

Off Campus Housing

This packet of information is intended to assist you in your search for **Off-Campus Housing** in Newark Ohio. Many of the apartment complexes included on the website do not have on-site managers; it is recommended that you call in advance to make an appointment before going to a complex.

When choosing an apartment, you should consider the following:

- ✓ Furnished or unfurnished
- ✓ Private or shared kitchen/bath
- ✓ Availability of laundry facilities
- ✓ Lease (many landlords require that you rent the apartment for a minimum number of months and will also require a parent or co-signer)
- ✓ Deposit (in addition to the 1st month's rent, a deposit is usually required, which you get back if you leave the apartment in good condition)
- ✓ Utilities (gas, electricity, water, and trash may be paid by you or by the landlord)
- ✓ SAFETY: safety is an important concern, so BEFORE signing the lease, check with friends, other students, the apartment manager, or the local police department for a crime report.

Utility Services:

Your apartment complex may furnish some utilities or you may be responsible for making those arrangements yourself by contacting the appropriate entity.

Cable TV

Time Warner Cable 1-800-892-4357

Windstream 1-855-575-7625

Telephone Service

CenturyLink 1-800-366-8201

Windstream 1-855-575-7625

Cell Phones

Cricket 1-800-274-2538

Sprint 1-888-211-4727

T Mobile 1-877-426-2014

Verizon Wireless 1-800-922-0204

Electric Service

American Electric Power 1-800-672-2231

The Energy Cooperative 1-800-255-6815

Gas Service

The Energy Cooperative 1-800-255-6815

Columbia Gas 1-800-344-4077

Water / Sewer Service

City of Newark 740-670-7940

City of Heath 740-522-1420

Phone Cards

Phone cards can be purchased at any U.S. Post Office, at the Newark Campus Bookstore, at most pharmacy stores, and Grocery stores. They can be used to make local, long-distance, or international calls.

You will pay a set amount of money for a card which represents a certain number of minutes of telephone time. You can call the company on the card to find out how many minutes of international calling are available to purchase.

Laundromats:

Colonial Coin Laundry
169 S. 30th Street
Newark, OH
740-349-9274

Jeff's Laundromat
Colonial Shopping Center
Mt. Vernon Road
Newark, OH
740-366-1434

Highlander Laundry
231 S. 21st Street
Newark, OH
740-344-6277

21st Street Coin Laundry
920 N. 21st Street
Newark, OH
740-364-9886

Tips for Choosing A Roommate

Your happiness in your living environment is directly related to your relationship with your roommate. Personal problems with roommates can cause unneeded distress in your life. Keep in mind that friends are not always the best roommates. Friends may take advantage of the situation by borrowing your CD's or clothes without asking or they may not clean up their mess if they think you will clean it for them. If the roommate relationship becomes strained, you may lose a friend as well as a roommate.

Here are some tips for ensuring that you and your roommate(s) have a quality living experience together:

- ✓ Discuss **study habits** and the **expected study environment**. Will you have some sort of "quiet hours"?
- ✓ Discuss **utilities**. What type of phone plan do you want or will you all have separate cell phones? Will you have cable and if so, what cable package?

- ✓ Discuss **visiting hours/procedures**, if there will be any. Discuss **party procedures**, if there will be any.
- ✓ Discuss the lease terms. Most leases are **12-month contracts**, (less for an additional fee), but many students tend to leave for the summer. Make sure all roommates are clear on expectations. Will the roommate leaving be responsible for paying the summer rent? Will they try to find a replacement roommate (and if so, is this acceptable to the roommates remaining)?
- ✓ Make a **cleaning agreement** or contract, including sweeping, dusting, cleaning up messes, doing dishes, cleaning bathrooms, ect.
- ✓ Agree on a **food policy**. Do you share the cost of food or do you shop individually and have a **“hands off”** policy?
- ✓ Establish **drinking and smoking** rules.
- ✓ Establish an **agreement for pets** regarding their care and treatment if applicable.
- ✓ Always communicate concerns as soon as they happen.
- ✓ Be careful that you and your roommates have the **same idea of your relationship** – are you looking for a best friend, someone to do things with on weekends, or just a roommate to share space?
- ✓ If you are concerned about your roommate’s ability to pay rent regularly, ask to see a credit report. Offer a copy of your own in return. A copy of your credit report can be obtained through the following agencies:

Equifax:	1-800-685-1111	www.equifax.com
Experian:	1-800-397-3742	www.experian.com
TransUnion:	1-877-322-8228	www.transunion.com

- ✓ **Ask to see a police report.** Offer a copy of your own in return. This way you may be certain that the potential roommate does not have a criminal record.
- ✓ On rare occasion, a roommate may run into **financial difficulties** and be forced to move out without paying rent. This may leave the financial burden on the remaining roommate(s). If possible, sign separate leases (although most leases are joint, meaning you are all equally responsible for your share and /or the entire rent amount). With separate leases, each roommate is responsible for his/her own portion of the rent. If that is not possible, have your roommates’ parent co-sign the lease as will (most companies require this anyway). This will place the burden of rent on the parents if the student tenants are not able to cover the rent.
- ✓ We strongly suggest that you **do not pay your rent in cash**. We suggest the same when it comes to paying for your share of the utilities: do not pay in cash. Even if your roommates are close friends of yours, **we highly suggest that you pay your rent with a check or money order** Depending on your property owner’s regulations; you may either be able to send a check/money order for all the roommates’ share of the rent separately. Whatever the case may be, think twice before handing over cash to your roommate(s). **If there is a question or dispute later, it is much more difficult to prove that you gave your roommate cash versus a check or money order.**