

# Independent Housing Information

Finding suitable housing can be a frustrating process. Whether you are a first year student looking for that first home away from home, or a seasoned student-housing hunter, this guide offers some information that will help you in the search for housing.

It is important to remember that there is a large demand for student housing near AIPD from Portland State University students, so it may take some time to locate a suitable place. Good apartments are filled quickly. The good news, however, is that there is currently an oversupply of apartments in the Portland Metropolitan area so, with a little work, you should be able to find suitable housing.

The AIPD Fall term begins one week after the start of classes at Portland State, so keep that in mind if you plan to begin classes in the fall. It is a good idea to begin your search several weeks prior to the beginning of the term.

The Student Affairs department has housing information available throughout each term. Through the Student Affairs office, you can get updated information on housing opportunities and find transportation and carpooling information. Give us a call or visit the Student Affairs office in the Administrative Offices in the on the second floor of the school. If you need further assistance or updates, call us at 503-228-6528 or 1-800-616-2473.

Please note that the following information is provided for you to help in your search for housing. While we try to offer the most current information, the rental market changes constantly and some of the information may not be current. The listing of a company in this information does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation of any kind by The Art Institute of Portland.

*Jason Clary, Dean of Student Affairs*

## **Helpful Sources for Independent Housing**

**Apartment Locator Services:** Apartment locator companies vary greatly in quality. When talking with them some good questions to ask are how many units they typically have available, what the average and range of rents are, how old their listings are, whether or not they charge you a fee for the service, and how you access the information they have available. Two that provide free referral services are;

**Rental Relocation/Apartment Finders:** 800-858-6277 or 503-520-0893

**Apartment Selector:** 800-566-6486 or FAX: 503-297-2577

The following is an apartment locator service that concentrates on the Northwest Portland neighborhood. This company charges a fee depending on the level of service provided but if you are interested in Northwest Portland this organization would be very helpful.

**NW Rental Service:** 503-228-5201 or toll free 877-528-5201

**Print and Other Sources:** In addition to the major newspapers, there are many publications that offer rental information. Most are available at major supermarkets and some are available in the Student Services office at the school.

**The Oregonian Newspaper Classifieds** Regular listings of hundreds of apartments and shared housing available (Sunday edition has the most). General information about Portland and its neighborhoods and the classified listings of rentals is available on the web at [http://www.oregonlive.com/classifieds.](http://www.oregonlive.com/classifieds)

**Portland Tribune** A free newspaper published each Tuesday and Thursday. The classified section is available on the Internet at <http://www.greenlightclassifieds.com>

**Willamette Week** A free newspaper published weekly (every Wednesday) has a smaller classified section than the Oregonian but lots of ads for shared housing. Available on the web at <http://portland.wweek.com/online/classifieds/index>

**Other Local Newspapers:** These are newspapers from various communities and neighborhoods around Portland. Many times apartments will be listed in these smaller papers that are not found in the Oregonian. While housing is rather hard to locate in downtown Portland, many of the suburban areas have more available apartments. Below are the names of metro-area suburb newspapers:

**Beaverton Valley Times**  
**Lake Oswego Review**  
**Skanner**  
**Vancouver Columbian**

**Clackamas Review**  
**Southeast Examiner**  
**Tigard Times**  
**West Linn Tidings**

**Gresham Outlook**  
**St. Johns Review**  
**The Tualatin Times**

**For Rent Magazine:** This magazine, which is published every two weeks, offers a lot of listings although many of them are quite expensive. Copies of this magazine are available in the Student Services office. You can access this publication over the Internet at <http://www.aptsforrent.com>.

**Apartment Blue Book:** Another free magazine offering apartment listings. It is available at many local newsstands and grocery stores.

**Portland State University:** The Student Services office at PSU is located in Smith Memorial Center. They have an extensive housing board listing rooms available and also people looking for roommates.

**Internet Sources:** The following websites are good resources:

<http://portland.craigslist.org>

<http://www.housingconnections.org>

<http://www.move.com/apartments>

<http://www.apartmentguide.com>

<http://www.moving.com>

<http://www.portlandrentalservice.com>

<http://www.rent.com>

<http://www.forrent.com>

<http://www.livingchoices.com>

**Roommate Referrals:** Living with other people is a typical part of student life. It can be tremendously supportive, fun and affordable. Unfortunately, it can also be a terrible experience. As you explore the various shared housing situations, ask a lot of questions about the lifestyle and management of the household. Some questions to consider are:

Does the household socialize as a group or separately?

