

AUBURN RELOCATION GUIDE

—
2023-24

A GUIDE FOR NEWLY ARRIVING GRADUATE STUDENTS TO
AUBURN UNIVERSITY



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GLOSSARY OF TERMS



AVAILABILITY AND LEASING STRUCTURE

There is currently no university-based housing for graduate students. Most graduate students rent an apartment near the main university campus. Many graduate students live alone in a 1 bedroom or efficiency apartment. Others live in a shared apartment with one or more students. Students with a spouse and/or family may want to explore 2 or 3 bedroom rental options.

We encourage you to begin exploring options as soon as possible, as availability of units becomes more limited as the Fall term start date approaches. *Almost all Auburn rentals require a 12 month lease to begin in August and end July of the following year.* If you are newly arriving to begin Spring or Summer, a sublease may be your best option.

LOCAL REALTY COMPANIES

The following is a list of local realty companies. Each of these manage multiple residential rental properties at various locations throughout the Auburn area.



360 MANAGEMENT

Phone: 1+334.887.3606

Email: rentals@concepttoclosing.com

Website: <https://www.360managementservices.com/>



AUBURN REALTY

Office Location: 233 W Glenn Avenue, Auburn, AL 36830,USA

Phone: 1+334.887.8777 / Fax: 1+334.887.8770

Email: rentals@auburnrealty.net

Website: <https://www.auburnrealty.com/>



EVANS REALTY

Office Location: 729 E Glenn Avenue, Auburn, AL 36831,USA

Phone: 1+334.821.7098 / Fax: 1+334.821.1120

Website: <https://www.evansrealty.net/>



FIRST REALTY

Office Location: 428 E Magnolia Avenue, Auburn, AL 36831, USA

Phone: 1+334.887.3425/ Fax: 1+334.887.8839

Email: info@auburnrentals.com

Website: <https://www.auburnrentals.com/>



Indicates rental companies most commonly used by international grad students

LOCAL REALTY COMPANIES



FUCCI REALTY

Office Location: 429 Glenn Avenue, Auburn, AL. 36830, USA

Phone: 1+334.821.6581/ Fax: 1+334.821.1506

Email: admin@fuccirealty.com

Website: <https://www.fuccirealty.com/>



HAYLEY MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Address: 1943 S. College Street Suite E, Auburn, AL 36832, USA

Phone: 1+334.319.4724

Email: info@hayleymanagement.com

Website: <https://www.hayleymanagement.com/>



LIBERTY PROPERTIES

Address: 318 North College Street, Auburn, AL 36830, USA

Phone: 1+334.821.1600/ Fax: 1+334.821.1616

Website: <http://libertyproperties.info/auburn-rentals/>



NORTHCUTT REALTY

Address: 248 S Gay Street Auburn, AL 36830, USA

Phone: 1+334.826.7720/ Fax: 1+334.826.7741

Email: info@northcuttrealty.com

Website: <https://www.northcuttrealty.com/>



PLAINS PROPERTIES

Office Location: 930 Avenue A, Opelika, AL 36801, USA

Phone: 1+334.209.1120

Email: propertyontheplains@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.propertyontheplains.com/>



