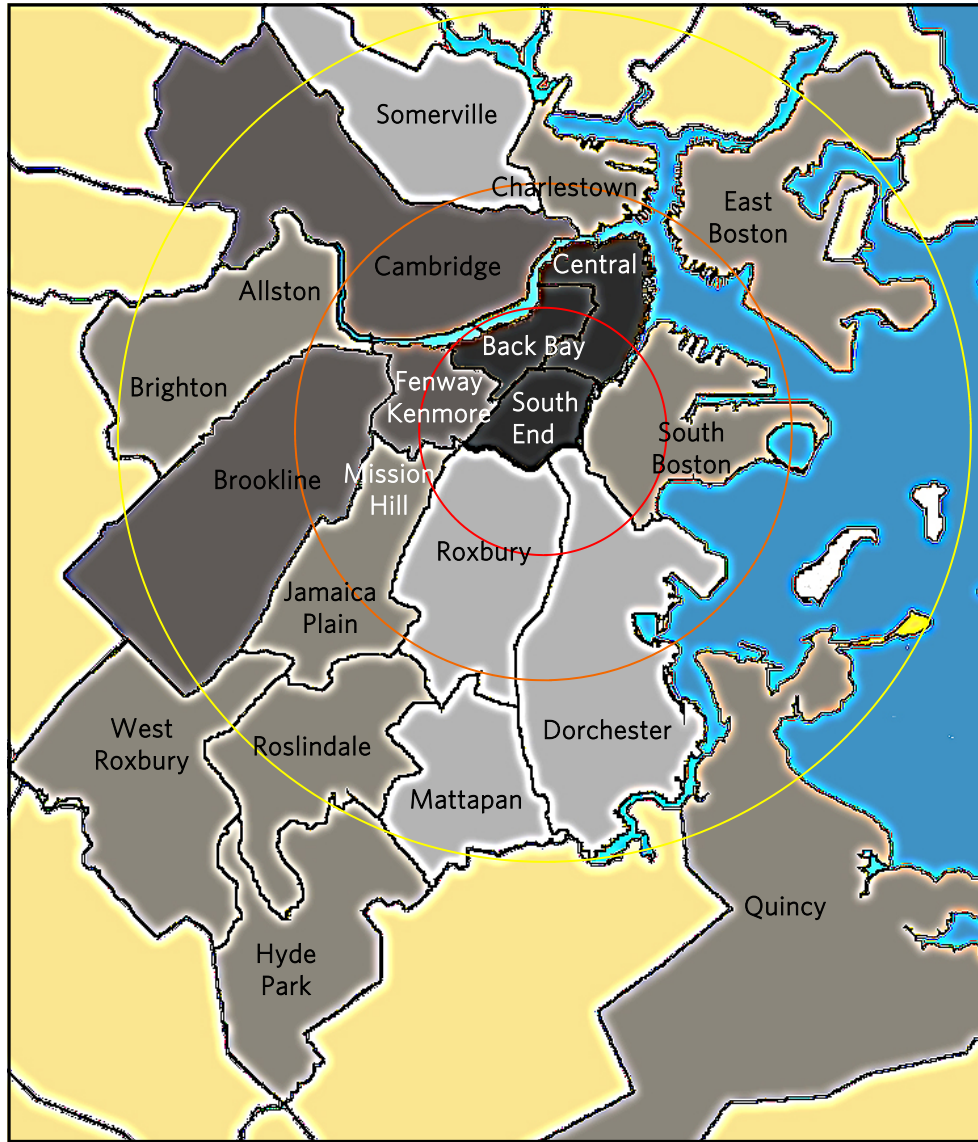


BU Medical Campus
 Office of Housing Resources
www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr
 72 East Concord Street, 406A
 Boston, MA 02118
 617-638-5125
ohr@bu.edu
 IM screenname: OHRatBU



Boston Housing Reference Sheet

Map of Boston and neighborhoods



Basic Boston Housing

Traits:

- Boston is an old city*, and our housing is old too. Many apartments do not have elevators, central air conditioning, or laundry in-building.
- Boston is an expensive city*, and many of the apartments students look at will be too pricey to afford alone. Finding roommates is key.
- Boston is full of college students*, which means that most apartments open up during the summer and most leases start on September 1 to match the academic year.

Students are *strongly* encouraged to come to Boston to view apartments before renting them. Some landlords will not rent to tenants who have not seen the apartment.

Good Links to have:

Office of Housing Resources
www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr

TranSComm
www.transcomm.org

City of Boston webpage
www.cityofboston.gov

Student Financial Services
www.bumc.bu.edu/osfs

Popular Neighborhoods

- The South End**
Home of the BUMC, closest to campus. About 25% of BUMC student population lives here.
- Fenway/Kenmore**
Location of the Charles-River Campus, easy to access from BU Shuttle. About 15% of BUMC students live there.
- Allston/Brighton**
Not very convenient, but cheap and easy to find housing. About 5-7% of students live here.
- Back Bay**
Fairly convenient, beautiful. Near 5% of students live here.