Are overnight visitors welcome?

What about drugs, alcohol and cigarettes?

How is housework divided?

Is the lifestyle of the household quiet, moderate or lively?

How does food get purchased, stored and used?

Who pays the bills?

How are decisions that affect the entire household made?

How are problems and conflicts dealt with?

Whether you are going to share living space with a large group or with one person, it is important that you are comfortable with the answers to these questions.

**Campus Bulletin Boards:** Occasionally current students who already have a place and are looking for a roommate post notices on the bulletin boards at the school. The Student Services Office maintains two bulletin boards for this purpose, one is located along the wall of the Student Commons and the other is located in the Student Services Office.

**Roommate Referral Services:** Some companies offer roommate-matching services for a fee. They have updated listings of apartments and potential roommates. Fees range from \$20 to \$65 or more depending on the services they provide to you. Companies and organizations offering this service in Portland are:

**Free Roommate Referral Websites:**

<http://Portland.craigslist.org>

<http://www.roommates.com>

<http://www.roommates4you.com>

<http://www.roommateclick.com>

**Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon:** 503- 225-9924

They provide a shared housing matching service emphasizing low-cost options. Sometimes a renter can exchange housework for part or all of the rent. They charge \$10 initially and an additional charge of \$25 to \$60 depending on income.

Additional roommate listings can be found at Portland State in the Smith Center

**Property Management Companies:** The companies listed below are owners of one or more properties or apartment buildings. Some have openings, some do not, you will need to call them to find out what they have.

American Property Management	503-281-7779	<a href="http://www.apmportland.com">www.apmportland.com</a>
Bluestone and Hockley	503-222-3800	<a href="http://www.bluestonehockley.com">www.bluestonehockley.com</a>
Guardian Management	503-802-3600	<a href="http://www.guardianmanagementllc.com">www.guardianmanagementllc.com</a>
Income Property Management	503-223-6327	<a href="http://www.ipmco.com">www.ipmco.com</a>
Mainlander	503-635-4477	<a href="http://www.mainlander.com">www.mainlander.com</a>
Princeton Property Management	503-794-9004	<a href="http://www.princetonproperty.com">www.princetonproperty.com</a>
Reliance Property Management	503-244-1359	<a href="http://www.reliancepminc.com">www.reliancepminc.com</a>

**Temporary Housing:** If you need a place to stay in Portland for a day or a few days while you are looking for a place to live, here are some suggestions:

**Hostels:** Portland has two very good hostels that offer relatively inexpensive temporary housing in a group setting.

**Portland International Hostel Northwest District** 503-241-2783  
TOLL FREE : 888-777-0067  
425 NW 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. Portland. OR 97209 [www.nwportlandhostel.com](http://www.nwportlandhostel.com)

**Portland International Hostel Hawthorne District** 503-236-3380  
TOLL FREE: 866-447-3031  
3031 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97214 [www.portlandhostel.org](http://www.portlandhostel.org)

**Motels/Hotels:** There are several motels and hotels near the college in several price ranges. If you want information about these, please call the Student Services Office.

**Apartments In Downtown and Northwest Portland:** There are several apartment buildings near the school. Many of these are accustomed to renting to students. Since the school is so close to Portland State, there is a lot of competition for the good apartments. Also, since tenants are typically students, some apartments may not be in the best shape. These apartments may or may not have vacancies; you will have to call to find out.

The Student Services and Housing offices have lists of apartments located in various areas of the city. Situations change frequently so it will probably be necessary for you to call and/or visit several before you find one that is suitable to your needs.

Be aware that many apartments in downtown Portland advertise very low rental rates because they are part of government-subsidized programs. These programs are not available to students, however, so you may find yourself being turned down.

**Transportation:** Getting around in Portland is relatively easy.

**Cars:** If you have car, traffic is not yet as bad as many of the cities of the same size. Once you are familiar with the street layouts, getting around is reasonably easy. However, rush hour traffic can be frustrating, and parking near the school is difficult to find and expensive. If you live in one of the apartments near the school, a car may be more trouble than it is worth. Monthly parking will typically cost at least \$90 and some lots charge as much as \$150 per month (this will be in addition to your rent).

