, and financial responsibilities are compatible.



FURNITURE AND SUPPLIES

- Determine what furniture and household items you need. Decide whether you want a new, used, or furnished apartment.
- Start collecting these items gradually to spread out the costs.



SAFETY & SECURITY

- Invest in security measures such as door locks, window locks, and possibly a security system.
- Know your neighbors and keep emergency numbers handy.
- Explore transportation options to get to campus.



MOVING LOGISTICS

- Organize the moving process well in advance. Gather packing supplies and boxes, and enlist help from friends or family if needed.
- Notify TCU of your new address for important mail and documents.