Price Ranges

- Very Expensive:**
 Studios: \$1000-\$1500
 1 Bed: \$1400-\$2000
 2 Bed: \$1700-\$2500
 3 Bed: \$2200-\$3200
- Expensive**
 Studios: \$900-\$1300
 1 Bed: \$1200-\$1600
 2 Bed: \$1600-\$1900
 3 Bed: \$1800-\$2600
- Moderate**
 Studios: \$800-\$1200
 1 Bed: \$1000-\$1500
 2 Bed: \$1400-\$1800
 3 Bed: \$1800-\$2400

- Inexpensive (for Boston!)**
 Studios: \$700-\$1000
 1 Bed: \$900-\$1200
 2 Bed: \$1300-\$1600
 3 Bed: \$1600-\$2200

Commuting Times

- Close**
 Commute under 30 minutes, no transferring.
- Average**
 Commute under 45 minutes, one transfer.
- Long**
 Commute up to 60 minutes, sometimes two transfers.

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Search Timeline

3-6 months before move-in: Decide what your housing budget will be, and where in Boston you want to live. Decide what furniture you need and start getting it.

2 months before move-in: Put together list of potential apartments from listing resources and contact all of them.

1-2 months before move-in: Evaluate the apartments on your list and decide which one is the best fit for you. Reserve a truck for moving day.

3 weeks before move-in: Put in an application for the apartment you want. Apply for a parking permit from the city.

2 weeks before move-in: Sign a lease for your new apartment, notify the post-office about your change of address.

1 week before move-in: Double-check your directions, make sure you have a parking permit, confirm truck reservations, call to have utilities turned on during your moving day, and turned off at your old apartment.

After moving in: Get an apartment condition form from your landlord. Contact local city hall to get information on voting, trash days, and recycling.



Boston Housing Reference Sheet

Getting Around Boston

Public Transportation Close to the BUMC
Most students get around Boston using public transportation. The MBTA is Boston's public transit agency.

Trains: Orange Line (at Massachusetts Avenue), Red Line (at Broadway Station)

Buses: #1, #8, #10, #47, CT1, CT3 (Newton and Concord Streets, Mass. Ave). Silver Line (on Washington Street)

Other Transportation Sources

The BU Shuttle: (www.bu.edu/thebus) is a free BU bus that travels between the BUMC and the Charles-River campus. It stops at Albany Street on the hour and half-hour.

Bicycle Cages: there are 3 bicycle cages on campus for cyclists and several racks, too.

Taxis: are plentiful on Washington and Tremont, especially in the evening.

Finding Roommates

Most students in Boston will live with roommates to make housing more affordable. Before deciding to live with a roommate, students should make sure they have three "C's": *credit, consideration, and communication.* Roommates in Boston are "jointly and severally" liable for rent, meaning that if one roommate doesn't pay, everyone else has to make up the rest.

Popular Roommate-Finding Resources

OHR Roommate-Matching Database

www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr/roommates

Craig's List

www.boston.craigslist.org/roo/

Boston Roommates

www.bostonroommates.com

Student Doctor

www.studentdoctor.net

How to Find Housing

BU Resources

1. OHR's weekly housing listings:
Each week, the OHR compiles a list of available apartments across Boston. Students can contact the OHR to get a copy of the list anytime (www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr).

2. Off-Campus Services
Located on the Charles River Campus, Off-Campus Services (www.bu.edu/offcampus) has a separate apartment database and a number of exclusive listings in the Kenmore/Fenway area.

3. Office of Rental Property Management
Rental Property Management (ORPM) is BU's in-house property management office. Students who want to live in housing that is owned by BU should contact ORPM at 617-353-4101. Space is limited.

Online Resources

1. Craig's List (www.boston.craigslist.org)
Craig's List is the largest online apartment-hunting tool in Boston. Students can search it to find open apartments, roommate-situations, short-term housing, even furniture. The OHR has a quick tutorial on its website that students can use to learn more about Craig's List.

2. BostonApartments.com
Another great online search tool, although most of the apartments are listed by realtors, who usually charge a fee. The 'no fee' section of the listings are very useful.

3. OnMarketBoston.com
A newer website with a very clean, easy-to-use layout. Offers the opportunity to search for no-fee listings by neighborhood.

Realtors

For students who are short on time, or who have very specific criteria for their housing, using a realtor is a good option. Realtors can show a student a couple of different apartments in one appointment, and may know a lot about the neighborhood where they work. Most realtors in Boston charge a **realtor fee** or commission, which can be up to one month's rent, for finding their clients an apartment.

Atlantic Properties—South End
www.atlanticpropertiesonline.com
Gibson Sotheby's—South End, Back Bay
www.gibsondomaindomain.com
Chestnut Hill Realty—Allston/Brighton
www.chestnuthillrealty.com
Kunevich and Lau Realty—Fenway area
www.knrealty.com