If you plan to drive to school, you will find parking near the school also expensive. The only parking available near the school is on the street (\$1.00 per hour, maximum of 3 hours) or in nearby parking lots (the typical price is \$3.00 per hour, \$9.00 per day or \$135.00 to \$140.00 per month).

**Public Transportation:** Portland has a very good bus, rail and streetcar system, Tri-Met. You can get from anywhere in the city and from the outlying suburbs to and from school easily and relatively quickly. The Student Services office has information about bus routes and schedules. Route information is available on the Internet at [www.tri-met.org](http://www.tri-met.org). You can get bus schedules online as well as use the trip planner feature in which you give the addresses of where you are going from and where you are going to and you will receive detailed route information. Additional information is available from Tri-Met at 503-238-RIDE (503-238-7433).

Bus fares are from \$2 to \$2.30 per trip depending on how far you are going. If you ride the bus a lot, it may be more economical to get a monthly bus pass. The Student Services office has information about bus options.

**FARELESS SQUARE:** The downtown area has been designated Fareless Square. You can ride anywhere in this area for no cost. The Art Institute and many of the apartments in downtown Portland are in the Fareless Square area.

**Bikes:** Portland is a bicycle-friendly city. Many streets have bike lanes and getting around town on a bike is relatively easy. Unfortunately, Portland's winter weather discourages many people from using their bike. If you can put up with the rain, you can bike all year around.

### **Helpful Tips:**

- Be prepared. Prepare a "Housing Resume" and take copies of it with you. Information on this resume should include names, addresses and phone numbers of previous landlords and/or roommates, references for credit (i.e. your bank), employment (or source of funds), and character, and your permanent home address.
- Make sure you tell previous landlords you will be using them as a reference. Your previous landlords are very important to your search and you want to be sure they remember you.
- If you make an appointment with a landlord, ***be on time***.
- Keep in mind that landlords are looking for three things: 1) Someone who is responsible and will pay the rent on time, 2) Someone who is clean and will treat their property with respect, and 3) Someone who is respectful and will not disturb others. Ask yourself "How can I present myself as a person with these qualities.
- Don't be discouraged. You will likely find lots of apartments that have already been rented, or you may even be turned down for an apartment for which you apply. It is not you, it is the nature of the market. There are lots of diverse housing opportunities in Portland. Keep you head up, your mind open and stay positive. Your attitude may be what impresses a prospective landlord the most.

### Apartments Downtown Portland

*\*\*Please note: This information is made available to give a general idea about local apartments. Most information is supplied by apartment owners and/or managers and has not been verified by the school..*

*Please visit the apartments before making any decisions about housing.*

*The housing market changes frequently apartments on this list may or may not have vacancies*

Name	Address	Types	Secure	Pets	Comments
Chandler Apartments	1104 SW Columbia St	S, 1, 2 BR	Y	Cat	
Commodore Apartments	1621 SW Morrison 503-227-7037	S, 1BR		Cat	Have studios and 1 bedroom available.
Doricourt Apartments	1126 SW 12 <sup>th</sup> 503-228-2066	S 1 BR	Y	N	
Goose Nest Apartments	1425 SW Clay 503-244-1359	N/A	Y	Cats only	
Grandview Apartments	1329 SW 14 <sup>th</sup> 503-226-1535	S 1 BR	Y		
Ione Plaza	1717 SW Park 503-228-9573	S, 1, 2 BR	Y	Cat	Nice but expensive/ \$40 Deposit
Jeanne Manor	1431 SW Park 503-223-5726	S, 1, 2 BR	Y	No	No smoking One year lease
Jefferson West	1117 SW Jefferson st 503-222-4659	1 BR		Cat	
Ongford Apartments	1417 SW 10 <sup>th</sup> 503-223-6603	S 1 BR	Y	Cat	
Palladian	614 SW Jackson 503-464-9300	S, 1, 2 BR	Y		.
Park Plaza Apartments	1969 SW Park Avenue 503-227-7485	S, 1, 2 BR	Y	Cat	\$150 Deposit
Parkside Plaza	301 SW Lincoln 503-223-5314	1 BR 2 BR	Y	N	Expensive but nice.
Regency Apartments	1410 SW Broadway 503-224-2308	S	Y	N	Lots of students (PSU/PCC) Manager on site
University Place Apartments	1510 SW 13 <sup>th</sup> 503-241-3173	S 1 BR	Y	Y	Highly recommended
Victorian Apartments	1124 SW Columbia 503-294-0960	S 2 BR	Y		
Village at Lovejoy Fountain	245 SW Lincoln 503-223-5314	1 BR 2 BR	Y		
Webb Plaza	1415 SW Alder Street 503-525-0555	S, 1 BR	Y	N	
College Housing Northwest - Portland	Phone: 503.725.4340 Housingnorthwest.org				

