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Mention VERYAPT when you contact us!
GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE GUIDE

1. **Start with the Housing Facts section.** This section should help you determine the type of apartment you’d like to live in and how much you should expect to pay in rent.

2. **Read about different neighborhoods** and narrow down your search to parts of the city that you like most.

3. **Use the Apartment Ratings section** to identify the best apartment buildings across the categories (e.g., best amenities, highest rated) that matter most to you.

4. **Visit VeryApt.com** to read reviews, get pricing, and set up appointments for the apartments you like most.

ABOUT THE DATA IN THIS GUIDE

All of the data in this guide are based on feedback from real renters in Boston. We asked students to rate their apartments on a scale of 1-10 across six categories:

- Overall
- Value
- Management
- Amenities
- Location
- Safety

Based on their feedback, we compiled a list of the best apartment buildings for BUMC students. If you are interested in additional data that is not in the guide or have a housing question, you can reach us at contact@veryapt.com.

DISCLAIMER: The reviews and ratings presented throughout the guide and the VeryApt website do not reflect the opinions, position, or endorsement of VeryApt. The responses and reviews presented are solely those of the survey respondents. VeryApt assumes no responsibility for readers’ or users’ interpretation of the data. The results do not in any way constitute a warranty or representation by VeryApt as to the quality, safety, or other features of a property. We encourage you to check all available sources of information about properties prior to renting.
Where BUMC students live

- 35% South End
- 20% Fenway/Kenmore
- 15% Allston
- 15% Dorchester
- 15% Other

Who BUMC students live with

- 17% Alone
- 30% Spouse/partner
- 53% Roommate (excluding spouse/partner)

What type of properties BUMC students live in

- 45% Large property (50+ units)
- 30% Small property (2-9 units)
- 25% Mid-size property (20-49 units)

What size residences BUMC students live in

- 10% Studios
- 30% One bedrooms
- 35% Two bedrooms
- 25% Three or more bedrooms

Distribution of property ratings

- 30% 0 - 6.9
- 20% 7 - 7.9
- 20% 8 - 8.9
- 30% 9+

Average rent by apartment size

- $1,775 STUDIO
- $2,200 1BR
- $2,575 2BR
- $3,350 3BR

Rent versus own

- 95% Rent
- 5% Own

Commute methods

- 50% Public Transit
- 36% Walking
- 10% Biking
- 5% Driving
Brighton’s new premier luxury living destination! Call today (855) 567-9836 › 1550ontheCharles.com

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You’ll find premium fixtures & finishes, soothing color palettes and sophisticated style in all living and communal spaces. Relax, unwind, and enjoy life along the Charles River.

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CO-WORKING LOUNGE/CONFERENCE ROOM
24-HR FITNESS CENTER & YOGA STUDIO
CLUB ROOM AND GAME ROOM
GARAGE PARKING UNDERGROUND
ON-SITE MANAGEMENT TEAM
DRY CLEANING PICK-UP, DROP-OFF SERVICE
CHEF-INSPIRED KITCHENS
OVERSIZED WINDOWS ALLOWING FOR EXCEPTIONAL NATURAL LIGHT
STAINLESS STEEL APPLIANCES
FULL-SIZED WASHER/DRYER IN EACH APARTMENT HOME
LARGE WALK-IN CLOSETS
SMART THERMOSTATS AND LOCKS

10-Min Commute to Boston University
Enjoy peaceful riverfront living with bike and running paths, restaurants, shops, and proximity to the Boston Landing commuter rail stop

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All the information you need in a single place. Photos, prices, floor plans, maps, and amenities - VeryApt has you covered.

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On demand rental experts that can provide apartment recommendations, set up apartment tours, and help you with your rental application - all at no extra cost.

Intelligent Search
Personalized apartment recommendations based on the amenities you want, your proximity to school or work, and your desired price range.

Trusted Reviews
Hundreds of verified apartment reviews from current and past tenants that help you make an informed decision about where you want to live.

