

**NAVIGATING NYC HOUSING for
GENERAL STUDIES VETERANS**

General Studies | Columbia University

GENERAL STUDIES HOUSING

Deciding where to live as a GS student is a very important decision, one to which serious consideration should be given. New York's many and diverse neighborhoods combined with an extensive public transportation system offer a variety of housing options that are convenient to the Columbia campus.

GS students reside in many different housing situations. A number of students stay in University-owned housing, many live at home, and some secure other non-University housing in the New York area.

Please consult this webpage for further information about Columbia Housing and off-campus Housing

www.gs.columbia.edu/housing

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

<https://gs.columbia.edu/housing#new>

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING ASSISTANCE OFFICE (OCHA)

[OCHA](#) provides advice on finding rentals in non-Columbia owned buildings, and maintains a [website and online database](#) of available rooms, apartments, and apartment shares in the greater metropolitan area. This service is open to all Columbia students, full- and part-time.

Office Location:

419 West 119th Street

(212) 854-2773

OTHER HOUSING RESOURCES

The information on the pages linked below is provided as a service to students of the School of General Studies. The School of General Studies does not endorse any of the services, facilities, or resources listed.

Apartment Hunting Resources

Contains links to apartment listings databases, including OCHA, a free service available only to Columbia University students, as well as additional pertinent resources.

Long-Term Housing Options

Contains information on the many different types of long-term residential options available to students in New York. Students are advised to read the requirements for each residence carefully.

Short-Term Housing Options

Prospective students who wish to visit Columbia or students still looking for permanent accommodations may wish to consider the short-term housing options found on this page.

VETERAN-SPECIFIC RESOURCES FOR HOUSING

Housing

gs-housing@columbia.edu

GS Office of Veteran Initiatives

David Keefe, Senior Assistant Dena of Veteran Initiatives

gsveterans@columbia.edu

NYC Department of Veterans' Services

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/veterans/programs/housing.page>

The Housing & Support Services (HSS) unit drives efforts to expand and improve housing and social service resources available to NYC veterans and their families and aids constituents in navigating existing resources.

SHORT-TERM STAY IN NYC

Hostelling International USA ~ 103rd & Amsterdam, Upper West Side

Cost \$54-\$90/night (max stay 20 days)

www.hiusa.org/hostels/new-york/new-york/new-york-city

Soldiers', Sailors', Marines', Coast Guard & Airmen's Club ~ 283 Lexington, Midtown Manhattan

Veteran cost \$65/night (max. stay 21 days)

<http://ssmaclub.org/>

AirBnB ~ Available in all 5 boroughs

Prices start from \$50 depending on location

www.airbnb.com/s/New-York-City

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Consider your commute time

Check Google Maps and public transportation routes

Cost of commute:

\$127.00/month Unlimited Metro Card in NYC Transit subway and bus region

Additional Long Island Rail Road or Metro North Cards can cost \$200-\$400/month

Cost of having a car in NYC:

\$700 average monthly expenses for insurance premiums, gas prices, and parking expenses.

***You can comfortably live without a car in much of NYC.*

NYC Department of Veterans' Services

HOUSING SUPPORT

- [VA Home Loans](#)
- [Rental Assistance in NYC](#)
- [Affordable Housing in NYC](#)
- [HPD Info on Affordable Homeownership](#)
- [HPD Section 8](#)
- [NYCHA Section 8](#)
- [Applying for Public Housing](#)
- [NYC Housing Connect](#)
- [Mitchell-Lama Housing](#)
- [Supportive Housing](#)

OTHER

Insurent Lease Guaranty Program

Instead of a guarantor or co-signer, or having to pay a significantly larger security deposit or prepaid rent, a renter may utilize the Insurent® Lease Guaranty to satisfy the landlord's financial and credit requirements.

<http://www.insurent.com/>

Consider sharing costs with a roommate you find or through a commercial online site:

<https://www.roomster.com>

<https://www.easyroommate.com>

VETERAN HOUSING SUPPORT (NON-VA)

Samaritan Village Supportive Services for Veteran Families

SSVF assists veteran families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Provide temporary financial assistance, housing counseling, legal service referrals, and permanent individual housing.

<http://www.samaritanvillage.org/people-we-serve/veterans>

Joseph Cameron (212) 586-1270 ext. 3479

Black Veterans for Social Justice (BVSJ)

Affordable, low-income housing options for veterans and their families residing in the NYC shelter system or in danger of becoming homeless.

<http://www.bvsj.org/housing>

Habitat for Humanity NYC: Habitat for Heroes

Housing applications available for veterans, income qualified and sweat equity to help others build homes.

<https://habitatnyc.org/volunteer/habitat-for-heroes>

GENERAL AND EMERGENCY VETERAN HOUSING SUPPORT

Dept of Veterans Affairs

1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838)

HUD-VASH (Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing) Voucher for housing and case management services.

HELP USA

Fresh Start Initiative helps veterans who receive VASH Vouchers secure subsidized housing.

<http://www.helpusa.org/who-we-serve/veterans/>

Jericho Project

Housing and supportive services for veterans.

<http://www.jerichoproject.org/programs-services/veterans-initiative/>

The Bridge Fund

Housing and supportive services available for veterans in NYC.

<http://thebridgeny.org/programs/veterans-services>

Long March Home

Comprehensive map detailing organizations in NYC that provide assistance to homeless veterans.

http://www.longmarchhome.org/housing_map.html

NYC HOMEBASE

Call 311 for NYC services available near you.