



# De Anza College International Student Programs Housing Guide

De Anza College, like most community colleges in the U.S., does not offer any dormitories or on-campus housing, but there are many choices for housing in our area which are in close proximity to shopping, restaurants, and bus routes to the campus.

This guide will introduce you to a variety of housing options and offer some tips and considerations to guide you in your housing search. Note that the International Student Programs office staff can only give you suggestions on finding housing; we do not make any housing arrangements for you, nor do we review or endorse any housing opportunities (see disclaimer at the bottom of the page).

## Hotels/Temporary Housing

If you do not have pre-arranged housing upon arrival in the U.S., you may need to stay at a hotel/motel or other temporary housing. There is a wide selection of hotels in the De Anza area, ranging from approx. \$100-\$300 per night. The following hotels are convenient by public transportation to De Anza:

*Corporate Inn* in Sunnyvale <http://www.corpinn.com> (44 min. by bus #55)

*Crestview Hotel* in Sunnyvale <http://www.hotelcrestview.com> (26 min. by bus #53)

*Cupertino Inn* <http://www.cupertinoinn.com> (32 min. by bus #81)

*Hilton Garden Inn* in Cupertino [www.hiltongardeninn.com](http://www.hiltongardeninn.com) (21 min. by bus #81)

*Quality Inn Sunnyvale* [www.choicehotels.com](http://www.choicehotels.com) (41 min. by bus #54)

*Towne Place Suites* in Sunnyvale [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com) (30 min. by bus #53)

*Woodcrest Hotel* <http://www.woodcresthotel.com> (33 min. by bus #23)

To find the lowest rates for these and other local hotels, you can use a general search site, like

- [www.hotels.com](http://www.hotels.com)
- [www.hotwire.com](http://www.hotwire.com)

## Short-term Rentals

Privately owned homes or apartments that are rented out for short periods of time can be found on the following rental sites:

- Airbnb [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com)
- VRBO [www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com)

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## Long-term Temporary Housing

Student rates are offered at Oakwood Silicon Valley located in Sunnyvale. For a minimum 1 month stay, Oakwood offers fully furnished units from studios to 2-bedrooms with all utilities included (WiFi, cable and phone), and in-unit appliances, fully equipped kitchen, linens, etc. Apartments can be shared by students upon request at time of booking (Max. Capacity: Jr studio max. 2 people; one bedroom max. 3 people; two bedroom max. 4 people). King-size and queen beds can be switched out for double beds at a small exchange fee.

Students can enjoy the flexibility of a 14-day notice to vacate instead of the usual 30-day notice.

*Oakwood Silicon Valley*- Enter promo code STDNT to view special student rates when booking online <https://www.oakwood.com/furnished-apartments/sunnyvale/Oakwood-Silicon-Valley> (42 min. by bus #55)

VIRTUAL TOUR: <https://www.vpix.net/index.php?tour=462379>

## Homestay

A homestay is a great way to improve your English, make new friends, get to know American culture, and concentrate on your studies without having to worry about household needs. It is also a great medium-term option for new international students who ultimately might want to rent an apartment, but need time to meet roommates and get familiar with the area. Homestays through the organization below are arranged on a two or three month basis.

Homestays with American families can be arranged by an organization called [International Student Placements \(www.isphomestays.com\)](http://www.isphomestays.com). Students pay a placement fee and fill out an application form so they can be placed with the most suitable family available. All families and homes are pre-screened and verified. Homes are usually within a 45 minutes to campus by bus, and students have a choice of including meals or no meals.

International Student Placements also offers “Shared Housing” for more independent students aged 18+. Students live in a house with other students in a community setting, sharing the kitchen, bathroom and living spaces.

Students should apply at least one month in advance of their desired move-in date and must pay at least 21 days before moving in. Please visit the ISP website ([www.isphomestays.com](http://www.isphomestays.com)) for more information.

## Apartments & Rentals

You can rent a variety of apartment styles including a studio or a multiple bedroom apartment, share an apartment with other people, or rent a room in a house. You will sign a contract (lease) and pay a deposit. **We do not recommend signing a lease or paying any fees without first meeting the property**

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**manager/landlord, seeing the place in person, and understanding all the terms and policies!!** Therefore, you should search for apartments/rentals after you arrive.

The rent varies according to location, size, and amenities. Please be aware that the cost to rent an apartment around De Anza College could range from \$1,700 to over \$3,000 for just a one-bedroom. Most students choose to share a room, apartment, or house with one or more roommates. Scroll down for information on finding a roommate.

