



Residential Tips for MSU Students

This sheet is intended to help incoming MSU students with tips on local housing. Moving to Northern New Jersey can be an equally exciting and stressful time, so we recommend the following tips to help make your living arrangement in NJ as easy as possible!

Living on Campus

- ★ There is graduate student housing in the [Village](#) at MSU. The Village is a large apartment complex with four main halls.
- ★ Dorming information typically comes out in July. Consistently check your Montclair email for updates.
- ★ The Village has appliances like a stove, refrigerator, and dishwasher. Most students bring a microwave and coffee maker. Once your roommates are assigned, coordinate with them so you don't have four microwaves!
- ★ Check online for items that are and are not allowed due to [safety regulations](#). Items like candles, bean bag chairs, and extra large tapestries will not be allowed.
- ★ If you have circumstances that make paying for living difficult and you do not have stable housing, contact the [Dean of Students](#). There are resources available for students facing housing insecurity to live on campus.

Don't Know Who to Live With?
Reach out to people in your cohort! Chances are they are in a similar situation as you.

Living off Campus

- ★ Live with roommates! Rent in the Montclair area is very expensive. Reduce the cost of rent per person by living with one or more roommates.
 - Rent can vary anywhere from \$700 (with roommates) to \$1500 a month; anything less may not be a safe environment.
- ★ You DON'T have to live in the town of Montclair. It is super pricey and there are many surrounding towns that are great to live in such as:

-Bloomfield	-Belleville	-Nutley	-Wayne	-Clifton
-Little Falls	-Verona	-Totowa	-Cedar Grove	-West Caldwell

 - Even if you have to commute to campus, you could still be saving a lot of money long-term!
- ★ Consider going through a realtor.
 - We recommend this if you are unfamiliar with the area. Realtors can help you find a place that **best fits your needs** and they can also give you great recommendations of places to go in the area.
 - However, they will charge an additional fee, which is usually a percentage of your yearly rent. Have money set aside if you plan to use a realtor.
- ★ If you can have someone **co-sign your lease** (e.g., a parent), it can help bolster your application. Most apartment owners will run credit checks, and if you don't have established credit, having a co-signer can make the process easier.
- ★ Some students **rent individual rooms** from people who are already established in an apartment, townhouse, or home. This can be a more affordable option, but it can feel like a gamble depending on the person they're renting from. If you're comfortable with renting a single room, have a list of questions ready to ask them about their background and what it's like to live with them.

Join **Facebook groups** about Montclair and surrounding areas. Some students have connected with realtors and landlords by posting that they were looking for a place to live!

