



Welcome to the [Climate & Meteorological Association of Students \(CliMAS\)](#) student organization's 2024 housing documentation! This document is informed by an annual survey that our student organization sends to our graduate students to understand current housing prices and trends to help our new & incoming students get more comfortable with the on-boarding process. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to either the CliMAS grad-ambassadors or any officer of the CliMAS student organization list on our [website](#).

Almost all of our students rent apartments, so we are listing resources pertaining to apartment living, though there are options for renting houses, townhomes, or buying property in the area, though less common for first-year students.

There are tons of resources that can be used to find housing

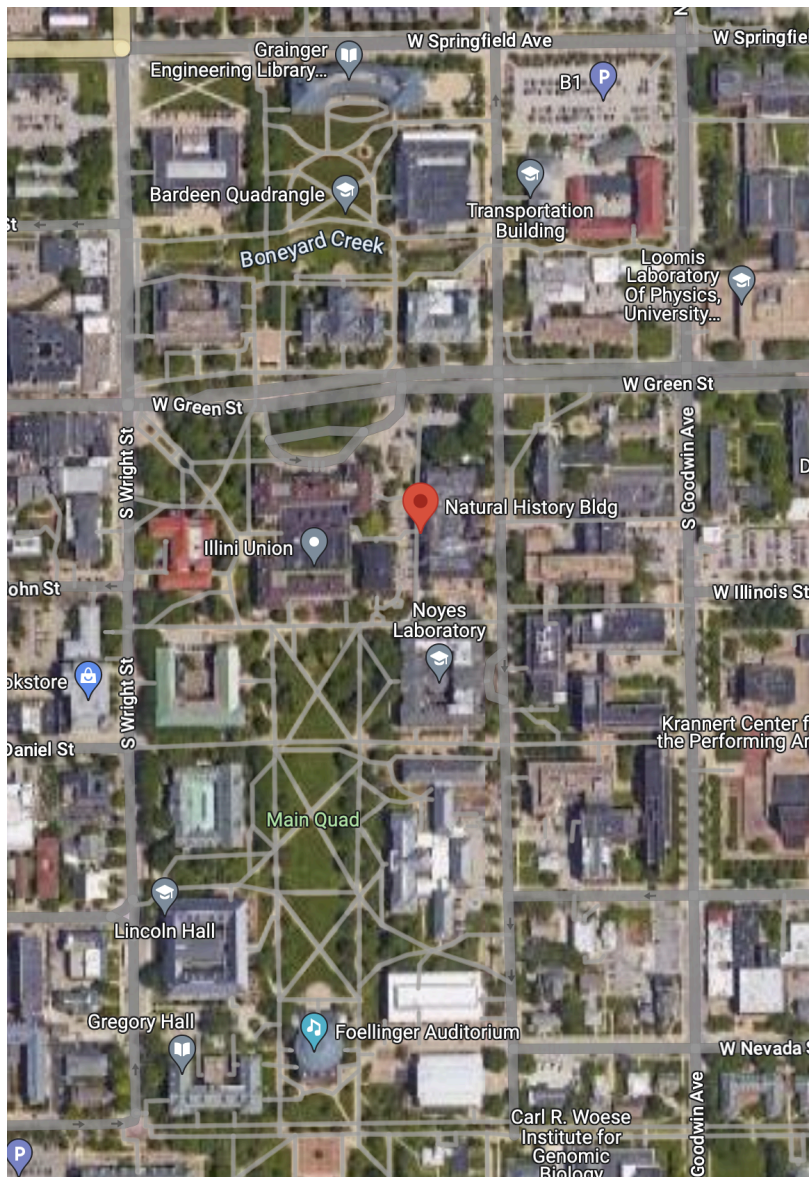
- UIUC Student Housing
- JSM Realty
- Apartments.com
- Google Maps/Street View for signs
- Fellow Graduate Students
- Zillow
- Green Street Realty
- Fairlawn Real Estate
- Hamilton Apartments
- University Group

****If there are apartment listings that are too good to be true... they probably are. This list was built from resources that our students have used in the past. We do not recommend the use of Facebook or Reddit due to the possibility of scams.****

Where are we located?

