



Off-Campus
Student Services
Student Affairs

Off-Campus Housing Webinar

Trisha Margiotti
Property Manager Liaison
Off Campus Student Services, Division of Student Affairs

What We Do

1



Educating and supporting students to thrive in Off Campus Living Experiences

2



We accomplish this by: Helping students make informed choices about housing and roommates

3



Encouraging students to become knowledgeable and responsible tenants

4



Assisting students in gaining the proficiency to solve problems when landlord and roommate difficulties arise

5



Becoming a “Good Neighbor” and being active in the Community.
Developing student awareness of community values and responsibilities



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Where To Search



Rent College Pads

The University of Pittsburgh partnered with Rent College Pads for a secure listing service for students and offer the following services.

Listing Service

- Apartment Listings
- Sublease or Re-letting Posting
- Roommates Postings
- Furniture Board Listing Service
- Landlord Issue Section

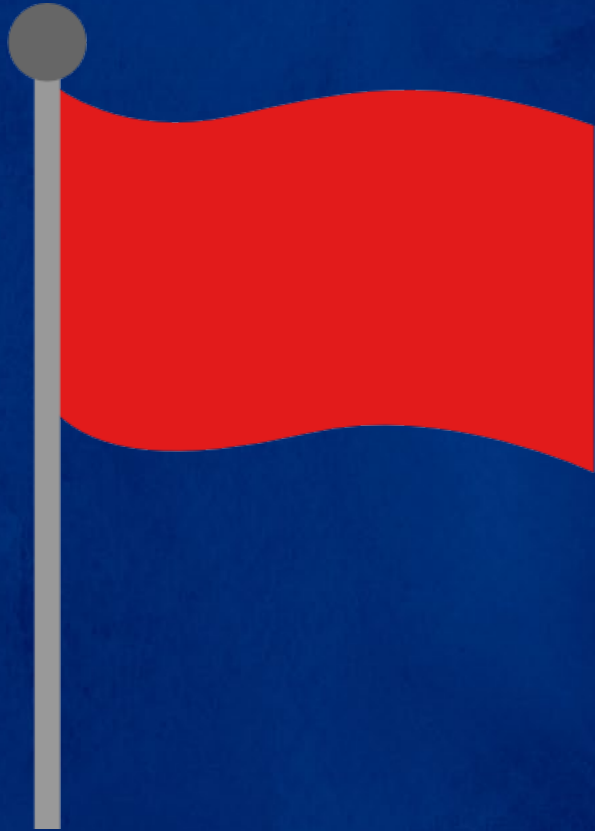
*Pitt Email and Log In credentials needed for Roommate, Sublease, Furniture Board and Landlord Issue Section.

Others Sources

- Zillow
- Apartments.com
- Facebook Groups – Be cautious when using these sites
- Word of Mouth Talk with student in your program.
- Student should walk around neighborhoods and look for “For Rent Signs”
- University Leased Apartments
- Pittsburgh Theological Seminary



Red Flags



- You are unable to see apartment
- Does not show exact unit you will be renting
- You have difficulty reaching the Property Manager or Owner
- You're rushed during showing appointment
- Property Manager won't take time to answer questions.
- The Building does not look well kept inside and outside
- If the price or amenities offered seem too good to be true it usually is
- Avoid overly eager or aggressive Property Manager or Owners
- Don't be rushed to sign a lease