WHY WE STARTED VERYAPT
VeryApt was born from the simple realization that the small things about an apartment are often the most important: a friendly doorman, lots of sunlight in the living room, a running trail nearby, or that amazing hole-in-the-wall Thai restaurant across the street. We understand that the frustrations of apartment hunting are universal, but share a belief that it doesn’t have to be. We know what makes an apartment truly feel like home is unique for each person and that’s why our focus is on bringing you personalized recommendations based on timely, relevant, and real user reviews. We’ll be there every step of the way to help you find your perfect apartment.

Julia Rizio
VP Operations
juliar@veryapt.com
BRAND NEW APARTMENT RESIDENCES
STUDIO, 1, 2 & 3 BEDROOMS | NOW OPEN - TOUR TODAY!

Expansive pool + grilling space • Outdoor living room with TV + lounge areas • 11th floor sunset terrace
Sports lounge with billiards and gaming • Spacious fitness center • Indoor + outdoor yoga spaces
Micro offices + meeting rooms • Flex lounge with breakout seating areas • Washer & dryer in every home
Expansive bike storage room with repair facilities • Private dining room with lounge and chef’s kitchen
NEIGHBORHOODS EXPLAINED
An overview of the most popular neighborhoods for BUMC students

1 South End
35% of BUMC students
Filled with bars, trendy eateries, and popular entertainment, many students enjoy life here while attending classes. Gracing South-End streets are rows of brownstones, which offer great views of stately houses, overflowing flower boxes, and gaslight streetlamps.

2 Fenway/Kenmore
20% of BUMC students
Fenway/Kenmore is home to the historic Fenway Park and boasts plenty of restaurants and bars. Cultural landmarks that are definitely worth a visit include the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and Symphony Halls.

3 Allston
15% of BUMC students
Filled with hip and trendy shops, Allston has become a popular spot for BU Questrom students. Many students choose to live here due to the convenient location to campus. The Charles River Reservation is a great state park situated along a river. Like many areas of Boston, the restaurant and bar scene is great in Allston.

4 Dorchester
15% of BUMC students
Dorchester is one of Boston’s largest neighborhoods. The Neponset River Reservation is a popular location for enjoying the outdoors. It is also home to Franklin Park, a large section of Boston’s Emerald Necklace, with a golf course, 500 acres of green space, and a zoo. Dorchester also has plenty of restaurants and bars to choose from.

Other Neighborhoods
less than 5% each

5 Brookline
6 Brighton
7 Quincy
8 Central Square
9 Back Bay
10 Roxbury
ABOUT SOUTH END

Filled with bars, trendy eateries, and popular entertainment, many students enjoy life here while attending classes. Gracing South-End streets are rows of brownstones, which offer great views of stately houses, overflowing flower boxes, and gaslight street lamps. There is also Peters Park, a popular social hub where locals enjoy basketball and tennis. There is also a garden and dog-friendly area at the park. For food shopping, there’s Ming’s Market, Whole Foods Market, and Tropical Foods.

MEDIAN RENTS IN SOUTH END

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<table>
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<tr>
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</table>

WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT SOUTH END

⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

Review by BUMC Student

South End is a very quiet and safe neighborhood. Close to campus which is nice. It has a few restaurants and entertainment places, but you can find attractions and restaurants around Chinatown, Boston Common or Newbury street, which takes about 30 minutes walk.

⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

Review by BUMC Student

Absolutely love the South End as a neighborhood. Most of it is very safe and family friendly. The restaurants and bars are incredible. There is so much beauty and lots of park/green space. By far my favorite neighborhood in Boston.
Fenway/Kenmore
Get an Authentic Boston Experience

ABOUT FENWAY/KENMORE

This neighborhood has a ton of energy and is great for students who wish to walk to campus because of the proximity to BU. It is home to the historic Fenway Park and boasts plenty of restaurants and bars. Cultural landmarks that are definitely worth a visit include the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and Symphony Halls. It's hard to find a spot in Boston with more buzz than Fenway/Kenmore, especially during baseball season which makes it a great place to socialize.

Easy access to transit  Lively

MEDIAN RENTS IN FENWAY/KENMORE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>$3,000</td>
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</table>

WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT FENWAY/KENMORE

⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Review by BUMC Student  BURBANK APTS
Such a great location near Northeastern and Berklee. So many food/bar options and always lively at night which makes it a safer location for young professionals/students.

⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Review by BUMC Student  COMMONWEALTH
Very secure, safe place and you have accessibility to whatever you need. Pretty social area.
ABOUT ALLSTON

Filled with hip and trendy shops, Allston has become a popular spot for BU Questrom students. Many students choose to live here due to the convenient location to campus. The Charles River Reservation is a great state park situated along a river. The park offers running, walking, and even skating with unbeatable views. Like many areas of Boston, the restaurant and bar scene is great in Allston.

| Restaurants | Parks | Safe |

MEDIAN RENTS IN ALLSTON

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studio</th>
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<td>$1,950</td>
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</table>

WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT ALLSTON

Review by BUMC Student  1277 COMMONWEALTH

I really like living in Allston! It’s a little far from BUSPH but the neighborhood has so many fun restaurants and bars, plus it’s close to the main BU campus which is nice for the FitRec and other amenities.

Review by BUMC Student  1384 COMMONWEALTH

Very student-oriented neighborhood, which means weekends can be noisy. The commute to the medical campus is about 45-50 minutes, but saving on rent makes it worth it for me.
Dorchester
Boston's Largest Neighborhood

ABOUT DORCHESTER

Dorchester is one of Boston’s largest neighborhoods. The Neponset River Reservation is a popular location for enjoying the outdoors. It is also home to Franklin Park, a large section of Boston’s Emerald Necklace, with a golf course, 500 acres of green space, and a zoo. Dorchester also has plenty of restaurants and bars to choose from.

Water-front  Cheaper Rent  Parks

MEDIAN RENTS IN DORCHESTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Studio</th>
<th>1 Bedroom</th>
<th>2 Bedroom</th>
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<td>$2,300</td>
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WHAT RESIDENTS THINK ABOUT DORCHESTER

⭐⭐⭐⭐

Review by BUMC Student

Close to grocery store and shopping don’t need a car the bus takes you right to school. Not too far is Mass Ave but you never see that by the apartment.

⭐⭐⭐⭐

Review by BUMC Student

Pretty nice area. Convenient to have shops and grocery nearby but can feel a little unsafe at times.
# Apartment Ratings Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Type</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Price Range</th>
<th>Most Popular</th>
<th>Best for Pets</th>
<th>Management</th>
<th>Amenities</th>
<th>Value</th>
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** Buildings with fewer than 3 reviews or ratings below 7.0 are not listed in this guide but reviews can be found online at VeryApt.com.

*** Some buildings with fewer than 3 reviews are included above because of high ratings but do not appear in the top 10 lists.
## APARTMENT RATINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Type</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Price Range</th>
<th>Most Popular</th>
<th>Best for Pets</th>
<th>Best for Families</th>
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<td>Ttoren Flats</td>
<td>Apt 6.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walden Park Apartments</td>
<td>Apt 9.0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### ABOUT OUR CATEGORIES

**Property Type**
- **Apartment (Apt)**: Properties with one building manager. Often have consistent pricing/features.
- **Condo**: Properties with multiple owners. Lease terms and features can vary significantly by unit.

**Key Building Factor Ratings**
- **Overall Rating**: Overall feedback on building quality.
- **Popularity**: Estimated # of students in the building.

**Living Situation Ratings**
- **Families**: How students with partners and/or children rated the building.
- **Pet Owners**: How students with pets rated the building.

**Building Quality Ratings**
- **Management**: Maintenance and service quality.
- **Amenities**: In-room and building features beyond the basics.
- **Value**: Building quality given cost of rent.
- **Social**: Building community and social scene.
- **Safety**: Building neighborhood safety.
MOST POPULAR

Buildings with the most BUMC students

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

What students typically look for:

- Excellent location
- Reasonably-priced apartments
- Solid amenities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP 5</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>Studio</th>
<th>1 BR</th>
<th>2 BR</th>
<th>3 BR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HARBOR POINT ON THE BAY APARTMENTS</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>$1,775</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>$2,575</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review by BU Dental Student</td>
<td>“A good place to live for a family with kids; not the best school system but super close and makes everything easier. The kids are happy with the green spaces and happy with their school. I requested a washer and dryer in the apartment. This is why my rent is a bit high. It is about 2.5 miles away from BUMC, which makes transportation convenient. I go by my car, but you can take the number 8 bus, which has multiple bus stops just outside the property. Maintenance is great. Management can be uptight. Overall, good for the two years I’m spending in Boston.”</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>580 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE</td>
<td>$1,420</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>$2,575</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review by BU Grad Medical Sciences Student</td>
<td>“Since it’s part of BU Housing, it’s more budget-friendly and slightly less stressful as it is already furnished for the most part. Location is also great. Only con is that there are other unoccupied buildings behind the apartment complex, so they block any natural light from coming into the rooms in the lower floors.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>JAMES COURT</td>
<td>$2,575</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review by BU Grad Medical Sciences Student</td>
<td>“Can’t beat the location, expensive but worth for first year while getting footing of town”</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>THE SMITH</td>
<td>$1,775</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>$2,575</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>14 BUSWELL</td>
<td>$1,775</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>$2,575</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIGHEST RATED
Buildings with the best overall ratings
READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

What the highest-rated properties typically offer:

✔ High-end amenities
✔ Close proximity to work/school
✔ Nearby stores/grocery
✔ Excellent management

TOP 5

1st
HUB25
Dorchester, 25 William T Morrissey Blvd
$$$
9.9 OVERALL RATING

Review by
“Expensive but great location and amenities.”

2nd
345 HARRISON
South End, 345 Harrison Ave
$$
9.7 OVERALL RATING

Review by BU Dental Student
“Great apartment, great amenities, great administration.”

2nd
PORT 45
West Broadway/ D Street, 45 W 3rd St
$$
9.7 OVERALL RATING

Review by BU Public Health Student
“Clean, well maintained concierge building with good management. Pet friendly, facilities include dog walk, trash removal, gym, common areas. Located two blocks from the red line and a mile from the medical campus.”

CAMELOT COURT
9.6 OVERALL RATING

THE ABBY
9.5 OVERALL RATING

Studio
1,775
1 BR
2,200
2 BR
2,575
3 BR
3,350
BEST FOR AMENITIES

Highest-rated properties for amenities

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

What top amenity properties typically offer:

✔ Great common spaces
✔ Convenient location
✔ Excellent management
✔ Newer construction

Studio 1 BR 2 BR 3 BR
$1,875 $2,400 $2,875 $3,650

TOP 5

1st
THE ABBY
Quincy, 255 Hancock St
$$$ 9.8 AMENITY RATING

Review by BU Grad Medical Sciences Student
“The Abby is only a 12-15 minute drive or 30 minute T and bus ride to the medical campus. The red line and Target is located right on site which is very convenient. They have great amenities including a state of the art fitness facility, conference/study rooms, solarium, courtyard with grills, and pool deck. It’s pet friendly as well!”

1st
WALDEN PARK APARTMENTS
Porter Square
$$$$ 9.8 AMENITY RATING

Review by BU Grad Medical Sciences Student
“This place comes with an unheated outdoor pool, gym, pay laundry in the basement, tiny elevator, and card access main entrance. The neighborhood has parks, a blue bike station nearby, and zipcars in the parking lot. It’s a 20 minute walk to the T and no busses comes down this street so the commute can be tough at times. If you own a car, parking is reasonably affordable. If you can commute here I recommend it.”

3rd
BEACH HOUSE APARTMENTS
Revere, 540 Revere Beach Blvd
$$$$ 9.6 AMENITY RATING

Review by BU Public Health Student
“While this property is expensive, if you don’t want to live in the city center it’s a great option. It is right in the beach, the management is amazing and helpful, and the other residents love doing things together and getting to know each other. The gym is also really nice so you won’t need to pay for a membership.”
BEST FOR VALUE

Highest-rated properties for value

READ MORE REVIEWS AT VERYAPT.COM

What top value properties typically offer:

✅ Great price-to-space trade off
✅ Good location
✅ Solid amenities and basic features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studio</th>
<th>1 BR</th>
<th>2 BR</th>
<th>3 BR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,475</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,375</td>
<td>$3,050</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TOP 5

1st
HIGHLANDS AT FAXON WOODS
Quincy

Review by BU Dental Student
“Very peaceful and pretty building in Quincy. More affordable and decent enough size compared to apartments in the city. Good amenities. Commute take 20 mins in the subway and a short 5 min bus ride to school.”

