

**Additional Resources for
Tulane University Off-Campus Living 101 Webinar
Thursday, November 18, 2021, 5:00 pm Central**

Parent Programs

TULANE UNIVERSITY

Think through and prepare for the additional responsibilities associated with living off-campus. Living off-campus successfully requires:

- Being considerate and assertive enough to negotiate living arrangements with several roommates.
- Being assertive and conscientious enough to effectively communicate with landlords, utility companies, repair people, etc.
- Being a mature, considerate neighbor. The area around campus is not all students. There are residents of all ages nearby, including many families and elderly residents.
- Managing time and energy to handle extra responsibilities along with one's academic load, co-curricular commitments, possible graduate/professional school applications, or post-college job search.

Safety Considerations When Evaluating a Potential Apartment

- Try to visit or observe the property during the day and after dark. Is there adequate lighting around the property? Would you feel comfortable walking between your vehicle or the street to the apartment entrance?
- Is the landscaping and foliage around the property kept trimmed so that pathways, entrances, and windows are unobstructed?
- Does the apartment already have an alarm, door camera and/or security camera? If not, would the landlord add one? (State any additions in the lease and have both parties sign.)
- Are there two exits to the property? (required by fire code)
- Do all doors and windows have sturdy locks?
- Is the property within TUPD's neighborhood patrol parameters?
<https://publicsafety.tulane.edu/sites/g/files/rdw1216/f/walk-the-wave-way.pdf>
- It is mandatory to register your bicycle with Campus Services. We also recommend the use of a "U-Lock" when securing bicycles and to secure it to a bike rack whenever possible.
- When parking your vehicle, always remember to remove items of value from plain sight and to lock the vehicle whenever it is unattended.

Leases

If you're considering an apartment that is under construction or renovation, before you sign a lease, make sure the lease explicitly includes provisions for alternative housing if the property is not habitable by the lease occupancy date.

Understand that the "force majeure" clause in leases is applicable to any location, not just university neighborhood.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

If you are living off-campus, you are responsible for making your own emergency plans, including:

- sheltering-in-place emergency supplies (food, water, batteries, etc.)
- evacuation budget for transportation, lodging, parking and pet care/evacuation plans if you choose to or are required to evacuate New Orleans

Refer to these resources for on emergency preparation and response recommendations, including mobile apps:

- Tulane’s Off-Campus Living Guide (2021 version: https://governmentrelations.tulane.edu/sites/governmentrelations.tulane.edu/files/Off-campus_guide_2021-web.pdf)
- Tulane University Emergency Preparedness and Response <https://emergencyprep.tulane.edu/> , <https://emergencyprep.tulane.edu/considerations-for-your-personal-evacuation-plan>
- City of New Orleans – NOLA Ready website <https://ready.nola.gov/home/>
- State of Louisiana - Emergency resources <https://getagameplan.org/>

Renter’s Insurance

Students should secure renter’s insurance. Some parents’ homeowners’ policies cover their students’ off-campus residences. Check your own policy or look for renter’s insurance policies through the insurance companies you already use. Other options to consider:

Tulane’s Office of Enterprise Risk Services offers suggestions at <https://risk.tulane.edu/content/personal-property-or-liability-insurance>.

Housing and Residence Life has information on their [website](#) about Gallagher’s College Student Property & Renters Insurance policy which is portable (i.e. tied to the policy holder being a student, whether on- or off-campus) <https://www.collegestudentinsurance.com/>.

Amenities and Utilities

Leases do not always include all utilities in the rental cost. Be sure to confirm which utilities are included. Students must arrange the other utilities in advance. Most utilities require deposits.

- Electricity
- Water- note that trash & recycling fees are included in water bills
- Internet
- Cable

Apartment-Mate Considerations and Relationships

Thoughtfully choose a roommate or roommates. While apartments may offer more privacy than double rooms on campus in some ways, there are other shared living space dynamics to consider and discuss—preferably before signing a lease:

- Discuss in advance how to share responsibility for expenses: <http://splitwise.com/calculators/rent>
- Visit and investigate the property with all roommates before signing a lease.
- Your very best *friend* in the whole wide world might not be the very best *roommate* in the whole wide world.
- Roommate situations work best when people discuss practical implications openly and honestly before moving in together and revisit issues respectfully as they arise later.
- Using a written agreement before living together helps keep the peace. Include agreements on:
 - cleaning expectations and responsibilities
 - groceries and supplies
 - managing utilities
 - what is shareable (food? clothes?)
 - Guests – overnight or otherwise
- **Compliance with COVID-19 precautions as well as city and university policies and guidelines**

Tulane University Services for Commuters

Tulane Dining Services:

- Commuter, Choice 50, and TU 8 dining plans are popular choices for off-campus students, though all residential dining plans are available to off-campus students. [Dining Plans \(tulane.edu\)](https://dining.tulane.edu/dining-plans). Specific plan pricing and details may change prior to the next academic year.
- Wavebuck\$ are tax exempt retail dollars that are a part of most dining plans. Students will receive a \$2 discount off door price of Commons & Green Wave Grille when paying with WB (must ask for discount). Nolabuck\$ can be used at participating locations in the area and can also be used on Grubhub at any participating restaurant. <https://dining.tulane.edu/dining-near-me/NOLAbucks2019>.

Tulane Parking Services:

- Parking permits are required for all who plan to park on campus, including off-campus students, Monday-Friday from 8:00am-5:30pm.
- Commuter student permits may be purchased at parking.tulane.edu

Tulane Shuttles & Transportation:

- Shuttle schedules and TapRide information for the current academic year: <https://shuttles.tulane.edu/content/tulane-tapride-0>
- Off-campus students can use Tulane shuttles and TapRide service. Please note that TapRide is for transportation between off-campus residences and our campuses, as well as between campuses. TapRide cannot be used to travel between two off-campus residences.

Tulane Mail Services:

- Package and mail receiving is only available for student who reside on campus. All packages and mail should be directed to the student's off-campus address.
- Off-campus students can use the Amazon lockers located on the uptown campus at the Diboll Parking Garage at under the Stern Hall breezeway, behind PJ's Coffee. When ordering to Amazon locker, students must choose the appropriate locker name when ordering. You cannot just send packages to the locker address.