PRESTIGE PROPERTIES

Office Location: 472 N Dean Road Suite 101, Auburn AL 36830, USA

Phone: 1+334.887.5274/ Fax: 1+334.887.0389

Email: info@prestigeprops.com

Website: <http://www.prestigeprops.com/properties/rental-properties>



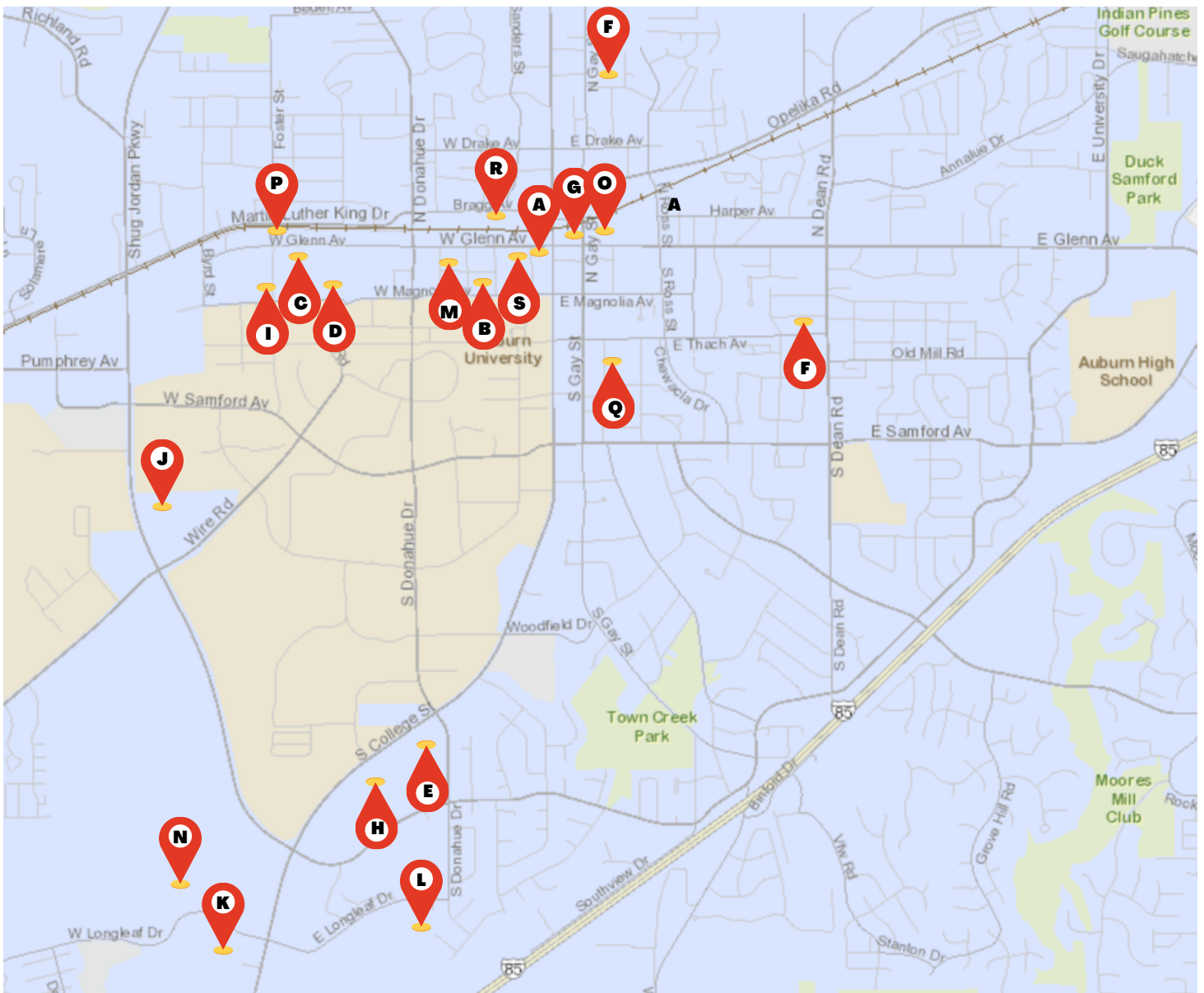
Indicates rental companies most commonly used by international grad students

INDIVIDUALLY MANAGED PROPERTIES

The following are individually managed properties that offer off-campus student housing. With these companies, the typical arrangement is rental of a private suite (bed and bath) with shared living space among several other suites. One bedroom apartments may be available.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| A. <u>191 College</u> | F. <u>The Avenue</u> | K. <u>The Magnolia</u> | P. <u>The Union</u> |
| B. <u>320 West Mag.</u> | G. <u>The Balcony</u> | L. <u>The Mill at Auburn</u> | Q. <u>Two 21 Armstrong</u> |
| C. <u>Dwell Logan Square</u> | H. <u>The Beacon</u> | M. <u>oLiv Auburn</u> | R. <u>Uncommon</u> |
| D. <u>Eagles West</u> | I. <u>Grove at Auburn</u> | N. <u>Samford Square</u> | S. <u>West & Wright</u> |
| E. <u>Evergreen</u> | J. <u>The Hub</u> | O. <u>The Standard</u> | |

TIP: Click on each property name above to be directed to the corresponding website.



ADDITIONAL LINKS FOR HOUSING RESOURCES

AU Student Affairs hosts the Off Campus Housing web page, which has postings for student rentals as well as roommate searches. You will also find helpful information about being a tenant in Auburn.

