

Off-Campus Housing Guide

Third Edition

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Contents

Authorization to Live Off Campus	2
The Housing Search.....	2
Rights and Responsibilities of a Tenant	7
Transportation and Parking	11
Utilities	14
Neighborhood Relations	15
Personal Safety	17
Off-Campus Student Reference Resources.....	19
Budget Planning.....	24

Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to assist students who have been granted authorization to live off campus in making a successful transition to living in the Nashville community.

In addition, this guide is designed to make you aware of your privileges and responsibilities as a member of a neighborhood community. We hope that this awareness will assist you in establishing and maintaining positive relationships with your student and non-student neighbors.

We hope that you find this guide helpful, and we welcome comments and suggestions.

How To Use This Guide

This guide is intended to be a resource for you as you decide whether or not to live off campus, and where to live off campus. It has useful contact information for completing your off-campus application, finding a place to live, signing a lease, and setting up utilities.

Authorization To Live Off Campus

Vanderbilt University is a residential campus, and the residential experience is understood to be an integral part of a Vanderbilt education. Life in the residence halls at Vanderbilt is intended to support and complement students' academic experience and to further their growth and development. The University's commitment to the residential experience is expressed in the Residential Requirement:

All unmarried undergraduate students, except those who live with their families in Davidson County, must live in residence halls on campus during the academic year, May Session, and Summer session while enrolled at the university. Authorization to live elsewhere is granted at the discretion of the director of housing assignments when situations warrant or when space is unavailable on campus.
(2011–2012 Student Handbook)

All students interested in off-campus living for the 2012–2013 academic year must apply for on-campus housing and submit an off-campus request online February 6–12, 2012. The online housing application and off-campus request form can be accessed at vanderbilt.edu/ResEd beginning February 6. Students who currently have off-campus authorization must apply for re-authorization each year.

Off-campus authorization decisions will be announced on February 16. Students granted off-campus authorization have until 5 p.m. on February 28 to change their minds and go through the on-campus housing assignment process. Students declining off-campus authorization after 5 p.m. on February 28 will lose a point or a class in seniority in the housing assignment process and will not be allowed to reserve their current spaces.

The Housing Search

Before looking for housing, you should determine the housing that meets your particular needs and matches your preferences. Below are some questions that you might answer before looking at housing options.

Do you have authorization to live off campus?

Have you checked the "Do Not Rent" list of properties located online?
vanderbilt.edu/ResEd/main/housing-assignments/off-campus-assignment-path/do-not-rent-from-these-properties

Are you interested in having your own private space, or would you prefer sharing space and expenses?

What is the maximum amount of money that you can contribute to housing?

How close do you want to be to campus?

How much time can you commit to commuting, and how much money are you willing to pay for transportation?

Would you prefer a place that is furnished or unfurnished?

Would you like to have access to a kitchen? A deck? A yard?

Would you prefer amenities such as a washer and dryer?

Would you like a place that allows pets?

Do you need a place with parking privileges? If not, do you need housing close to public transportation?

In which arrangement would you prefer to live?

- Single apartment
- Shared apartment
- Room in private house
- Room in group house
- Townhouse
- Other special situation

LISTINGS

There are many places where you can find listings for housing. Some of the best sources include the following:

Vanderbilt University Off-Campus Referral Database

This database is maintained for Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff, and prospective landlords. It includes advertisements by landlords looking for tenants as well as by students looking for roommates.

To access the database, type the following address into your browser:
apphost1a.its.vanderbilt.edu/housing/Main

The Tennessean and City Paper

These are the daily newspapers for the Nashville area. *The Tennessean* has an extensive housing section on Sundays, and more limited listings can be

found on the other days of the week in both papers. The listings for housing in the *Tennessean* can also be accessed at classifieds.tennessean.com

Apartment Guide and Apartment Finder

These publications have listings for vacant apartments and can be acquired at any bookstore or newsstand. Listings may also be accessed online at apartmentguide.com and apartmentfinder.com

Local Newspaper

If you know the area where you might be interested in living, one of the best ways to find listings is to buy a local paper from the area. Most of these papers are weeklies and can be found at any local grocery store, service station, newsstand, or bookstore.

Other Sources

Do not overlook other sources that often have housing information: realtors, community bulletin boards on campus and inside stores, or word of mouth by friends. If you are interested in a particular area, it might be advisable to walk through the neighborhood and look for “for rent” signs.