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Neighbourhoods

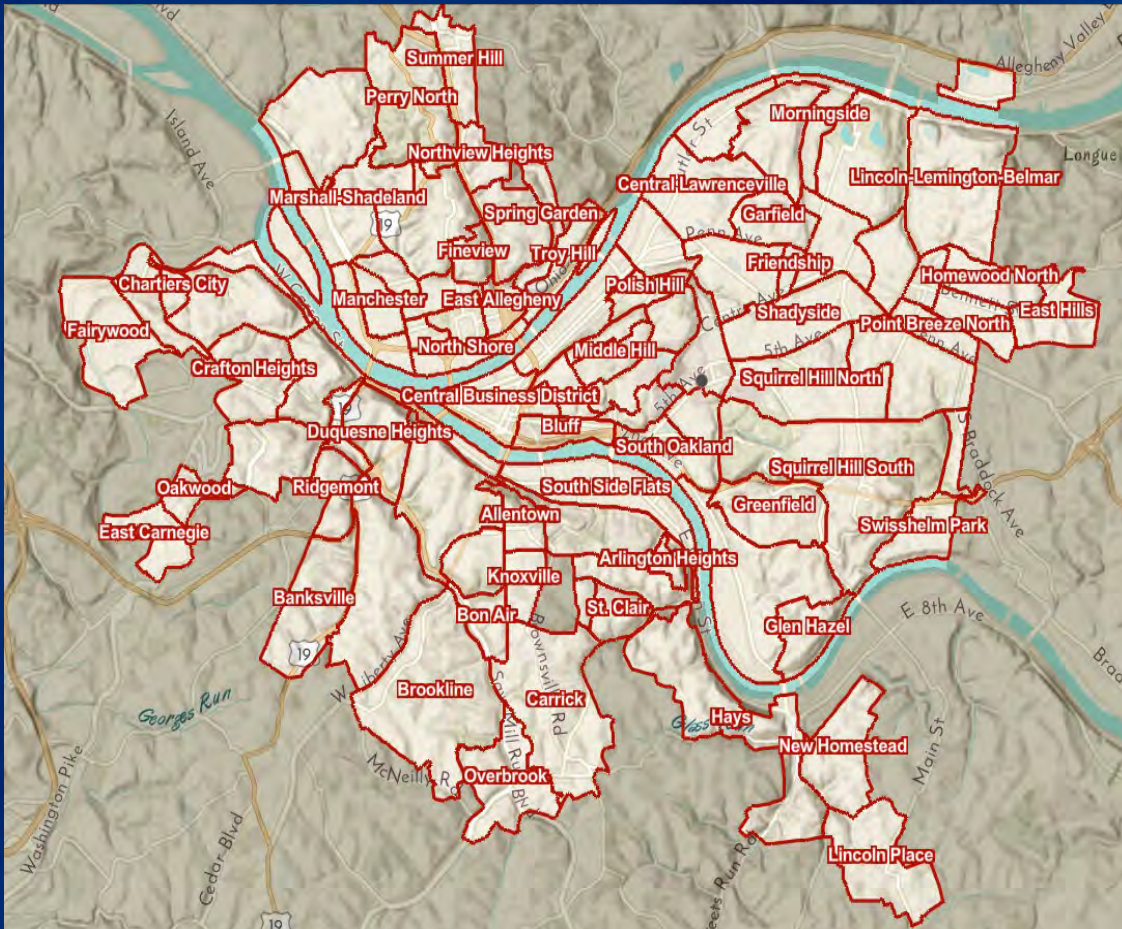
Oakland Divided Into Four Neighborhoods:

- Central Oakland
- South Oakland
- North Oakland
- West Oakland



So Many Other Neighborhoods that are a short bus or shuttle ride away.

- Shadyside
- Squirrel Hill
- Lawrenceville
- Bloomfield
- Friendship
- South Side



