

Consider all housing options when moving

RESIDENCE HALLS,
APARTMENTS AND GREEK
HOUSES ALL OFFER
DIFFERENT BENEFITS

Khaiersta Flowers
for the Emerald

As graduation approaches, some students are moving on with their lives, and others are just moving. Housing options may seem endless, but with a few tips you can make sense of the madness.

Many students elect to remain in the residence halls for a second or third year due the convenience of living on campus. With meals, telephone, Internet service and custodial care included, a standard double runs \$5,350 per year.

Housing Director Mike Eyster admits the residence halls aren't for everyone.

Senior EMS major Jamal Ryan agrees. "If you can survive the dorms on this campus, everything else will seem plush," he said. The University also offers off-campus apartments at competitive rates for students over 21 and those with families.

Apartments are a common alternative to on-campus living. There are hundreds of complexes in the University district with prices ranging across the board.

The closer you get to campus, the more expensive the apartment. University students get free bus fair, which is a valuable convenience when living off campus.

The average one-bedroom apartment ranges from \$450 to \$500 per month. Studio apartments tend to be more pricey, depending on location.

Quads located near campus are heavily advertised to students. With four bedrooms attached to a shared kitchen, quads offer a low-cost option to those

who want to move out of the residence halls. Alder Street Quads, and Sun Dial Quads offer competitive rates. Prices range from \$250 to \$300 per person.

Fraternalities and sororities located on campus offer a cost-effective alternative to students who enjoy group living.

"It's cheaper, the food is better, friends are easier to make and it feels more like a home," said sophomore journalism major Amanda Dicke. She joined Kappa Delta last year to get away from the residence halls. With rates averaging \$4,000 to \$5,000 per year, greek life is a popular alternative.

Eyster said students have a tendency to grossly underestimate the cost of living off campus. The average college student spends \$100 to \$150 on food each month. Cable, Internet, phone and long distance services can often add up to more than \$100. Utilities, laundry and transportation are additional considerations students should take into account.

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