SEARCHING TIPS

Below are some general tips to keep in mind when looking at a location.

Timing—Start your search early. Give yourself enough time for unexpected setbacks and enough time to explore all of your options. For fall occupancy, start looking by the end of March, if possible, or when vacancies occur.

Make an Appointment, and Arrive Early—One of the ways that you can be sure to view the property is to arrive announced. Arriving five minutes early demonstrates responsibility as a prospective renter.

Be Presentable—Like it or not, first impressions are meaningful. Proper attire will improve your chances of success.

Be Persistent—Many landlords will take your name and say that they will get back with you soon. If the landlord or realtor has not called within four days, give him or her a call reminding the contact person that you are still interested.

Bring Your Checkbook—A situation may arise where the landlord will be

prepared to take your deposit after you view the property. **Always** write checks (never give cash) for your deposit and monthly rent, and **always** get a dated receipt that proves you paid your rent for the month. **Do not commit to a lease or rental agreement until you have secured authorization to live off campus.**

Look Beyond the Surface—If this is the first time that you have looked at housing, it is advisable to take along a person who has experience looking at real estate, whether that person be a parent, a friend who rented an apartment last year, or someone else.

Consider the following items when looking at a rental property:

GENERAL

Is the neighborhood safe? You might talk with neighbors in the area or drive with a friend at night to get a feel for it. Crime statistics are available online at police.nashville.org or crimemapping.com/map/tn/nashville.

Are there security features? Does the door have a deadbolt lock? Can all the windows be locked? Are all of the locks in working order? Is there a community watch group in the neighborhood?

Are there smoke and carbon monoxide detectors? Is the smoke detector hard wired? (If not, be sure to replace the batteries in the detector with new batteries when you move in.) Does the property have a fire escape? Is there a fire extinguisher in the residential unit? Has it been inspected?

Is there any asbestos (the landowner will either have to tell you or check and get back to you)? Is there lead paint?

How old is the house/apartment/rental unit? Has it been renovated?

Are the storage spaces, including closets, sufficient to meet your needs?

Are the walls thick enough to prevent you from hearing noises from the neighbors? Can the neighbors hear you?:

PESTS (*Be sure to check cabinets and under kitchen sinks.*)

Are there any mousetraps or droppings?

Are there slug trails? Small piles of sawdust (termites)?

Are there any unusual or rancid smells?

AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

Is there a wall unit or a central unit?

How easily can the room temperature be adjusted?

Are heating and cooling included with utilities or paid separately?

Is the water heater large enough for all renters to have enough hot water?

ELECTRICITY

Are there multiple outlets per room?

Are the outlets grounded?

Has the electrical work been professionally installed?

Are the entrances well lit at night?

PLUMBING

Do all the taps (toilet, faucets) have ample water pressure?

Do any of the faucets drip? Does each fixture have a shut-off valve?

Can you see any leaks or evidence of leaks under fixtures?

APPLIANCES & UTILITIES

Are the stove, range, refrigerator, garbage disposal, microwave, and dishwasher in working order?

Is there a washer and dryer? If not, where is the nearest laundry facility, and what are its prices?

If you are responsible for paying the utilities, ask to see the past year's utility bills to get an estimate of the costs. (Be aware that utility costs can vary widely based on individual usage and market prices.)

STRUCTURES & AESTHETICS

Are the grounds and exterior of the building well kept? Their condition is an indicator of the degree of maintenance you may expect.

If the unit is furnished, what is the condition of the furniture?

Are there any cracks in the foundation on the exterior or in the basement?

Is the rented space accessible during inclement weather?

NEARBY FACILITIES

Where is the nearest supermarket? Laundromat? Convenience store? Discount store?

Where is the closest bus stop? How close is the unit to campus? What is the best route to campus? Is the route in a high-traffic area?

Where is the nearest hospital? Library? Park? How close is the location to I-65, I-40, I-24, I-440?

BUILDING CODES

Ask for a letter from the landlord stating that the building meets local building codes and is being leased in compliance with land use requirements.

UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

If you play an instrument, are part of a band that practices at your place of residence, or expect to entertain frequently, visit the next-door neighbors before you sign the lease to find out if these activities are likely to cause disagreements and conflicts.