<https://offcampushousing.auburn.edu/>

The following are third party sites that allow users to search for rental listings using filters such as location, number of bed/bathrooms, price range, and amenities.

- [Hotpads.com](https://www.hotpads.com/)
- [Rent.com](https://www.rent.com/)
- [Apartmentlist.com](https://www.apartmentlist.com/)
- auburnapartmentguide.com

[Facebook resources](#)



The following are Facebook groups with housing-related posts.

- [Auburn University \(AU\) Housing, Sublets, & Roommates](#)
- [Auburn Alabama Rentals](#)
- [Auburn Graduate Student Online Forum](#)
(moderated by AU Graduate Student Council)

For a list of Facebook groups of various international and cultural student organizations, [visit here](#) .



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

Beginning graduate study, as well as settling in a new environment, can have many challenges. Your living space can impact how well you manage. Answering the following questions can help determine the best option for your housing.

HOW DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?	Individually	Roommate(s)	Local family	With my spouse/family
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?	Near main campus dept/lab	Near certain stores	In a certain environment	Near to public school/park
WHAT KIND OF HOUSING DO YOU PREFER?	Efficiency	1 Bedroom	2-3 bedroom	Rental house

- What is the monthly rent?
- What utilities will be needed for the rental? Are any of these utilities included with the rent?
- Is the rental unit within walking distance to my primary location for classes/research?
- Is the apartment near a Tiger Transit route? If yes, which transit route?
- Be aware that Tiger Transit service is not available on weekends.
- What is my earliest move-in date? Move-in dates for Fall term could be as late as mid-August, so it is important to ask.
- What amenities are included?
- Which of the following are near the apartment: grocery store, pharmacy, park, or recreational destination?

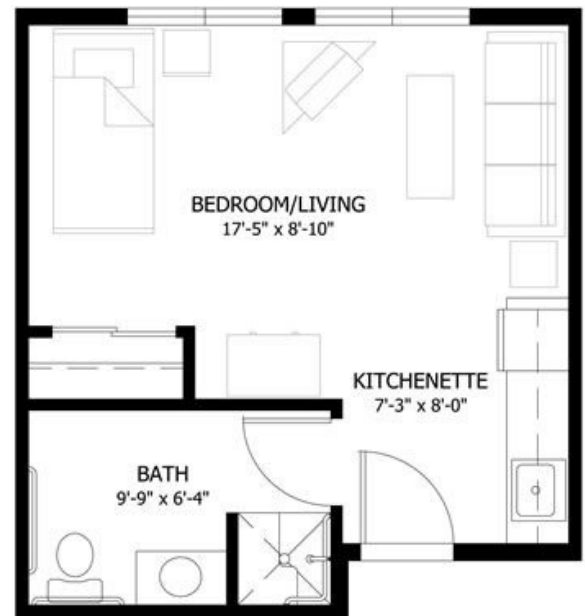
Consider what is important to know about your roommates before you decide to live with them. Assess/compare expectations of the household.

KINDS OF APARTMENT HOUSING

Room/Suite: Each occupant leased a private bedroom and bathroom. Common areas (living room, kitchen, and laundry) are shared by all occupants.



Studio: a single large room with attached kitchen or kitchenette and a separate bathroom.

