

## **THINGS TO CONSIDER**

There's a lot to consider when you're hunting for the perfect place to call home. We encourage you to think carefully before making your selection.

### *Things to think about when apartment hunting*

- **Budget**—How much can you afford to pay in rent and utilities without killing your budget? Make sure to include the cost of any extra amenities (like cable and Internet) in this calculation.
- **Location**—Can you afford to live downtown? If not, how far out are you willing to look?
- **Safety and security**—What features, like security cameras, locked building entry, on-site security guards, and emergency lights, are important to you?
- **Amenities**—What appliances do you hope the place has? What are your laundry facility preferences?
- **Transportation**—Do you have a car? If so, do you have a place to park it? And if not, how do you plan to get to and from campus? If you need to take the bus, make sure there's a stop nearby.
- **Roommates**—Do you plan to have one (or more)? If so, take some time to talk about sleeping, studying, and socializing habits before you sign a lease together. That way, you all know what to expect—and can iron out disagreements ahead of time.
- **Lease terms**—If you don't plan on living in your place all year round, look for housing options that have flexible lease terms or will let you sublease in the summer. And make sure you know what your options are if you have to break your lease—just in case.
- **Fees**—What other costs are associated with renting each place? Is there a security deposit? Application or administrative fees? These can really add up, so make sure you find out up front.

We also host an annual housing fair to help you find the best place to live while attending IU Indianapolis. For more information, email [reslife@iu.edu](mailto:reslife@iu.edu) or call 317-274-7200.

## HOUSING INFO

As with any new city you move to, I strongly recommend that you gather as much information about prospective apartments as you can. IU Indy has a webpage devoted to off-campus housing options that you might find useful: <https://studentaffairs.indianapolis.iu.edu/housing/index.html>. Online resources including [www.apartments.com](http://www.apartments.com), [www.apartmentguide.com](http://www.apartmentguide.com), and [www.forrent.com](http://www.forrent.com) are also good starting places to look for an apartment. Thanks to websites like <http://www.apartmentratings.com/in/indianapolis/> and Google place pages, you can get an idea of what a place is like from people who have lived there. If at all possible, check out prospective apartments during different times of the day and in the evening. Current graduate students and your advisor can also be a great resource. You can also use the following site to look at crime statistics in different areas of Indianapolis: <http://maps.indy.gov/MapIndy/Index.html?theme=crimeviewer>. With any place you move to you should thoroughly check things out before you commit to a year-long lease.

### *Tips from an Indy native (someone who has lived in Indy their whole life)*

- “South and North Indy are fine...but avoid 38<sup>th</sup> street.”
- “Anything on the near outskirts of the city is usually a bit rough. South side outside of 465 is nice though.”
- When asked about West and East Indy, he said, “depends.” (*He’s a man of few words*)

### *Advice from past Master’s students*

- IU Indianapolis has a roommate matching website (<https://iupui.uloop.com/housing/index.php/roommates>), and you may also want to reach out to the other incoming students about being roommates. I believe the only people who will need new roommates this next year are me and Virginia (see Lux on Capitol below)
- Don’t forget to factor in electricity and other expenses not included in rent, and also any car/parking expenses if you’re bringing a car. Campus parking is around \$400 a year (minimum, there are different options) or you can purchase it by semester for a bit less than that because it doesn’t include summer.
- Definitely tour the apartment first. Not any apartment in the complex, the exact apartment you would be in.
- Use caution when looking at places in West and East Indy. I looked at some apartments in West Indy and the apartment themselves were fine, but the location didn’t feel safe.
- You may want to go for a cheap one-bedroom or studio apartment, but I looked at 8 or so when I came to Indy to apartment hunt and they weren’t that great. In my opinion, it’s better to have a roommate than live in a small, outdated one bedroom apartment.

## *Other Honorable Mentions*

### **Convenient to Campus (search for the Canal Area) – \$1000+/month for 1BR**

1. Canal Square Apartments (359 N West Street) - <https://www.canalsquareapartments.com/>

### **Convenient to Downtown - \$750-1000+/month for 1BR**

2. Riley Towers (650 N Alabama St) - <https://www.rileytowers.com/index.php>
3. The Dartmouth (221 E. Michigan) - <https://www.circlecityapartments.com/>
4. The Avenue (catered toward students; 930 W 10th St.)- <https://www.theavenueindy.com/>

### **Further away**

5. Eagle Creek Court (2148 Augusta Dr E) - \$550-650/month for 1BR
  - Things start to get less convenient. About a 15 minute drive (20 minutes if traffic) to campus/downtown.
  - <https://www.sextonproperties.com/apartment/index.php?cid=1373>
6. Sebring Court (1902 Parsons Dr) - \$600-700/month for 1BR
  - Similar to Eagle Creek Court. There's a bunch of options like these in the Speedway area (look for Darby Court as well).
  - <https://www.sextonproperties.com/apartment/index.php?cid=1378>

## *More search options*

**Need a roommate to afford a place?** Check out the IU Classifieds on One.IU under the Buy/Sell/Trade. People post places for rent, roommate searches, and rooms for rent there. Make sure to filter by campus!

Check with students who have been in your program for their commutes and where they have lived as well!

**For more places within 2 miles of campus, visit the student affairs website:** click on “[see some of the housing options around campus](https://studentaffairs.indianapolis.iu.edu/housing/off-campus-living.html)” at <https://studentaffairs.indianapolis.iu.edu/housing/off-campus-living.html>.

## *Places to Avoid*

“Meridian Tower, probably Lockfield Apartments, The Warren” - Past master's student

“The place next to campus, Lockfield apartments, seems pretty cheap, but they are really, really old apartments.” - Past master's student, current PhD student