Below are some websites for apartment listings:

- [Craigslist.org](http://Craigslist.org)
- [Apartments.com](http://Apartments.com)
- [Apartmentguide.com](http://Apartmentguide.com)
- [Zillow.com](http://Zillow.com)
- [Trulia.com](http://Trulia.com)
- [Zumper.com](http://Zumper.com)

These website are specifically designed for students searching for furnished apartments:

- [Wehousing.com](http://Wehousing.com)
- [Apartmentsearch.com](http://Apartmentsearch.com)



**Be careful of scams!!** Look for the following red flags and avoid pursuing rentals if:

- The rent cost seems significantly lower than other apartments in the same area
- The manager/landlord cannot meet you in person and/or you are unable to see the apartment in person
- You are asked to wire transfer money or send money via Western Union, Money Gram, or other money transfer services (this is not a common method of payment to landlords); you should expect to pay deposits and rental fees by check, money order, or direct deposit.
- The manager/landlord seems extra pushy or pressures you to sign a contract or pay a deposit before showing the unit

### Popular Apartment Complexes

Below is a list of some of the larger apartment complexes near De Anza which are conveniently located near supermarkets, shopping, and bus stops. These complexes offer on-site management and amenities that may include a pool, fitness center, washer/dryer, etc.

*Cupertino Park Center Apartments* - Phone: (866) 964-9118

[www.prometheusreg.com/san-francisco-bay-area-apartments/san-francisco-south-bay/cupertino-park-center](http://www.prometheusreg.com/san-francisco-bay-area-apartments/san-francisco-south-bay/cupertino-park-center)

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*City Gate at Cupertino* - Phone: (844) 236-2459

<http://www.equityapartments.com/san-francisco-bay/cupertino/city-gate-at-cupertino-apartments>

*Forge Homestead Apartments*- Phone: (408) 739-0870

*Glenbrook Apartments* - Phone: (877) 526-9526; <http://www.glenbrook-apartments.com/>

*Hearth Apartments* - Phone: (855) 782-0810; <http://www.hearthapts.com>

*Lincoln Glen*- Phone: (877) 916-5534; [www.lincolnglen.com](http://www.lincolnglen.com)

*Park Kiely*- Phone: (877) 959-3424; <http://www.parkkiely.com>

*Sage Cupertino*- Phone: (866) 517-5880;

<http://www.essexapartmenthomes.com/california-apartments/san-francisco-bay-area-apartments/sage>

*Shadow Oaks*- Phone: (669) 244-6588; <https://www.elevatetosequoia.com/apartments/ca/cupertino/shadow-oaks-apartment-homes/>

*Village Green Apartments* - Phone: (844) 259-2205; <http://www.villagegreenapartments.net/>

## Finding a Roommate

If you'd like to find another student to live with, you can use Facebook to connect with others in the De Anza community. To advertise for a roommate or check housing listings within the De Anza community, join [De](#)

[Anza International Students](#) or the [De Anza Housing](#) Facebook groups. 

Waiting to meet potential roommates at Orientation or during your first quarter at De Anza is a good idea if you are able to secure temporary housing in a hotel or homestay for your first couple months. You will have a better chance of getting along and ensuring a good living experience if you get to know and screen potential roommates before you move in together. Here are some examples of questions to remember to ask of yourself and your potential roommate(s) so you can find a good fit. Remember, even if you are good friends with someone, your habits might not be complimentary. It's always a good idea to ask questions about your lifestyle preferences.

- Do you prefer to stay up late or go to bed early?
- Are you generally loud or quiet?
- Do you plan on having many friends over?

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- Do you smoke or drink alcohol?
- Do you consider yourself neat and tidy or messy?

## Furnishing your apartment

Wondering where to find furniture for your apartment? Most students find furniture online through stores with delivery service, such as Amazon, Target, Walmart or Ikea. Used furniture can be found through Facebook groups, including the [De Anza International Students](#) group, [craigslist.org](http://craigslist.org), or mobile apps like Letgo or OfferUp.

CORT is a furniture rental service which offers student packages on a monthly basis. Visit [www.cort.com/student](http://www.cort.com/student) to learn more about this option.

## Common Housing Terms

**Condominium-** Also called a condo, this is a multi-unit residence building in which units are privately and separately owned while other property facilities are collectively owned

**Duplex-** A two-unit apartment or house in which each unit has a separate entrance but some facilities (e.g. garage, yard, laundry) may be shared.

**Furnished-** A unit/house that is rented with existing furniture (amount and type of furnishings vary)

**In-law unit-** A separate living space located adjacent to a single-family dwelling. Some facilities may be shared with the primary dwelling.

**Landlord-** A person who rents property to a tenant

**Lease-** A rental contract which outlines the terms of a property agreement, including the length of a rental (typical leases may be month to month, six-month, or 12-month) and the monthly rental fees

**Master bedroom-** The largest bedroom in a unit or house typically with its own private bathroom attached

**Month-to-month-** A type of lease in which the tenants are not committed to a full 12-year contract

**Property manager-** A person or organization in charge of managing a property

**Security deposit-** A set amount of money that a tenant must pay up front which is held by the landlord for the duration of the lease and may be used to cover damages, repairs, cleaning costs, and unpaid rent

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**Sublet-** An option to join a pre-existing lease and fill a vacant space for a temporary period

**Studio-** A small apartment with combined living and sleeping space (i.e. no separate kitchen or bedroom)

**Tenant-** A person who rents an apartment, building, or house

**Utilities-** A set of services for tenants including water, gas, and electricity which may or may not be included in monthly rental rates

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