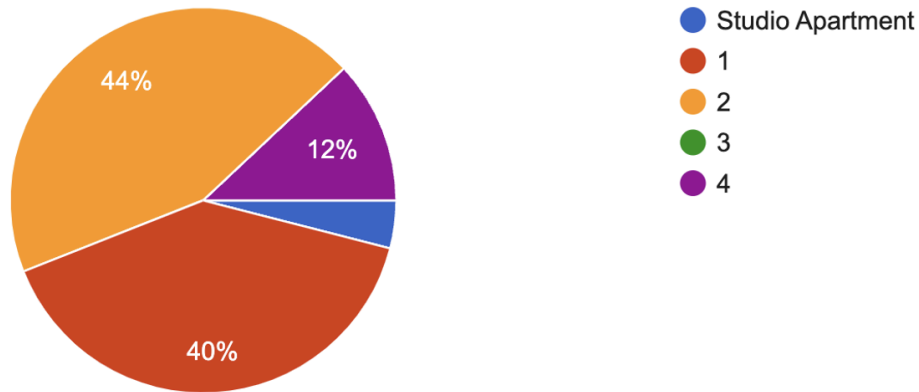
Our department and offices are located at the Natural History Building! It's a fantastic building with lots of historic charm to it. Don't get it confused with the "Atmospheric Sciences Building" on google maps which is the building our department used to be located in. This building will be renamed and repurposed in the future but just be knowledgeable that we do not do anything in this building.

Map:



Renting Information:

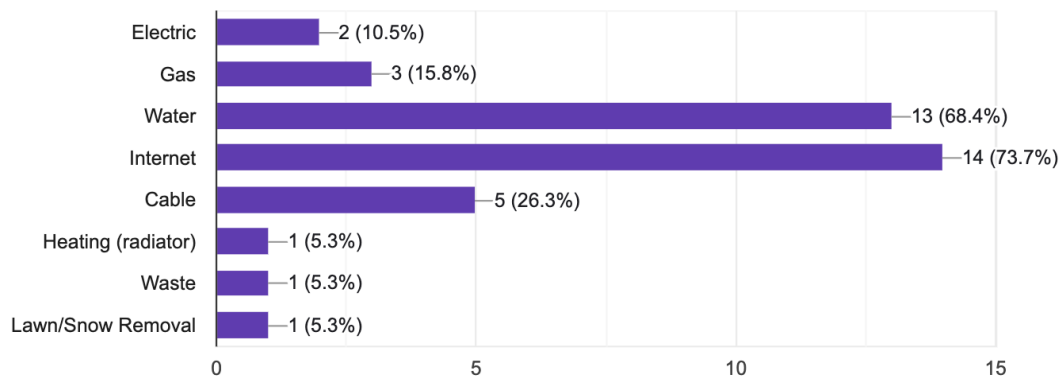
Typically, our students have 1 or 2 bedroom apartments:



How much do our graduate students pay in rent?

<u>Apartment Type</u>	<u>Suggested Rent Ranges (per unit)</u>
Studio Apartments	\$500-800
1 Bedroom	\$700-1000
2 Bedroom	\$850-1300
3+ Bedroom	\$1200-1600

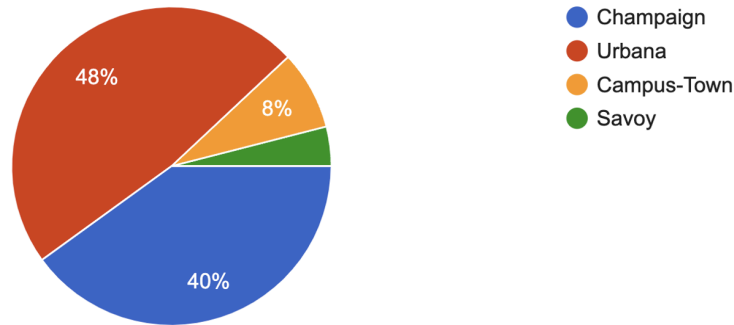
About 75% of apartments include utilities within their rent. Here is a list of what utilities are typically included if so:



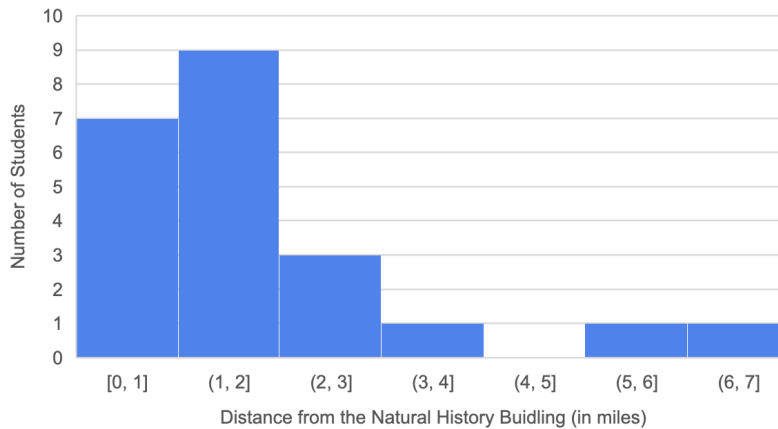
And if not, typically the maximum utilities per month is ~\$200, (making rent a little lower too).

