

Housing Guide – Spring 2025

Finding Housing

To help you find suitable and affordable housing in New York City, we recommend that you consider sharing an apartment. Depending on the neighborhood and apartment, a Columbia graduate student's portion of rent within a share typically is at least \$1,200 per month. You should aim to begin your search at least 2-4 weeks before you plan to move in. However, many apartments are listed shortly before they become open, so don't worry if you don't see good options many weeks in advance. Once you do find something you like, be prepared to act quickly to finalize the arrangement.

Apartment Directories

We suggest starting your search on the below **classified sites**, which list housing options across NYC. Note that these include a combination of short-term sublets and apartments for yearly rent. You can specifically search for housing near Columbia University on all of these sites:

1. [Craigslist](#) and [Streeteasy](#) are favorites of those looking for apartments in NYC and often have listings for apartments in the Morningside area. Those of you who prefer to live further from campus –perhaps nearby in Harlem, downtown Manhattan, or in Brooklyn or Queens – may find these sites especially useful. (If you have questions about whether a particular neighborhood in the city is convenient to Columbia and otherwise recommended for you, we are happy to advise you.)
2. [Facebook marketplace](#) has listings, just set your location to New York (zipcode 10027 if you want to be near campus) and you'll see rentals/sublets
3. [Facebook Groups](#), both public and private (must request to join), post listings. Search "NYC housing" to find local groups that post frequently.
4. [ULoop](#) is a classifieds and news website managed by students of various universities. Use the search box at the top right of the page to find sublets close to Columbia.
5. [Oodle](#) is a site where Columbia students, especially those going away on exchange, put their apartments up for sublet. For apartments close to campus, try "[Columbia sublet](#)" or "[Morningside sublet](#)" as search words.
6. [Rentable](#) gives you access to many apartments near Columbia, allowing you to sort by price and neighborhood.

Once you receive your CU-issued ID (UNI), you will have access to the Columbia-affiliated sublets:

[Columbia Residential's Off-Campus Housing Marketplace](#) gives you access to CU-managed sublets as well as **commercial rental apartments** in the Columbia area. It also allows you to search for a Columbia-affiliated roommate. You must have a university-issued ID, or a UNI, in order to access the CU-managed options. Note that for shared apartments and dorm-style residences, you can only sublease from someone of the same gender as you.

Housing Scholarship

Lastly, if you anticipate that your rent in New York City is likely to be significantly higher than you had previously planned for in your home (graduate school) community, you may request a need-based housing scholarship award. These funds often take several weeks or longer to transfer from Columbia to your home institution, to you. As a result, this support often will not be available to facilitate your move or pay your first month or two of rent. Please also note

that these funds will be disbursed to you by your home institution consistently with its practices, which may be by posting the funds to your student account or as a direct payment. To request a housing scholarship, indicate you are interested in receiving housing support on your cohort application. Please note that housing awards are only available to students visiting from outside of New York City.

Transportation

If you are living off-campus and outside the Columbia/Morningside Heights area, it may be more convenient for you to find apartments that are close to the #1 subway line or are on another line from which it is possible to transfer to the #1 line, which is the only train line that goes directly to Columbia, via the 116 St. station. This [map](#) of the NYC subway system tells you which subway lines go through particular neighborhoods, and which lines connect to the #1 line. The 116 St. station on the B/C line is about a 10-minute walk to Columbia.

Personal Connections

In general, remember to reach out to your networks in NYC to see if there are people who would be interested in renting out a room to you in the fall or sharing an apartment with you. There are several students joining us from outside of NYC for the semester. If you would be interested in sharing an apartment and would like us to connect you with one another, we would be happy to do so.

Questions?

Contact us at cpri@law.columbia.edu with any questions big or small, or reach out to a Columbia housing advisor via phone (212-854-2773) or email (subletting@columbia.edu).

We look forward to seeing you in September!