Rights and Responsibilities of a Tenant

Vanderbilt University does not provide legal representation, protection, or any other services on behalf of off-campus students. When your off-campus housing authorization is approved, you are released from your Vanderbilt housing contract. You enter into your own agreements, leases, and other obligations.

Vanderbilt University does not present the following information as legal advice. Rather, the information is provided in order to assist you in landlord-tenant relations.

GENERAL RENTING TIPS

Make sure that you have authorization to live off campus.

Read any legal document fully before signing it.

Have a witness when you sign documents or interact with your landlord.

Keep and date your receipts. They may be important later.

When you want something fixed by your landlord, put your request in writing, and keep a copy. (This can be used to document that you tried to get something done.)

Before moving in, make a detailed list of damage and defects. Both you and your landlord should sign the list. This procedure will prevent the landlord from claiming damage for which you are not responsible. (Try to use the same procedure when moving out.)

TENANT RIGHTS

Fair housing statutes give tenants the right to freedom from discrimination because of race, color, or national origin, your sex, or your religion, or because you have children with you, or because of a disability.

You are also entitled to:

A clean, safe place to live, in compliance with the warranty of habitability. This includes:

- Structurally sound building
- Waterproof roofs, ceilings, and walls
- Hot and cold running water
- Bathroom equipment and drains that work properly
- Doors that lock properly and windows that work and can be locked
- Apartment/house free from infestation of roaches and/or rodents
- A building with smoke detectors, a fire extinguisher, and a fire escape
- Repairs made promptly and properly by property owner/manager
- Privacy and protection from intrusion and harassment by the landlord
- Quiet enjoyment and full possession and use of the premises

Make complaints to governmental authorities about violation of rights without retaliation.

Move out when necessity arises, for any number of legitimate reasons, and have the landlord make a diligent effort to mitigate damages.

Prompt return of all deposits and interest due.

Property seizures, lock-outs, or evictions only in accordance with established legal procedures and with proper advance notice (ten days after the landlord wins in court).

Recovery of damages for violation of rights.

A lease that guarantees these rights in writing.

TENANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Leave apartment clean and in a condition similar to its condition at the beginning of the lease, wear and tear excepted. Complete a move-in/move-out checklist.

Provide proper written notice of intention to terminate or renew lease.

Provide written notice of forwarding address for the return of security deposit.

Use the dwelling unit for residential purposes only (not for business or commercial purposes or any illegal activity).

Limit the number of people living in the unit to the number of people written into the lease. (However, this provision does not mean that the landlord can restrict your right to have visitors on the premises or a reasonable number of overnight guests for a reasonable duration.)

Pay both the rent and utility bills that are the tenant's responsibility according to the lease, on the due dates and in the agreed way.

Keep the unit clean and safe; notify the landlord promptly of any damage to the premises; pay for any damage caused by you or your guests. This provision does not apply to normal wear and tear and maintenance of the property, which are the responsibilities of the landlord.

Dispose of trash and other waste in a clean and safe manner and according to the instructions provided by the landlord. If tenants violate trash disposal rules, they can be fined by the Metro Government of Nashville.

OTHER TENANT RIGHTS RESOURCES:

For Tennessee specific information:

tn.gov/consumer/documents/LandlordTenantBrochure.pdf

For links to a variety of information, provided by the federal government and HUD: **portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/states/tennessee/renting/tenantrights**

For the National Housing Advocate publication online. A project of the Tennessee Fair Housing Council:

fairhousing.com

For free legal advice on landlord-tenant law, in a question and answer format, by attorneys. This site has definitions of landlord, tenant, roommate, subtenant, and rental agreement:

freeadvice.com

For legal information on the privacy policy, as well as buying, renting, selling, financing, and moving:

living.apartments.com

The Fair Housing Act

It is illegal to discriminate in the sale, lease, or rental of housing, or to make housing otherwise unavailable, because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

The Equal Credit Opportunity Act

Discrimination is unlawful with respect to any aspect of a credit application on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, or age, or because all or part of the applicant's income derives from any public assistance program.

THINKING OF HOSTING A PARTY WITH ALCOHOL? THINK TWICE.

Several years ago, a father hosted an eighteenth-birthday party for his child. He informed his child and the attendants that they would have to spend the night if anyone was drinking. Despite his attempt to prevent drinking and driving, two partygoers left the party intoxicated, and their evening ended in an unfortunate car accident. The driver and passenger were severely injured. Although the driver and the passenger involved in the accident were not invited to the party, the jury found the father and the driver liable for a multimillion dollar settlement.