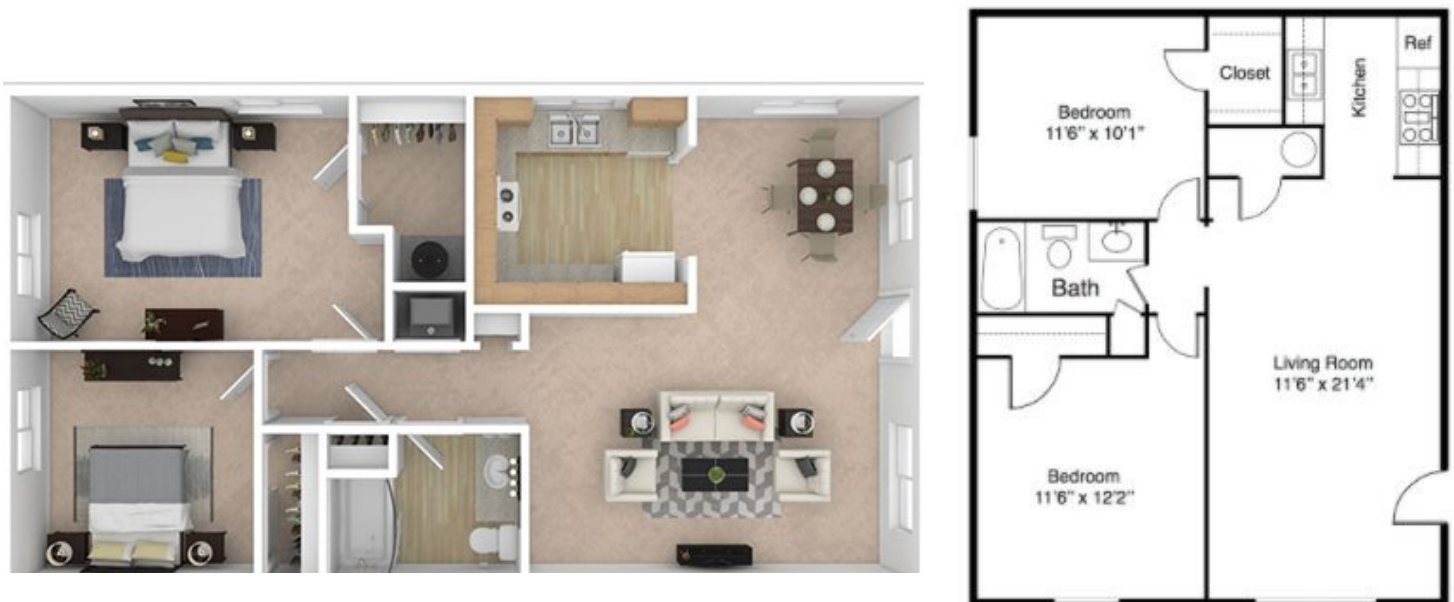


KINDS OF APARTMENT HOUSING

One bedroom: one bedroom (1BR) apartments have a separate bathroom and a separate bedroom; some have a kitchen that is separate from the living room, while others are more open concept, with the kitchen open to the living room.

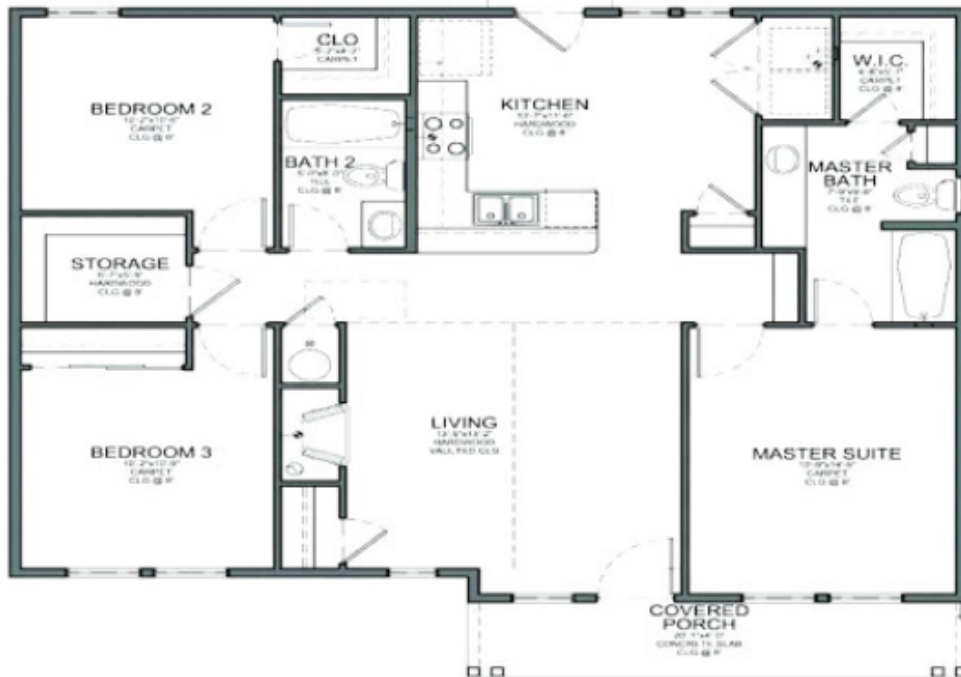


Two bedroom: in a typical two bedroom (2BR) apartment, each bedroom has a window, a closet, a door, and room for a bed and dresser. Usually there is only one bathroom, a kitchen, and a living room. Some may have 2 bathrooms.



