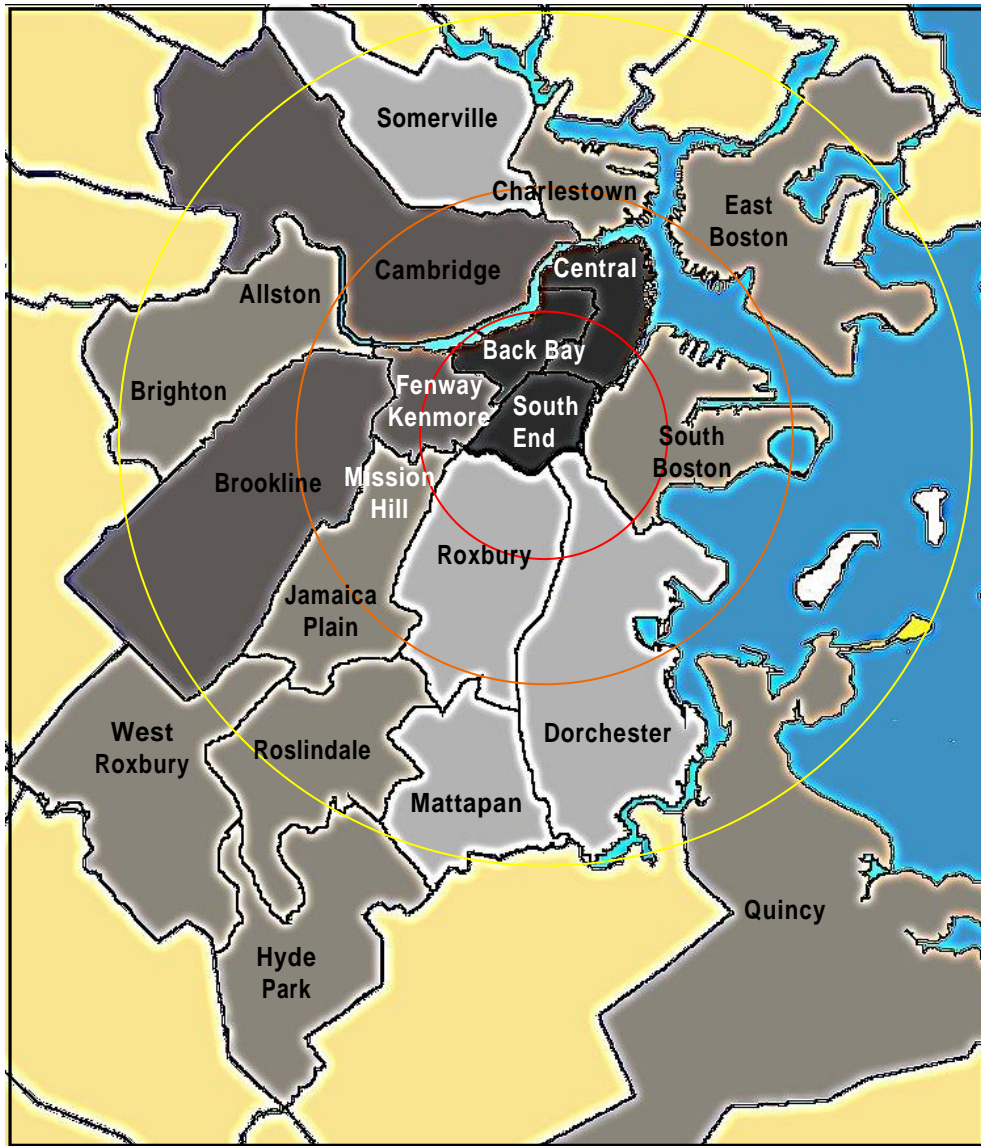


# Boston Housing Reference Sheet

## Map of Boston and neighborhoods



## Basic Boston Housing

### Traits:

1. *Boston is an old city*, and our housing is old too. Many apartments do not have elevators, central air conditioning, or laundry in-building.
2. *Boston's rental housing is in short supply* and many apartments too pricey to afford alone. Finding roommates is key.
3. *Boston is a college town*, which means most apartments begin to turn over during the summer and continue up to the beginning of September.

Students are *strongly* encouraged to start their apartment search early and to visit apartments before signing a lease. Most landlords will not rent to tenants who they have not met.

