First, some vocabulary:

1. **Lease.** Your contract with your apartment complex. YOU CAN NEVER CANCEL IT. Most leases in the US are for 12 months!

2. **Sublease.** Someone moves out before the end of their lease, and you take over their lease. They can be cheaper and have more flexible dates. Contact Victoria Shelly at vcshelly@ufl.edu if you are interested.

3. **Individual lease.** You pay for your bedroom and bathroom but share the rest of the apartment with roommates.

4. **Joint lease.** You pay for the entire apartment. If you have roommates, they pay you their part.

5. **Guarantor.** The person who is responsible for your debt. As an international student, you are your own guarantor.

6. **Tenant.** Someone who signs a lease and rents an apartment (you!).

7. **Rent.** Money you pay on the first of the month to live in your apartment. You cannot pay cash.


9. **Utility allowance.** The amount of utilities your apartment complex pays per month. If you use more than your allowance, you pay the extra.

10. **Security deposit.** Extra money you must pay to secure your apartment.

11. **Fee.** Extra money you must pay for processing.

12. **Late fee.** Extra money you must pay if your rent is late.

13. **Amenities.** Features that provide comfort or convenience (gym, pool, etc.).

14. **Roommate.** Someone you live with who is not your family.

15. **Complex.** The entire group of buildings for one apartment community.

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Can I move into my apartment the same day I sign my lease?
No. The apartment complex needs a few days to prepare your apartment. You should plan to stay in a hotel until then.

Can I walk to school?
Maybe! For most apartments you will need to take a bus, but the bus is free and Gainesville is small.

What will my apartment include?
At many complexes furniture and utilities are included. However, you still need to buy sheets, towels, pillows, and kitchen supplies.

When will my lease end?
It depends. Make sure you know the exact date your lease ends before you sign it.

Spring term ends April 26, 2019.

What rules do I have to follow in my apartment?

1. Do not smoke in your apartment.
2. Use a shower curtain in your bathroom. A shower curtain keeps the water inside the bathtub.
3. Do not get a pet without asking permission from the apartment complex office.
4. Do not make any changes to the electrical or plumbing systems.
5. Do not have long-term guests (friends or family who stay more than a few nights).
6. Take good care of your apartment. Clean it regularly.
7. Do not do anything illegal in your apartment.
8. If your roommate breaks any of these rules, tell your apartment complex office as soon as possible.
What places do you recommend?
The following places do short-term leases (less than 12 months), but availability, rates, and policies may change:

1. **The Pavilion on 62nd** (352-381-3100)
   1000 SW 62nd Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32607 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-5PM; Sunday, 1PM-5PM.
2. **Cabana Beach** (352-335-2000)
   160151 Terr, Gainesville, FL 32607 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 10AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-5PM.
3. **The Ridge at Gainesville** (352-792-0102)
   3718 SW 24th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32607 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 10AM-8PM; Saturday, 10AM-6PM; Sunday, 12PM-5PM.
4. **The Crossing at Santa Fe** (352-379-9300)
   3205 NW 83 St, Gainesville, FL 32606 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 9AM-7PM; Saturday, 10AM-6PM; Sunday, 12PM-5PM.
5. **The Landings** (352-336-3838)
   3801 SW 13th St, Gainesville, FL 32608 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-4PM; Sunday, 12PM-4PM.
6. **Lexington Crossing** (352-373-9009)
   3700 SW 27th St, Gainesville, FL 32608 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 9AM-7PM; Saturday, 10AM-6PM; Sunday, 12PM-5PM.
7. **Campus Lodge** (352-251-2547)
   2800 SW Williston Rd, Gainesville, FL 32608 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 9AM-8PM; Saturday, 10AM-5PM; Sunday, 12PM-5PM.

Walking distance to UF:

8. **The Retreat** (352-372-6535)
   1001 SW 17 Ln, Gainesville, FL 32601 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-5PM; Sunday, 11AM-5PM.
9. **Oakbrook Walk** (352-375-4541)
   1331 SW 13th St, Gainesville, FL 32608 [map](#)
   Monday-Friday, 9AM-5PM.
10. **Social 28** (352-727-4442)
    311 SW 13th St, Gainesville, FL 32601 [map](#)
    Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday-Sunday, 12PM-4PM.
11. **The Courtyards** (352-372-3557)
    1231 SW 3rd Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601 [map](#)
    Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-4PM.
12. **The Continuum** (352-327-3040)
    **Bachelor’s degree is required**
    55 SW 5th Ter, Gainesville, FL 32601 [map](#)
    Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-3PM.

Good for families:

13. **Sun Bay** (352-376-6720)
    708 SW 16th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601 [map](#)
    Monday-Friday, 8AM-5PM; Saturday, 10AM-4PM.
14. **Hunter’s Crossing** (352-378-4800)
    4830 NW 43rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32606 [map](#)
    Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-5PM; Sunday, 1PM-5PM.
15. **Huntington Lakes** (352-376-9905)
    5400 NW 39th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32606 [map](#)
    Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-5PM; Sunday, 1PM-5PM.
16. **Lake Crossing** (352-376-6440)
    4000 NW 51st Street Gainesville, FL 32606 [map](#)
    Monday-Friday, 9AM-6PM; Saturday, 10AM-5PM; Sunday, 1PM-5PM.

A local company called US Ready has special agreements with apartment complexes in Gainesville. You can see their housing options and other services at [usready.org](http://usready.org).

Home stays might be an option with American Homestay Network. You can visit their website, [homestaynetwork.com](http://homestaynetwork.com), and contact them about homestay opportunities in Gainesville at [florida@homestaynetwork.com](mailto:florida@homestaynetwork.com).

General search options:

1. [housing.offcampus.ufl.edu](http://housing.offcampus.ufl.edu)
2. [swamrentals.com](http://swamrentals.com)
3. [gainesville-rent.com](http://gainesville-rent.com)
4. [apartments.com](http://apartments.com)
5. [zillow.com](http://zillow.com)

Sublease search options:

1. [UF Housing & Roommate Search Facebook Group](http://UF Housing & Roommate Search Facebook Group)
2. [Craigslist](http://Craigslist)

Short-term rental options:

1. [hometogo.com](http://hometogo.com)
2. [Southern Comfort Properties](http://Southern Comfort Properties)