KINDS OF APARTMENT HOUSING

Three bedroom: three bedroom (3BR) apartments typically have 1 master bedroom with a private bath, 2 additional bedrooms with shared bath, a kitchen and a living room.



Usually the student who chooses the master suite pays a higher amount than the students who share the bathroom.

ALTERNATIVES TO APARTMENT HOUSING

The following are additional types of rental housing that may be available through the various rental companies or any of the online resources provided.

- **Traditional single family house-** a house that is built on its own parcel of land with no shared properties
- **Mobile Home-** a large trailer or transportable prefabricated structure situated in one place and used as a permanent living accommodation. Many mobile homes are on lots in mobile home parks.
- **Duplex-** a house divided into two apartments, each with a separate entrance
- **Townhouse-** a multi-floor home that shares one to two walls with adjacent properties but has its own entrance

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO RENT HOUSING

Documents

You will need to provide documents to an agent or property management company as part of your application to rent housing.

For international students, documents will likely include:

- The I-20 Form
- Passport

Domestic students will likely need to provide documentation regarding income and a government issued ID. A credit check may also be part of the application process.

What is a guarantor?

A guarantor (or co-signor) is a person who takes legal responsibility to pay the rent if a tenant does not pay.

A guarantor may be required if your monthly income is less than 3 times the monthly rent. The guarantor would need to show proof of their income. In the U.S., guarantors whose income is made overseas are typically not accepted.

Fees

A rental will typically include the following fees:

- **Application fee:** A charge for processing your application
- **Security deposit:** Fee to secure against damage to the apartment. Tenants are refunded this fee at end of lease if rental remains in good condition.

Depending on included utilities, there may be a monthly fee and/or overage fee for utility usage. Be sure to ask.



HOUSEHOLD UTILITIES

Essential utilities normally include water and electricity. Some residences may also include natural gas. If a service is not included in your monthly rental fee and rental agreement, one individual in the household will typically need to open an account with the relevant utility company. The account holder will be billed monthly based on usage, and other occupants will agree to pay that person for his/her share.

Auburn Water Works Board provides residential water and waste management.



- Website: <https://www.auburnalabama.org/utility-billing/forms/>
- Address: 1501 West Samford Avenue, Bailey-Alexander Complex
- Residential Customer Service: (334) 501-3050, option 4
- Work hours: Monday- Friday 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
- Initial costs: \$27.50 water deposit, \$30.00 sewer deposit, \$30.00 garbage deposit (refundable), and a \$15.00 nonrefundable service charge.

Alabama Power is the company that provides residential electricity.



- Website: <https://www.alabamapower.com/>
- Address: 1699 S College St, Auburn, AL 36832
- Residential Customer Service: 1-800-245-2244
- Work hours: Monday- Friday 8:15 am - 4:45 pm
- Initial Costs: Deposit and Electric Service

Spire is the company that provides natural gas.



- Website: <https://www.spireenergy.com/>
- Residential Customer Service: 800-292-4008
- Customer charge \$7.99

LAUNDRY FACILITIES

Many apartments do not have in-residence clothes washer and dryer units or on-site laundry facilities. If laundry facilities are not included, the following locations have pay-per-use machines for public use.

Thach Hut Laundry

1219 E Thach Ave
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 826-6345

Varsity Enterprises Laundry

343 N College St. Auburn
(in Tiger Food Mart)
(334) 821-6155

Wash House

3605 Pepperell Pkwy
Opelika, AL 36801, US
(334) 749-2433

INTERNET SERVICE

The following are the primary providers of residential internet service in the city of Auburn. These companies also offer traditional cable TV service.

AT&T

- Website: <https://www.att.com/internet/>
- Residential Customer Service: 1-800-288-2020
- Address: 1121 S College St, Suite B, Auburn, AL 36832

Spectrum

- Website: <https://official.spectrum.com>
- Residential Customer Service: 1-855-710-8180
- Address: 1990 Mall Blvd, Auburn, AL 36830

WOW

- Website: <https://www.wowway.com/>
- Residential Customer Service: 1-866-376-7003
- Address: 1570 S. Phillips Rd, Lanett, AL 36863

