



Graduate Student Housing

Dear Graduate Students,

You probably noticed on our site

(<http://globaled.gmu.edu/programs/directexchanges/incoming-housing.html>) that housing for graduate students is not provided.

We do have some options for graduate students, but they are very limited and cannot be guaranteed.

- Fairfax campus: <http://www.masonvale.com/fairfax-va-apartments.asp>
- Prince William campus:
<https://housing.gmu.edu/halls/apartments/beaconhall.cfm>

Check PatriotWeb to see at which campus most of the classes you want to take are taught. There are free shuttles that take you to the Prince William campus, but they run every 15-30 minutes and at certain times: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/fxpwshuttle.html>.

To get to the Arlington campus, you'd need to take the shuttle to the metro: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/masontometro.html>, then ride the metro to Arlington. Mason to Metro and Metro to Mason shuttles are pretty good!

The bottom line is: **you may need to rent an apartment on your own.**

Good resources to start looking for off-campus housing:

- <http://och.gmu.edu/> (resource for Mason students)
- <http://rent.com/>
- <http://www.apartmentfinder.com/>
- <http://www.apartmentguide.com/zip/22030-Apartments-For-Rent/>
- <http://washingtondc.craigslist.org/> (this is a free message board that has housing, furniture for sale, pets, and everything you can think of.)

- Anyone is free to post – you could post under Rooms Wanted if you were so inclined)
- There are many other resources if you just Google "apartment for rent Fairfax VA"

Specific Apartments in Fairfax:

Dittmar Apartments

- www.rentdittmar.com
- Their Cavalier Court Apartments are located in Fairfax
- The apartments have fully equipped kitchens, washer/dryer in the apartment, balcony, and other features
- Close to mall and restaurants
- On Cue Bus line
- Short-term leases available; you may be able to sign a lease using your visa documentation

Eaves (by Avalon) Fairfax City

- eavesfairfaxcity@eavesbyavalon.com
- www.eavesfairfaxcity.com
- Fully equipped kitchens, washer/dryer in the apartment, balcony, and other features
- Within walking distance to George Mason University
- Short-term leases available; co-signer from the US with a good credit score required

Fairfax Square Apartments

- <http://www.fairfaxsquareapt.com/>
- Available Furnished, washer/dryer in the apartment, balcony, and other features
- Less than 2 miles from campus, Cue bus access
- Short-term leases available; you will sign a lease using your visa documentation

Helpful Tips

- If your apartment doesn't come furnished there is a company that

will rent furniture to you by the month: <http://cort.com/student>. They have rentals starting at \$99 a month that includes living room, dining room, and bedroom furniture

- The och.gmu.edu website has several sheets that can help you plan out your living situation in regards to budget and housing search comparisons

NOTE: The public transportation system in the U.S. is not as comprehensive as it might be in your home country. For example, the CUE bus runs every half an hour; in the metro, you can wait 3-25 minutes between trains depending on the time of day. Bus schedules may also force you to leave campus earlier than you want to because they might not run late enough. So you need to be wary of all that when you choose a place to stay.

My personal recommendation: Figure out where you want to live in terms of proximity to campus – do you want to walk to campus? Take the bus? Take the metro and the bus? Drive a rental?

Then arrive to the States a few days before orientation; book a hotel or a hostel in DC. Then arrive to the area where you'd like to find an apartment and start actually touring the apartments. You'll get a much better idea that way. Some may run specials – ask about those! Also – some places won't advertise online, but you'll see them as you walk by, and then you could go to their leasing office.

Walking around (or driving around) has the added benefit of being able to see what grocery stores are around, etc.

Let me know if you have questions/concerns!

Best,
Daria