### Apartments in Northwest Portland

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Name	Address	Types	Secure	Pets	Comments
Bel Aire Apartments	2139 W. Burnside 503-226-3799	S	N/A	Y	
Biltmore Apartments	310 NW 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave. 503-228-4550				
Cambridge Trinity	1963 W. Burnside 503-220-0364	S, 1			
Casa Del Rey	1730 NW Couch St. 503-241-5934	S			
Chelsea Court	130 NW 19th Ave. 503-224-6734				
Classica Apartments	2056 NW Glisan 503-228-7368	1, 2	Yes	Cats	
Fifth Avenue Place	314 NW Fifth Avenue 503-243-3311	S, 1, 2			
Honeyman Hardware Lofts	514 NW 9 <sup>th</sup> Ave. 503-517-2775	S, 1	Yes	Y*	*limited to 20lbs.
Kearney Plaza	931 NW 11th Avenue 503-227-5624	S, 1, 2	Yes	Cats	
Lovejoy Station	1040 NW 10th Ave. 503-220-2500	S, 1, 2			
Marciela Apartments	2151 NW Johnson 503-228-7368				
Marquette Manor Apartments	20 NW 16th Avenue 503-330-7770	S			
Maurice Dear Apartments	411 SW 12th 503-274-9652	S, 1, 2			
Pearl Court Apartments	920 NW Kearney St. 503-222-1999	S, 1, 2			
The Shannon Apartments	911 SW 21st Avenue 503-334-6610	S, 1			
The Fairmount	1920 NW 26 <sup>th</sup> Avenue 503-295-2077	S	Y		Corner of 26 <sup>th</sup> & Vaughn easy bus access to school
Tudor Arms	1811 NW Couch Ave. 503-241-5983				
Victoria Apartments	2186 NW Glisan 503-274-7977	1, 2	Y	Cats	
Westover Tower	930 NW 25th 503-227-2181				
Winona Apartments	2146 NW Johnson 503-228-7368				

**Apartments Outside Downtown**

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*Please visit the apartments before making any decisions about housing.*

*The housing market changes frequently apartments on this list may or may not have vacancies*

Name	Address	Types	Secure	Pets	Comments
<b>SOUTHWEST PORTLAND</b>					
Barbur Heights	8336 SW 24 <sup>th</sup> 503-452-8963	1 BR 2 BR		N	
Lair Hill Park	220 SW Mead 503-222-1440 Very close to school	S 1-BR 2 BR			
Marquam Village	3050 SW 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave 503-223-1563	1 BR 2 BR		Y	
Park Fiesta	2121 SW Multnomah 503-246-0112	1 BR 2 BR	Yes	Y	
Quail Ridge	4735 SW Luradel 503-246-5230	S 1 BR 2 BR	Yes		
Quail Run Apartments	4916 SW 56 <sup>th</sup> Avenue 503-297-3634	1 BR 2 BR	Yes	Y	
Raleigh Firs	6239 SW Beav-Hills 503-292-0008	1 BR 2 BR			
Ridgeview Terrace	4621 SW Luradel 503-244-4069	1 BR 2 BR			
Timberlee	5131 SW 38 <sup>th</sup> Place 503-246-6713	1 BR		Y	
Town & Country	4820 SW Barbur Blvd. 503-241-0251	1 BR 2 BR			
West Hill Terrace	6235 SW Burlingame 503-246-6645	1 BR 2 BR		Y	On web at <a href="http://www.rent.net">www.rent.net</a>
Westport Square	9863 SW 35 <sup>th</sup> 503-977-2521	S 1 BR 2 BR		N	
<b>SOUTHEAST PORTLAND</b>					
Wimbledon Square	2837 SE Colt Drive 503-233-4461	S, 1 BR 2 BR	Yes	Y	Near Reed College Easy bus access to AIPD