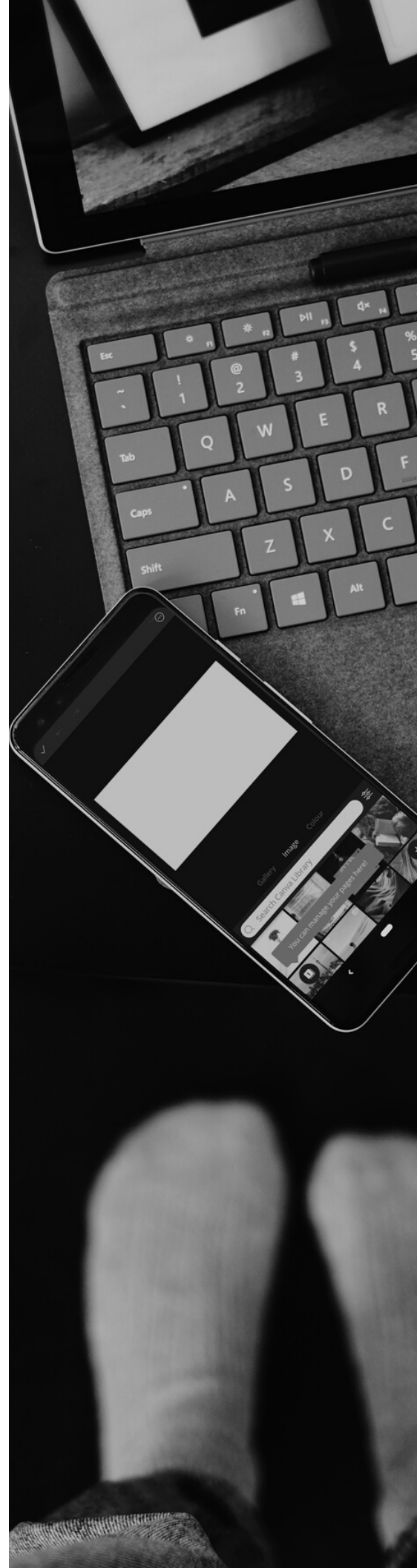
CELL PHONE SERVICE

- Verizon: <https://www.verizon.com/>
- AT&T: <https://www.att.com/>
- T-mobile: <https://www.t-mobile.com/>
- Cricket: <https://www.cricketwireless.com/stores/>

CELL PHONE SERVICE - PREPAID

Prepaid cell phone service or "pay as you go" service does not require a formal contract. You pay for a designated amount of phone service upfront and can cancel at any time without penalty.

- Walmart Family Mobile:
<https://www.myfamilymobile.com/>
- Mint Simm:
<https://www.mintmobile.com/>



LOCAL SHOPPING - FURNITURE & HOUSEWARES

Thrift Stores/Charity Shops sell gently used donated items such as furniture, clothing, appliances, household items and more. The proceeds from their sales support a specific charitable cause.

- Goodwill Store– 3740 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL
- Salvation Army – 1038 Opelika Road, Auburn, AL
- Life-Savers Mission Thrift Store – 2051 East University Drive, Auburn, AL
- Harvest Thrift Store – 2540 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL
- Habitat Restore - 3831 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL
- America's Thrift Store - 1640 Parker Way, Opelika, AL

Yard Sales/Garage Sales are held by members of the community – usually on a Saturday – at a private residence or other designated location. Gently used items for sale are typically displayed in a lawn, garage, or parking lot. Sale hours, location, and prices are determined by the individual(s) who organize the sale. Purchases are typically made via cash.

Ways to learn about upcoming yard sales/garage sales include roadside signs, printed classified ads in local publications, and postings on websites, including:

- Craigslist: <https://auburn.craigslist.org/>
- Opelika-Auburn News: <https://oanow.com/>



LOCAL SHOPPING - FURNITURE & HOUSEWARES

Facebook Marketplace local listings can be an option for finding pre-owned furniture and home goods for sale. Also, the following local groups whose members post items for sale or free:

- Auburn Opelika Online Classifieds/Garage/Yard Sale Community
- Auburn University - Buy and Sell (students only)
- Buy Nothing Auburn

TIP: Please exercise safety precautions if agreeing to meet someone to view/buy a listed item.

LOCAL SHOPPING - GROCERY & PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Groceries, personal care items, and cleaning products can be found at the following local supermarkets. Please note that certain culture-specific ingredients or products may be more difficult to find in these stores or may be costlier than they would be in a larger city with culture-specific markets.