Neighbourhoods near PITT

Great websites to check out for detailed descriptions of neighborhoods

Cool Pittsburgh

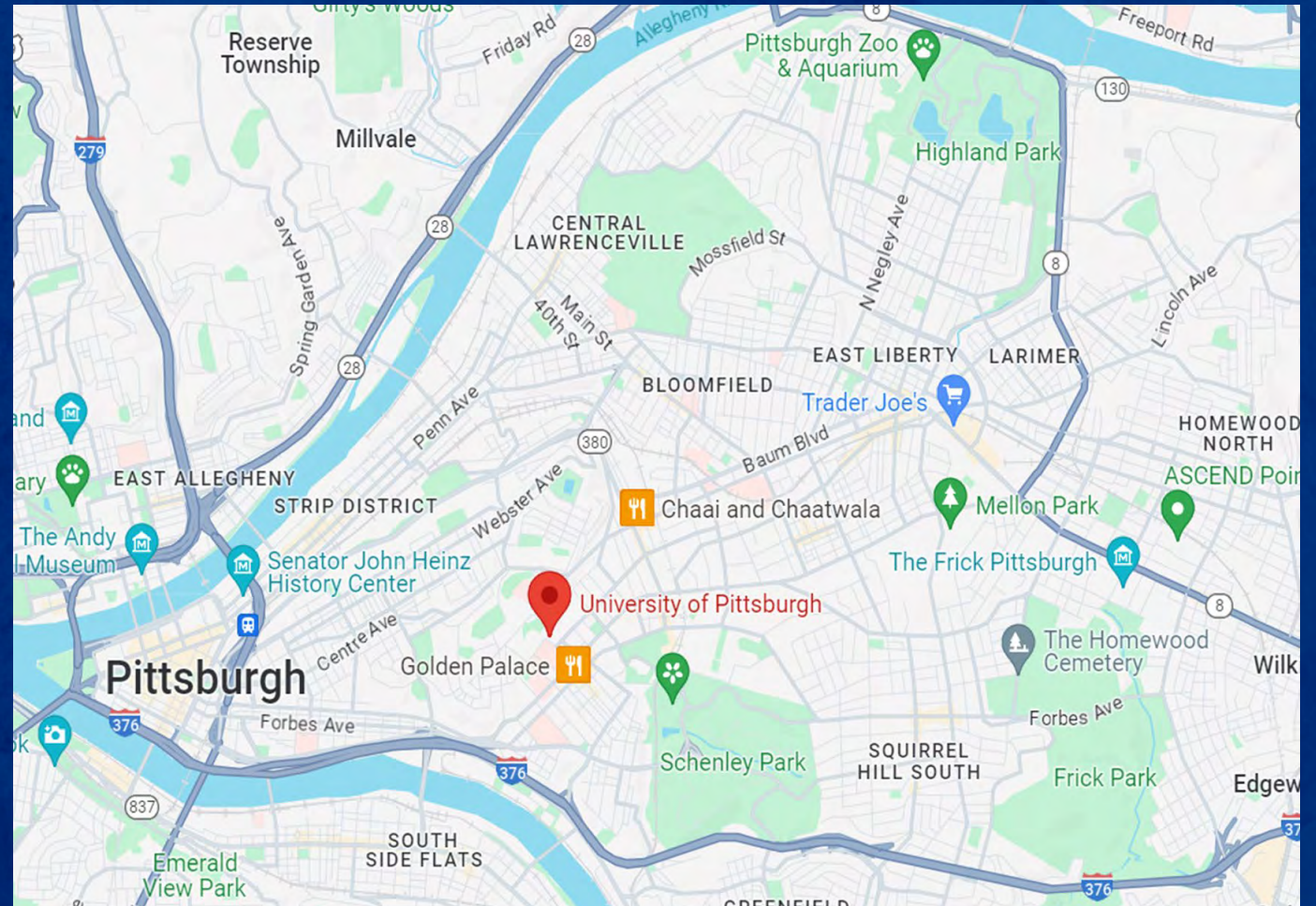
www.coolpgh.pitt.edu

Visit Pittsburgh

www.visitpittsburgh.com/neighborhods

NEXT Pittsburgh

nextpittsburgh.com/neighborhoods-new/



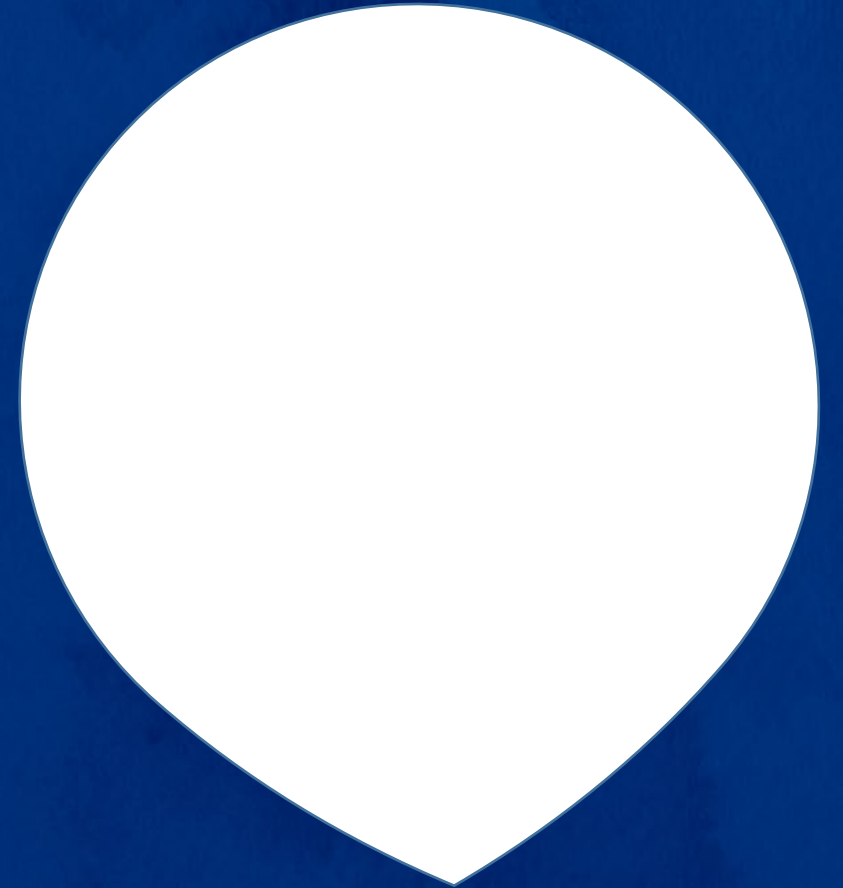
Price Index Tool

PRICE INDEX TOOL

BED	APARTMENT AVERA...	HOUSE AVERAGE	CAMPUS AVERAGE
Studio	\$1,226	\$952	\$1,220
1 Bedroom	\$1,458	\$1,195	\$1,438
2 Bedroom	\$1,079	\$870	\$1,066
3 Bedroom	\$886	\$695	\$850
4 Bedroom	\$850	\$634	\$677
5+ Bedroom	\$824	\$620	\$688

Choosing a Roommate

- Ask the right questions
- Give Yourself Plenty of Time to Find the right roommate
- What's important to you in a living situation
- Make sure they can pay their share of rent and utilities
- Meet in person if possible or schedule zoom or skype to chat.
- Make sure that your personality are compatible
- Consider doing a roommate agreement



Transportation



- Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT)
www.pts.pitt.edu/mobility/public-transportation
- Pitt Shuttle Service
www.pts.pitt.edu/mobility/shuttle-services
- CMU Shuttles
www.cmu.edu/transportation/transport/shuttle.html
- POGOH <https://www.pts.pitt.edu/mobility/pogoh>
- Bike Racks – More than 450 Around Campus
www.pts.pitt.edu/mobility/biking/bike-parking-storage
- Bike Lockers
www.pts.pitt.edu/mobility/biking/bike-parking-storage
- Pittsburgh Parking Authority – Residential Parking Permits
- www.pittsburghparking.com/Home



Looking for off-campus housing as an international students

- Identification requirement by landlords- i20 and passport (be careful with whom you are sharing this information).
- Beware of Scams- Find rental properties through verifiable sources like Zillow, rather than using social media to look for properties.
- Security Deposit- The security deposit is typically one month's rent, though it can sometimes be up to 1.5 times the rent.
- Touring: It is important to have the chance to see the actual apartment you will be renting before you sign a lease (ask a contact to tour the apartment or ask the landlord to provide you a video tour of the place)
- Connect with international student communities- connect for advice and support to live in the US.
- Check reviews of landlords and management companies.
- Contact us- For support regarding lease requirements, safety concerns, security deposit etc.



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QUESTIONS?



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Where To find Off-Campus Housing?

RENT COLLEGE PADS

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Apartment
Listings



Sublease



Roommates
Postings



Furniture
Board



Landlord
Issue Section



To ensure that students are knowledgeable renters



To provide students with the information and tools
needed to successfully reside in off-campus
accommodations

Contact Information

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