What does this mean for you? It means that if you choose to have a party and alcohol is served or made available to anyone who attends, then you, as the host, may be held liable and accountable for any accidents, vehicular or other-wise, that your partygoers incur. Not only would you face criminal or civil action, but you would also be in violation of university policy. (Remember, the Vanderbilt Alcohol Policy prohibits kegs and other common containers.) Our advice is to **Think Twice** before you find yourself in an unfortunate situation similar to the one above.

Vanderbilt University alcohol policies are available in the student handbook and online at vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/alcohol-and-controlled-substances.

Transportation and Parking

TRAFFIC LAWS & REGULATIONS

Car Insurance

Tennessee law requires liability insurance for cars registered in state.

Seatbelt Law

Drivers are required to wear seatbelts or be subject to fine.

Parking on Campus

The speed limit is 15 miles per hour in campus drives and in parking lots, 10 miles per hour in garages.

Purchasing a Parking Permit

Students operating vehicles on campus are required to register their vehicles and to obtain parking permits from the Office of Traffic and Parking located in Wesley Place Garage. Vehicles can be registered, and permits purchased online at vanderbilt.edu/traffic_parking. Additional information on cost and zones can be found here as well.

Parking Zones

The school in which you are registered determines your parking zone. Zone 1 permits are issued to Peabody students. Zone 2 permits are given to Divinity, Management, and Law School students. Zone 3 permits are given to Arts and Science students and to Engineering students.

Commuter parking zones are restricted for use by vehicles with the appropriate zone permits Monday through Friday with the following exceptions:

- Any motor vehicle registered with the university may park in non-reserved parking spaces in zone lots from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m., Monday through Friday, and all day Saturday and Sunday.
- Vehicles with zone permits may park in any other zone after 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and all day Saturday and Sunday.

- LA permits may park in non-reserved spaces of zone lots from 2:30 p.m. until 7:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, and all day Saturday and Sunday.
- Holders of F, G, VK, and J permits may cross park after 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and all day Saturday and Sunday.

Reporting an Accident

Accidents that result in personal injury should be reported to the Vanderbilt University Police Department at 322-2745 or, in life threatening situations, at 421-1911. Automobile accidents resulting in damage exceeding \$400 must be reported to the Metro police.

Violations and Tickets

Violations and fines for parking are strictly enforced. Warning tickets are not issued. Fines issued must be paid within fifteen days. If not paid (or appealed) within this time, student tickets will be charged to the student's account.

Traffic citations may be appealed to the Traffic Appeals Committee by visiting vanderbilt.edu/traffic_parking/index.html

Appeals are reviewed by a representative of the Traffic Committee who acts in accordance with guidelines set by the committee. An appeal received by the deadline (citation must be appealed within 10 days) from any person whose vehicle is registered at the time the citation is issued will be considered. An appeal from an individual who does not have a parking permit will not be accepted. If an appeal is granted, paid fines will be reimbursed.

For more information refer to:

www.vanderbilt.edu/traffic_parking

or contact:

Office of Traffic and Parking

Wesley Place Garage

2043 Scarritt Place

Nashville, TN 37203

Phone: (615) 322-2554

Fax: (615) 343-1975

Street Parking

Vehicles parked on the street should be parallel with the edge of the roadway, headed in the direction of traffic, and have the curbside wheels within 18 inches from the edge of the roadway. A vehicle should not be parked with the left side of the vehicle to the curb, except on one-way streets.

In addition, vehicles cannot be parked on a sidewalk, on the roadway side of any vehicle parked on the edge of the street (double parking), within 30 feet upon the approach of a flashing signal or stop sign located at the side of a roadway, within 30 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection, or in front of a driveway or garage. (*Metro Codes 12.40.040 and 12.40.130*)

Public Transportation

The Metro Transit Authority administers the bus system in Nashville. Several bus routes have stops on campus, they are listed below. More information is available online at nashvillemta.org.

Bus Route 3	West End/White Bridge
Bus Route 5	West End/Bellevue
Bus Route 7	Hillsboro
Bus Route 11	West End/Belmont
Bus Route 25	Midtown

Visit nashvillemta.org for fare and route information.

Utilities

Below is a list of contact information to arrange service for basic utilities (cable, Internet, telephone, electricity, trash collection, water/sewage, and recycling).

