



Finding Housing Transcript

Chapman Learning Commons

Finding a place to live can be as stressful and overwhelming experience. But, with a little bit of planning and preparation the process can be a lot easier. In this video we'll be discussing finding and securing housing while attending UBC.

Living in Residence can be a great option for students who want to be close to campus and have a sense of community, but it's important to know the application process and deadlines to secure a spot.

The UBC housing process has three different types of applications.

Year-round housing contracts run typically from the beginning of May to the end of April of the following year for undergraduates, and the beginning of September to the end of August of the following year for graduate students. There's an option to renew your contract yearly, so it's a great option if you're planning on staying on campus long-term. Applications for year-round housing are accepted at any time through the UBC Student Service Center (SSC), however, the waitlist can take up to one year. So, apply as early as possible at least a year in advance of your anticipated move-in date.

Winter housing contracts run from September to April of the following year and are only open during that period. First-year students are guaranteed a spot in first-year residences as long as they apply by the deadline on the UBC housing website. For upper-year students, there's a limited number of spaces available. When filling out the application you'll be prompted to rank the residences by order of preference. It's important to consider your budget and be mindful of the different fees associated with each residence. The fees for each residence area can be found on the UBC housing website. Pause here to take note of some other factors to consider when ranking your residences.

Summer residence contracts run from May to August and are open to UBC students who are staying on campus for the summer and visiting research students. Applications are also made through the UBC Student Service Center (SSC). Applications made by early April are given priority.

Living off campus can be a great option if you want more independence and flexibility, but it can be daunting to find a house in an unfamiliar area. There are a few things to consider when looking for off-campus housing. Location: how far are you willing to travel can influence which neighbourhoods to consider. Some neighbourhoods are closer than others and some have better transit options.

Living cost: decide on your budget and stick to it. Consider the cost of rent, utilities, and transportation when looking at different options check out our student toolkit on budgeting if you need help with making a budget.

Living room roommates can be a great way to save money but it's important to find people whom you get along with and who share similar lifestyle and values. Pause here for some factors to keep in mind if considering living with roommates.



Consider what type of style suits you. Basement suites and apartments can be affordable options while houses are great for living with a group of friends. In my experience houses tend to be more affordable than apartments because you can share the rent amongst more people.

There are a few platforms a website to consider when looking for off-campus housing. Pause here to take note of some options to consider when searching for housing. Once you've found a few options that meet your criteria, make sure to schedule a viewing to see the place in-person. Take note of any issues and ask the landlord or property manager. Pause here to take note of some things to watch out for during the viewing. The rental housing market in Vancouver can be competitive so some things to consider bringing to the viewing include a letter of interest, a resume or CV and reference letters from past landlords so that you can provide them to the landlord if requested. Whether you choose to live on or off campus plan and be proactive in your search. Don't be afraid to reach out for help and remember that there are resources available. With a little bit of effort and patience you'll find the perfect place to call home during your time at UBC.