

Search Timeline

4-6 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.

2-3 months before

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

Evaluate the apartments on your list and decide which one is the best fit for you. Put in an application for the apartment that you want.

Sign a lease for your new apartment.

3 weeks before move-in:

Reserve a truck for moving day. Apply for a parking permit from the city.

1 week before move-in:

Notify the post office about your address change.

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:

Complete an apartment condition statement within 10 days. Contact city hall to get information on voting, trash days, recycling.



Boston Housing Reference Sheet

Getting Around Boston

Public Transportation Close to BUMC

The MBTA is Boston's public transit agency (www.mbtta.com).

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)

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

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 every 10 to 20 minutes.

Bicycle Cages/Racks: there are 2 bicycle cages and 5 bike racks on campus and a bike sharing system at www.thehubway.com.

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

BU Roommate-Matching Database

www.bu.edu/offcampus

Craig's List

www.boston.craigslist.org

Boston Roommates

www.bostonroommates.com

Harvard Medical School Trading Post

mycourses.med.harvard.edu/tradingpost

Finding Housing

BU Resources

1. Housing Resources

Located on the Medical Campus, Housing Resources (www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr) assists students with the entire housing search process from finding a roommate to signing a lease. Contact 617-638-5125 for more information.

2. Off-Campus Services

Located on the Charles River Campus, Off-Campus Services (www.bu.edu/offcampus) hosts the BU apartment database with listings in the Greater Boston area.

3. Rental Property Management (RPM)

(www.bu.edu/rpm) offers University owned apartments for rent. Students who want to live in housing that is managed by Boston University, which also includes Harrison Court, should contact RPM at 617-353-4101. Space is limited for Harrison Court.

Online Resources

1. Craig's List (www.boston.craigslist.org)

The largest online apartment-hunting tool in Boston. Students can use it to find open apartments, roommate-situations, short-term housing, even furniture.

2. BostonApartments.com

Another 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. www.padmapper.com

Offers the opportunity to search for no-fee listings by neighborhood.

Realtors

If you are short on time or have very specific criteria, using a realtor is a good option. They can show you several apartments during one appointment, and may know a lot about the neighborhood where they work. Most Boston realtors charge a **realtor fee** or commission, which can be up to one month's rent.