NASHVILLE ELECTRIC SERVICE

1214 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37246
Customer Service (615) 736-6900 (24-hour service)
nespower.com

TRASH COLLECTION

Metro Department of Public Works

621 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37228
Regional Number (615) 880-1000

TO ESTABLISH WATER AND SEWER SERVICE FOR RESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS

Metro Water Services

1600 Second Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37208
Regional Number (615) 862-4600
nashville.gov/water

Neighborhood Relations

DEAR VANDERBILT STUDENT:

Our university is fortunate in many ways. It is located in a vibrant city and adjacent to safe, secure neighborhoods. The university is committed to building and maintaining the strong relationships it has developed with our community. Vanderbilt's Offices of Housing and Residential Education and Community, Neighborhood, and Government Relations actively look for ways to work with the neighbors, to solve problems, and to improve the quality of life. However, it is a job that takes more than a handful of people within the university.

As residents of the Nashville community, you are also neighbors of Vanderbilt. In addition to the university's concern that your educational experience be rewarding and positive, we want to assist you so that your experience living off campus is also a good one. In this spirit, we have created the following list of tips. Please review the list and consult each point. Let us know of any additional information that would be helpful to you.

Meet your neighbors. Small gestures of consideration and common courtesies toward your neighbors will pay dividends in the long run.

Find common ground. Do your neighbors include a young child interested in sports or music, or an elderly neighbor who may welcome some help? Or possibly a neighbor who is in the midst of, or just retiring from, a career to which you aspire?

Neighbors take pride in their homes, and we expect you will also.

Know the trash pickup schedule to facilitate getting the trash receptacles out and back in on the same day.

If you own a pet, there is an extra measure of precaution that you need to take. Nashville's animal control laws may be found on Metro's webpage bpcnet.com/codes/nashvill.htm. Learn the consequences of the violations of the leash law and other related ordinances.

Parking for your vehicles! Learn the acceptable and legal places for parking at your house or apartment. Again, it is important to know the Metro ordinances. In particular, it is violation of a Metro ordinance to block a sidewalk or driveway with a parked vehicle.

Remember that your neighbors may have schedules different from your own. When you are entertaining friends, consideration of your neighbors is important. Metro noise ordinance prohibits the outdoor use of amplified music at night.

Be creative and look for ways to improve the neighborhood. Let us know what you have done!

Although we hope that you do not undergo the experience, you should know that if a problem or disturbance arises at your home, you can expect both the Metropolitan Nashville and Vanderbilt police to arrive. Both can arrest you and refer the matter to the university's disciplinary system. Also, remember that you are responsible for the actions of your guests, and the university takes a particular interest in violations of university policies, such as providing alcohol to underage or intoxicated students.

Thank you for your time. We are here to assist you. Please feel free to contact either of us at the following numbers and email addresses:

Mark at 322-2591 or mark.bandas@vanderbilt.edu or

Mary Pat at 322-8337 or marypat.teague@vanderbilt.edu.

Let's work together to have a successful year. Vanderbilt University is very proud to have you as a representative in the Nashville community.

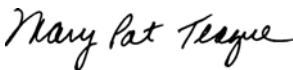
Sincerely,



Jim Kramka

Senior Director,

Housing Operations



Mary Pat Teague

Associate Director,

Community, Neighborhood, and Government Relations

Personal Safety

Vanderbilt Police have jurisdiction on Vanderbilt properties, adjoining streets, and nearby neighborhoods with large student populations.

SAFETY FUNDAMENTALS

Stay alert and trust your instincts. If you feel uneasy, get out or get away.

Walk, jog, or bike in groups of three or more, in well-lit, well-traveled areas without overgrown foliage, whether traveling between buildings or to and from your car. Do not wear earphones while walking or jogging.

Appear confident and purposeful.

Wear outfits and shoes that allow you to move freely.

Before exiting a building or car, look around the area for anything suspicious.

At all times, notice who is around you and what they are doing.

Avoid strangers; you do not have to stop and talk with them.

If someone is behind you, look to see how close he or she is.

If you are being followed, cross the street, walk in the opposite direction, and/or go to the nearest lighted and populated place.

Do not use ATMs alone, at night, or when someone suspicious is nearby.

Think about what you would do under dire circumstances.

Remember that it is hard to keep safe when your judgment is impaired by alcohol or other drugs. If a crime occurs, try to keep a cool head, and get a description.

