



Off Campus Housing Referrals

University of Massachusetts Amherst | 235 Whitmore Administration Building | 413-577-2187 | www.housing.umass.edu

How to Search for a Place to Rent

Before you begin your search we suggest you consider these questions:

- What kind of rental unit are you looking for? A studio, 1, 2, or 3 bedroom? A house? An apartment in a complex or in a house/small building? Do you want to join an existing household? Do you want to rent a room in a private home?
- What are your transportation needs? Within walking distance of campus? On a bus route? Do you need proximity to the highway or your job?
- What factors are essential? Must pets be permitted? What about off-street parking? Does it need to be furnished? Does it need to be wheelchair accessible? Does it need to permit (or prohibit) smoking?
- What are your financial means? Living with others can lower your expenses. Rooms in private homes can be the most cost effective. Remember to factor in the cost of utilities, purchasing furniture, and other supplies.

Here's how you can search for a 1 bedroom apartment in Amherst, that's on a bus route, and where the landlord or homeowner will accept dogs.

- (1) Click the maroon "Housing" link on the left side of your screen. The menu will expand.
- (2) Click "Search Posted Listings."
- (3) Bedrooms available: insert 1
- (4) Requirements: check "Dog Friendly."
- (5) Unit Types: uncheck the "Any" box. Check Apartment/Condo in Complex and Apartment in House/Small Building.
- (6) Unit Occupancy: If you select 'vacant' it will search for units that are entirely vacant. If you select 'shared,' it will search for any unit where there is 1 bedroom available in an already established household. Select 'no preference' if it doesn't matter.
- (7) Town: uncheck the "Any" box. Check Amherst. Leaving the "Any" box checked will widen the search to any 1 bedroom apartment that will accept dogs.
- (8) Click the "View All Results" button at the bottom of the page.
- (9) To view the information provided about the rental and the Landlord contact information, click on the address.

Once you have done your initial search you can narrow the search further by selecting the Search Tab and adding other search criteria such as utilities Included, or furnished, or on a UMass bus route.