2nd
14 BUSWELL
Fenway/Kenmore, 14 Buswell St

Review by BU Dental Student
“Cheap housing rental (for Boston) in a great location. Can’t really expect much (in terms of amenities) at the price you’re paying.”

3rd
RUMNEY FLATS
Revere

Review by
“A bit further from campus but definitely a cheaper option than those in the city. I really like the apartment.”

4th
580 COMMONWEALTH

5th
BURBANK APARTMENTS

9.8 VALUE RATING

9.5 VALUE RATING

9.4 VALUE RATING

8.9 VALUE RATING

8.8 VALUE RATING
Brownstones
Smaller properties and how to find them

ABOUT BROWNSTONES

Brownstones are apartments in older buildings, typically a few stories tall. They usually do not have a doorman, an elevator, or many amenities, but can be cheaper and more spacious than the apartment and condo units in high-rises.

Finding a brownstone

Brownstones can be challenging to find because they tend to be individually owned and do not have full time leasing managers. Brownstone listings are typically available ~60 days in advance. You can find a brownstone by searching online listings, contacting a landlord directly, or by working with VeryApt’s Concierge Team who can help identify some options.

Preparing for a brownstone search

Most BUMC students opt for larger properties in order to live closer to other students and simplify the housing search. That said, there are plenty of wonderful brownstones - be prepared to visit more properties to find that perfect home, carefully examine the pros/cons, and move quickly if you find a unit you love.

WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER A BROWNSTONE

- CHEAPER
- LARGER FLOOR PLANS
- 3+ BEDROOMS AVAILABLE
- MORE PRIVACY

WHY YOU MAY WANT TO AVOID A BROWNSTONE

- NO DOORMAN
- LESS CONVENIENT LOCATIONS
- OLDER CONSTRUCTION
- LIMITED AMENITIES
- MORE MAINTENANCE ISSUES

TIPS AND ADVICE

Reliable Landlords
Check online reviews and talk to previous tenants to find out about your landlord. Look for one that responds quickly to maintenance requests and has a history of returning deposits.

Noise and Neighbors
Sounds often travel well through brownstones and you can easily be disturbed by barking dogs, music, or construction. Check out the surrounding area to get a sense for what it may be like.

Lease Terms
Leases with independent landlords are negotiable. Check your lease for restrictions on sub-letters and visitor policies. You may be able to avoid a rent increase by locking in a longer lease.
# Landlord Grades and the Renting Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Landlord</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Corcoran Jennison Management Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Corcoran Management Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Equity Residential</td>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>First Realty Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Fulton Properties</td>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Gables Residential</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>National Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Northland Investment Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Shoreline Corporation</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>The Dolben Company</td>
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## Understanding the Renting Process

If this is your first time renting, here is a heads up on what the process is like:

### Application Process

You will be asked to **fill out an application** for an apartment. Likely this will include an **application fee ($30-50)** and potentially a deposit (up to one month's rent). If you're an international student, you **may have to provide alternate information** - in the absence of a social security number, bank accounts, etc., often landlords will accept your visa documents and acceptance letter. Landlords will use your information to approve you based only on your credit history and income. In the event where there are issues, a landlord may grant the application on the condition that a guarantor cosigns the lease.

### After You're Approved

A landlord will often ask for a **security deposit** and **prepaid rent**. A landlord typically charges up to two months’ rent as a security deposit and will ask for up to two months in prepaid rent. Anything beyond this is more than normal. At the end of your lease and after you **give proper notification that you are moving out** (typically 60-90 days), the landlord has **30 days to return the security deposit at the end of the lease**. The landlord may not return the deposit in full if there are claimed damages to the property or other charges outstanding.

### What to Look Out For

Check for additional charges or obligations that could cost you more than the listed price of a property. This could include move-in/move-out fees, renters insurance requirements, condo fees, common electrical fees, etc. Definitely ask about what previous electrical/utility bills have been and to get a feel for any additional monthly costs there may be. Be sure to research the landlord and management company before placing any sort of deposit. If you have any specific questions, feel free to reach out to us at contact@veryapt.com.

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**Landlord Grades**

Grades were assigned to landlords by using a combination of management ratings and overall ratings for the properties they manage.