● Publix (3 locations)

- 138 S Gay St, Auburn, AL
- 2900 East University Dr, Auburn, AL
- 2415 Moores Mill Rd, Auburn, AL

● Aldi

400 Frederick Rd, Opelika, AL*

● Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market (2 locations)

- 1810 Shug Jordan Pkwy, Auburn, AL*
- 12047 East University Dr, Auburn, AL

● Kroger (2 locations)

- 300 North Dean Rd, Auburn, AL
- 2460 Enterprise Dr, Opelika, AL*

● Winn Dixie

1619 South College St, Auburn, AL

● Wal-Mart Super Center (2 locations)

- 2900 Pepperell Pkwy, Opelika, AL*
- 1717 South College St, Auburn, AL

The following pharmacy stores have grocery, toiletry, and healthcare items.

● CVS (2 locations near campus)

- 333 S College St, Auburn, AL
- 770 East Glenn Ave, Auburn, AL

● Walgreens

- 765 East Glenn Ave, Auburn, AL

*TIP: Stores marked with * are on the route of the Tiger Transit Friday Evening Shopping Shuttle.*

LOCAL SHOPPING - SPECIALTY & DISCOUNT STORES

Specialty Grocery Stores

- Asian Supermarket* has a large selection of Asian grocery items
 - 3750 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL 36801
- Parkway Farmer's Market sells fresh produce and select other foods
 - 2180 1st Avenue, Opelika, AL 36801

Discount Stores

- Ollie's Bargain Outlet
 - 2440 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL36801
- Family Dollar Stores
 - 316 N Donahue Drive, Auburn, AL 36832
- Dollar Tree
 - 1915 S College Street, Auburn, AL 36832
 - 3000 Pepperell Parkway Ste 2, Opelika, AL 36801
- Bargain Hunt
 - 3724 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL 36801
- Dollar General
 - 196 East University Drive, Auburn, AL 36830
 - 1106 Opelika Road, Auburn, AL 36830
- Ross Dress for Less*
 - 2087 Tiger Town Parkway, Opelika, AL 36801

*TIP: Stores marked with * are on the route of the Tiger Transit Friday Evening Shopping Shuttle.*





TOOMER'S CORNER
AUBURN DOWNTOWN

THE CITY OF AUBURN

Toomer's Corner is a well-known location at the intersection of College Street and Magnolia Avenue, across from the main entrance to the AU campus. Within a few blocks are a number of restaurants, local shops, and cafes as well as a large concentration of apartments

Auburn has been given the nickname the "*Loveliest Village on the Plains*" by long-term residents. Though the population continues to grow, Auburn residents appreciate the small town charm and sense of community Auburn offers.

Learn more about the city you will call home during your time at Auburn University. Visit the City of Auburn website. 🌐
 Also, a great resource for recreational opportunities as well as cultural and community events is the Auburn Opelika Tourism site. 🌐




AUBURN STATS

Population (2023)	78,552
Average Temperature	12°C - 24°C
Median Resident Age	28 years



- **Lease:** A lease is a rental agreement between the property manager/owner and the person paying rent. *Most lease agreements in Auburn are for a 12 month period, beginning in August and ending in July of the following year.* Before you sign a lease, be sure to read the agreement thoroughly. Clarify any items you do not understand.*
- **Sublease:** A sublease involves renting (to a third party) a portion of the tenant's existing lease contract. Even if a tenant subleases a property, the original tenant is still liable for the obligations stated in the lease agreement, such as the payment of rent each month.
- **Roommates:** In the U.S., we use the term roommates to describe 2 or more unrelated people sharing an apartment or house, though each individual usually has their own bedroom.
- **Utilities:** Utilities are services that are necessary or useful to living, such as electricity, natural gas, water, cable television, internet service, etc. Most rental agreements do not include utilities, so it is often required for the occupant to have an account with each utility company and pay a monthly bill for the service.
- **Amenities:** Amenities are extra benefits or on-site facilities that may be included as part of the lease agreement for residents in a particular apartment complex. Examples of common amenities are swimming pool, gym, laundry facilities, business center, parking space, playground, etc. These amenities are not often available when renting houses, mobile homes, townhouses, or duplex apartments.

*For assistance with understanding the conditions and terms of a lease agreement, a helpful resource for students is the University Ombuds Office. 

AU INTERCONNECT

A Cross-Cultural Initiative of
AUBURN UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL



InterConnect

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