### Good Links to have:

Housing Resources  
[www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr)

TransComm  
[www.transcomm.org](http://www.transcomm.org)

City of Boston  
[www.cityofboston.gov](http://www.cityofboston.gov)

Off-Campus Services  
[www.bu.edu/offcampus](http://www.bu.edu/offcampus)

**BUMC students live all over the Greater Boston area.**

### Popular Neighborhoods

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

### Price Ranges

■ Very Expensive:  
Studios: \$1700-\$2900  
1 Bed: \$2200-\$3400  
2 Bed: \$2800-\$4000  
3 Bed: \$3400-\$5000

■ Expensive  
Studios: \$1600-\$2500  
1 Bed: \$1800-\$2700  
2 Bed: \$2400-\$3500  
3 Bed: \$3000-\$3600

■ Moderate  
Studios: \$1000-\$1500  
1 Bed: \$1200-\$1700  
2 Bed: \$1400-\$2200  
3 Bed: \$2000-\$2800

■ Inexpensive (for Boston!)  
Studios: \$800-\$1200  
1 Bed: \$1000-\$1400  
2 Bed: \$1200-\$1800  
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.

**BU Medical Campus  
Housing Resources**

[www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr)

72 East Concord Street, A303

Boston, MA 02118

ohr@bu.edu

617-638-5125

## Search Timeline

### 5-6 months before

**move-in:** Do your research. Decide on your housing budget and where in Boston you want to live. Choose at least two neighborhoods. Begin contacting potential roommates. Schedule a visit to Boston.

### 2-3 months before

**move-in:** Visit Boston. Meet your potential roommate. Using the Housing Resources available to you, search for an apartment. View apartments. Put in an application for the apartment you want. Meet the landlord prior to signing a lease.

### 4 weeks before move-in:

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

### 1 week before move-in:

Review Your Lease. Notify the post office about your address change. Double-check your move-in 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.

### Move-In Day Standards:

Apartment clean & sanitary  
Landlord contact info posted  
Smoke alarms working  
Apartment is safe

All rental units must meet Standards on move-in day.

**Call 311 to report  
non-emergency  
issues**



# Boston Housing Reference Sheet

## Getting Around Boston

### Public Transportation Close to BUMC

The MBTA [www.mbtta.com](http://www.mbtta.com) 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)

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

*The BU Shuttle:* [www.bu.edu/thebus](http://www.bu.edu/thebus) is a free BU bus that travels between the BUMC and Charles River campus. It stops at Albany Street every 10 to 20 minutes.

*Bicycle Cages/Racks:* there are bicycle cages and bike racks on campus and a bike sharing system at [www.thehubway.com](http://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 Off-Campus Services Listings

[www.bu.edu/offcampus](http://www.bu.edu/offcampus)

Craigslist

[www.boston.craigslist.org](http://www.boston.craigslist.org)

Roommates.com

[www.roommates.com](http://www.roommates.com)

Your BUMC Class Facebook page

## Finding Housing

### BU Resources

1. Housing Resources [www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr)  
Located on the Medical Campus, Housing Resources assists students with their housing search from the beginning of the process to signing a lease. Contact 617-638-5125 or [ohr@bu.edu](mailto:ohr@bu.edu).

2. Off-Campus Services  
[www.bu.edu/offcampus](http://www.bu.edu/offcampus) Located on the Charles River Campus, it hosts the BU apartment and roommate database with listings in the Greater Boston area.

3. Rental Property Management  
[www.bu.edu/rpm](http://www.bu.edu/rpm) offers University owned apartments for rent. Students who want to live in housing that is managed by Boston University should call 617-353-4101.

4. Incoming classes have Facebook pages for students to connect, ask housing questions and learn from others about their housing search.

### Online Resources

1. <http://boston.craigslist.org/nfa>  
Boston's largest online apartment-hunting tool. It can be used to find apartments, roommates, short-term housing, even furniture. See apartments 'By Owner'.

2. [BostonApartments.com](http://BostonApartments.com) Although most of the apartments are listed by realtors, the 'no fee' section of the listings is very useful.

3. [www.padmapper.com](http://www.padmapper.com) 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 drive you around, 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.

### Property Managers

Landlords hire managers to rent/maintain their buildings. No rental fee is charged.