Location & Transportation:

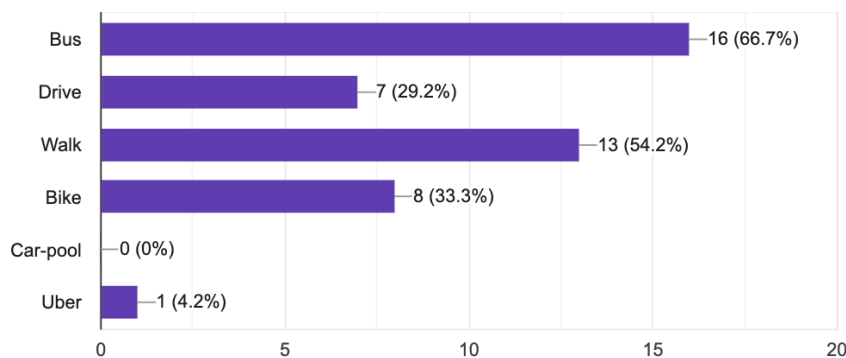
Our students tend to live near campus:



How far away do our students live?



Most students either take public transport (which is free for students), and it is incredibly reliable and safe! For more information about busing and routes, goto the [MTD website](#) or check out google maps for routes:



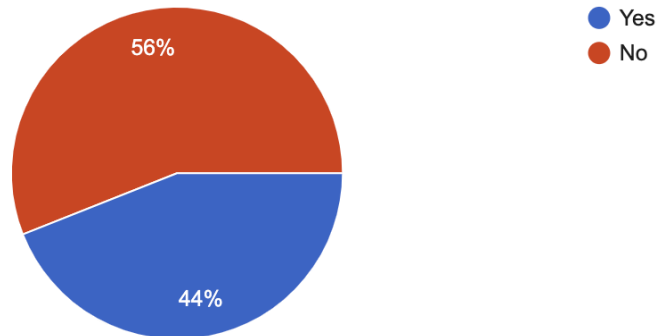
If you choose to drive, the university offers parking spots for ~\$700 a year, or there is meter parking around campus for \$1 an hour. Typically, students pay less than \$50 a month in transportation (including to the offices, groceries, and recreational activities) for things like gas and parking.

Furniture:

Half our students have apartments that are furnished, and half that owns their own furniture!

Is your place furnished? (i.e. furniture was provided for your apartment when you came)

25 responses

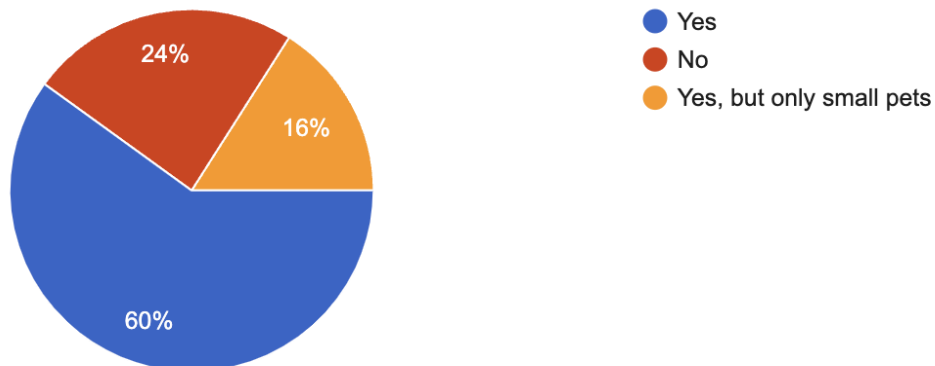


If you are looking for furniture, here are a few resources our students have used:

- Goodwill
- Salt & Light
- Amazon
- Walmart
- [University YMCA Dump & Run](#)
- Habitat for Humanity Restore
- IKEA
- Furniture Row
- Target

Pets:

Many apartments are pet friendly:



Typically there is a ~\$200 downpayment at the lease signing for pets that are not refundable.

Advice from current students:

“Before signing any lease, I highly recommend touring the apartment unit either in-person or virtually. If they refuse to show the property ahead of time it can be a bad sign that this place is not what it seems”

“Reach out to us! We are more than happy to help you navigate this huge step in your careers! Leverage us as much as you can to make things less stressful! I think there will be a slack channel to communicate on or shoot us emails!”

“Try and get apartment hunting early. Apartments have been signing earlier and earlier each year. The earlier you start, the better chance you have at finding the perfect place!”

“Remember that whatever place you get this year, you can always find better places in the future when you get to know the place. Find something that makes you comfortable and that doesn’t induce stress!”

“When looking for apartments, keep in mind public transportation (bus) routes. Most of us students use the bus to come in and it is free! It’s very reliable.”

“Choosing the area to live around is very difficult. In general: Campus-town is busy and louder, but very close to our work building. Urbana is filled with quiet neighborhoods. Champaign has a lot of great places that are within walking distance from apartments. Figure out what you prioritize the most”