SAFETY FOR RESIDENCES

Doors and windows to your dwelling should be equipped with quality locking mechanisms. Doors should be equipped with peepholes and deadbolts. Always lock doors when you are absent, even when you will be absent for just a few minutes. Do not lend your key. Rekey locks when a key is lost or stolen (get landlord's permission first). Always lock your doors and windows. Remember screens are generally not intended to be safety devices.

Do not leave your identification, wallets, checkbooks, jewelry, cameras, or other valuables in open view.

Program your phone's speed-dial memory with emergency numbers that include family and friends.

Know your neighbors, and don't be reluctant to report illegal activities and suspicious loitering.

Know the location of fire extinguishers in your residence.

CONTACTING THE POLICE

The Metro Nashville Police Department has primary jurisdiction in off-campus neighborhoods. All crime and suspicious activity should be reported to them first. In some instances, VUPD also responds. A separate call can be made to them after first calling Metro Police.

METRO NASHVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NON-EMERGENCY (615) 862-8600
EMERGENCY 911

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NON-EMERGENCY (615) 322-2745
EMERGENCY (615) 421-1911

TO RECEIVE VANDERBILT SECURITY EMAIL ALERTS

Sign up at vanderbilt.edu/alertvu or contact VUPD for general questions about security concerns at (615) 322-2745 or online at police.vanderbilt.edu

SELF DEFENSE CLASSES

Vanderbilt University Police Department sponsors classes to meet your personal safety needs. Call (615) 322-2745 or visit police.vanderbilt.edu/services/rape-aggression-defense for more information or to register.

Off-Campus Student Resources

VANDERBILT CONTACTS

Guide to the housing assignment process	322-2591
Vanderbilt University Police Department	322-2745
Emergency Calls	421-1911
General Office	322-6511
Student Government Representatives	322-VSGA

METRO NASHVILLE CONTACTS

Abandoned motor vehicles on private property	862-6590
Accident Reporting (non-emergency)	862-8600
Auto theft	862-7612
Bird control and information	340-5644
Blasting complaints	862-8750
Burglary	862-7572
Bus schedules	862-5950
County clerk (general information)	862-6050
Dogs running at large	862-7928
Electric service (NES)	736-6900
Enforcement of leash laws	862-7928
Fire Marshal	862-5230
High grass, weeds, junk, trash on private property	340-5644
Lead paint inspections and information	340-5644
Metro parking information	862-5622
Metro Police (non--emergency)	862-8600
Metro Police (West Sector)	862-7747
Metro Traffic Violation Bureau	862-5222
Mice/rat control information	340-5644
Motor Vehicle Registration	862-6050
Sheriff's Office (Davidson County)	862-8170
Street closures	862-8782
Tree hazard	862-6488
Unsafe buildings--residential	862-6590
Wrecker/towing regulation	862-6777

STATE AND METRO CODES, ORDINANCES, AND LAWS

Liquor Laws: The legal drinking age in Tennessee is 21. Party hosts can be held liable in the event that intoxicated party attendees are injured on or off the premises. (See page 10, Thinking of Hosting a Party with Alcohol?)

DUI Law: Tennessee has one of the strictest DUI laws in the United States. If you are convicted of a first offense DUI, you will incur a jail sentence, probation, a fine, court costs, and loss of your driver's license for one year.

Traffic Laws: Right turns on red lights are legal at most intersections, unless otherwise posted. (See also, Transportation and Parking.)

VANDERBILT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND ILLICIT DRUGS POLICIES FOR ALL STUDENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The following regulations apply to the use of alcoholic beverages by individuals, by groups, by university departments, or by an organization's members and invited guests:

At no time may alcoholic beverages be provided (served, distributed, furnished) to persons under legal drinking age (21 years old for the state of Tennessee).

Because of the danger that impaired drivers pose to themselves and to others, the operation of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs is prohibited.

METRO CODE AND ORDINANCES

Chapter 17.04

GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS

"Family" means one of the following:

1. An individual, or two or more persons related by blood, marriage or law, or, unless otherwise required by federal or state law, a group of not more than three unrelated persons living together in a dwelling unit. Servants and temporary nonpaying guests having common housekeeping facilities with a family are a part of the family for this code;

If you have roommates, be aware that there should be no more than three unrelated people living together in one housing unit.

Chapter 11.12

OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE [NOISE]

- A. No person or persons owning, employing or having the care, custody or possession of any musical instrument, radio set, television set, phonograph, Victrola or other instrument, machine or device for amplifying, producing or reproducing sound, shall operate, use or permit to be operated or used such instrument, machine or device in such a manner as to disturb the peace and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or at any time with louder volume than is necessary for convenient hearing of the persons who are in the room or chamber in which or who are on the premises from which such instrument, machine or device is operated and who are voluntary listeners thereto.
- B. The operation of any such instrument, machine or device in such a manner as to be plainly audible on any adjacent or adjoining property shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section unless specifically permitted by ordinance or law or by an agency or department of metropolitan government.

Neighbors can report you if they believe that an excessive volume of noise is coming from your dwelling.

Chapter 7.24

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE USE RESTRICTIONS

- A. It is unlawful for any child under the age of nineteen years:
 - 1. To be present in an automobile on any public street or highway when alcoholic beverages are consumed therein;
 - 2. To be present in any public park not under the jurisdiction of the metropolitan board of parks and recreation or in any other place of public resort and be a companion of or otherwise associated with any person who is consuming alcoholic beverages;
 - 3. Provided, nothing herein shall apply to establishments licensed to serve alcoholic beverages.
- B. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a child who is accompanied by his parent, guardian or other adult person who has obtained written consent from the parent or guardian for the child to be present at such place. (Prior code § 5-1-32)

If you host any events where alcohol is served with minors, be sure to prevent access to alcohol for minors.

Chapter 11.08

OFFENSES AGAINST THE PERSON

A person commits assault who:

- A. Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to another;
or
- B. Intentionally or knowingly causes another to reasonably fear imminent bodily injury;
or
- C. Intentionally or knowingly causes physical contact with another and knows the other will regard the contact as extremely offensive or provocative. (Ord. 90-1339 § 1 (29-1), 1990: prior code § 29-1-2)

Know what constitutes assault in order to prevent it.

Chapter 8.04.04

DOG LICENSES AND FEES

- A. Any dog found running at large may be seized by the proper authorities of the health and police departments of the metropolitan government or, within the area of their respective jurisdiction, by employees of satellite cities who have been duly appointed to do same by the city manager or governing body of the satellite city. A dog is considered to be running at large when such dog is off the premises of the owner and not under the control of the owner, either by leash, cord, chain or otherwise; provided, that a dog shall not be considered running at large when the dog is off the premises of the owner if such dog shall be accompanied by the owner and the owner shall have full command of such dog or the dog is a hunting dog and is in chase or in training and accompanied by a responsible person.

Chapter 8.04.110

RUNNING AT LARGE PROHIBITED SEIZURE OF ANIMALS

- A. Any person owning, keeping or harboring on the premises where they reside, any dog six months of age or over, shall pay to the chief medical director a fee of four dollars for each dog owned, kept or harbored. All licenses issued shall be valid for twelve months and shall expire on the last day of the month issued of the following year.

Use a leash when taking your dog off of your property.

WEAPONS

POSSESSION AND CARRYING OF FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS

Tennessee law (T.C.A. 39-17-1307) prohibits the carrying of firearms, knives with blades exceeding 4 inches, or clubs with the intent to go armed.

Violation of the law can be punishable by fine and/or up to 11 months/29 days in jail. To lawfully possess and carry a handgun in Tennessee, persons must have applied for and received a Tennessee Handgun Carry Permit. Then there are restrictions as to where handguns can be lawfully carried.

Metropolitan Nashville (Metropolitan Code 11.36.110) ordinances prohibit publicly carrying or possessing weapons such as brass knuckles, swords, slingshots, and blackjacks. Violations are punishable by fine and/or imprisonment.



VANDERBILT

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Budget Planning

Budgeting is an important part of any move, especially moving from on-campus to off-campus housing. When planning your budget, be sure to include all sources of income, including loans and scholarships, support from parents or others, and any income from part-time jobs. Living off-campus creates many expenses that you may not have had before, be sure to plan accordingly, and consider not only school expenses and rent, but also utilities, groceries and food, gas and other transportation expenses such as insurance and auto registration, and other expenses such as renters insurance.

There are many online resources available to assist with budgeting and financial planning. A few are listed below:

- mint.com
- budgetsimple.com
- daveramsey.com/tools/budget-lite