



# Cal State LA

## Off-Campus Housing Resources

*The following is provided for your convenience. This is not an endorsement of any business or location. Please use your own analysis to make decisions about choices that fit your needs.*

**Campus Location:** California State University, Los Angeles is located where the 710 and 10 Freeways intersect: **5151 State University Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90032**  
<http://www.calstatela.edu/misc/trans/index.htm>

**On-Campus Housing Location:** 5300 Paseo Rancho Castilla, Los Angeles, CA 90032  
**Phone:** +1-323-343-4800 **Web:** [www.calstatela.edu/housing](http://www.calstatela.edu/housing)

**Transportation from/to the Airport:** Taxis can be expensive. Many people use “shared van” or private car services instead. You can reserve and pay online in advance. Remember to include a gratuity (tip of 10% to 20%) because this is the custom in the U.S.A.:

[www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com) – shared van with other passengers

[www.primetimeshuttle.com](http://www.primetimeshuttle.com) – shared van with other passengers

[www.uber.com](http://www.uber.com) – private car service

[www.lyft.com](http://www.lyft.com) – private car service

**City of Los Angeles Authorized Taxicab Companies:**

<https://ladot.lacity.org/what-we-do/taxicabs-vehicle-hire-pipelines/taxicabs>

United Independent Taxi: +1 (800) 822-8294

United Taxi of San Fernando Valley: +1 (800) 290-5600

Yellow Cab: +1 (800) 200-1085

Bell Cab: +1 (888) 235-5222

Beverly Hills Cab Company: +1 (800) 273-6611

LA Checker Cab: +1 (800) 300-5007

City Cab: +1 (800) 750-4400

Independent Taxi: +1 (800) 521-8294

United Checker Company: +1 (310) 834-1121

**Hotels (short-term stays):** [www.hotels.com](http://www.hotels.com) or [www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com)

**GreenTree Inn & Suites Alhambra**

2499 W Main St, Alhambra, CA, 91801, United States of America, +1 800-491-6126

California State University-Los Angeles - 2.8 mi / 4.5 km

**Hilton Los Angeles/San Gabriel**

225 W Valley Blvd, San Gabriel, CA, 91776, United States of America, +1 855-239-9397

California State University-Los Angeles - 5.3 mi / 8.5 km

**Sheraton Los Angeles San Gabriel**

303 E. Valley Blvd, San Gabriel, CA, 91776, United States of America, +1 855-239-9480

California State University-Los Angeles - 5.5 mi / 8.9 km

**Best Western Markland Hotel, Monterey Park**

434 Potrero Grande Drive, Monterey Park, CA, 91755, United States of America,

+1 866-925-8648

California State University-Los Angeles - 5.8 mi / 9.3 km

**Hotel (semester stays):** Special Cal State LA Student Rates - about the same price as on-campus housing. Stay for the whole semester in the “Shared Housing” rooms.

**The Freehand Hotel** - <https://freehandhotels.com/los-angeles/>

**416 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Angeles, CA 90014**

**Contact:** *Stephanie Ida Telephone: +1 213-395-9521 Email: [sida@thefreehand.com](mailto:sida@thefreehand.com)*

*Transportation to Campus:* about a 15-minute ride on buses or trains

*Frequently Asked Questions:* <https://freehandhotels.com/los-angeles/faqs/>

*Discounted Student Transportation Passes Available* – see Transportation Flyer for details



### International Programs

College of Professional and  
Global Education

California State University, Los Angeles

5151 State University Drive

Room GE 220

Los Angeles, CA 90032

Phone: 323-343-4840

Fax: 323-343-4843

Email: [bbishop@calstatela.edu](mailto:bbishop@calstatela.edu)

Web: [www.calstatela.edu/sila](http://www.calstatela.edu/sila)

### **Suggested Housing Areas for private housing arrangements:**

Here are some suggested cities: *Alhambra is closest to campus (quiet community at northeast edge of campus), South Pasadena, Pasadena, San Gabriel, Monterey Park, Temple City, Rosemead, Arcadia*

These communities are all on established bus lines.

[www.googlemaps.com](http://www.googlemaps.com)

### **Homestay Companies:**

Provide living arrangements with an American family in the family's home. Different options are available regarding meals, laundry access. For the best areas, make sure you request one of the cities mentioned above.

**American Homestay Network:** [www.homestaynetwork.com](http://www.homestaynetwork.com)

**Student Link International:** [www.istudentlink.com](http://www.istudentlink.com)

**Universal Student Housing:** [www.usstudent.com](http://www.usstudent.com)

**Aahomestays:** [www.aahomestays.com](http://www.aahomestays.com)

### **University-Style Private Dormitory Apartments and Hostel+Hotel+Groups:**

**The Lorenzo (Private Dormitory-Style):** <http://www.thelorenzo.com/>

All-inclusive packages available. Contact them to see if they have spaces for students attending California State University, Los Angeles. They usually allow students from several different universities.

**Apartments in nearby Alhambra:** Alhambra is the small city on the northeast edge of the campus. It's a very nice city with restaurants, shops, a movie theater, bus lines, an outdoor farmer's market on Sundays, local police and fire departments, libraries, outdoor concerts and events, holiday celebrations, parks with swimming pools, a golf course, tennis courts, and a jogging track. LA Fitness (on Fremont Street) is a popular gym.

**Apartments in nearby Alhambra:** *tell the manager you are an international student and cannot get a social security number. Ask if you can make payment arrangements without a "credit check". Get a written receipt for all payments!*

**Chapel Apartments:** 336 N. Chapel Avenue, Alhambra, 626-570-4948

**Larch Apartments:** 1624 Larch Street, Alhambra, 626-576-7832

**Marianne Apartments:** 112 E. Alhambra Road, Alhambra, 626-300-8550

**El Rancho Apartments:** 1201 W. Mission Road, Alhambra, 626-308-3925

**Huntington Oaks Apartments:** 1620 W. Huntington Drive, Alhambra, 626-576-1906

**Woodside Terrace Apartments:** 400 N. Chapel Avenue, Alhambra, 626-284-7363

**Shadow Terrace Apartments:** 303 S. Almansor Street, Alhambra, 626-284-1834

**Huntington Monterey Apartments:** Serving the Alhambra Area, 626-573-9616

**Second Street Apartments:** 808 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Alhambra, 626-299-0906

**Al Palms Manor:** 110 N. Marengo Avenue, Alhambra, 626-289-4906

**Jade Gardens Rental Office:** 109 S. Almansor Street, Alhambra, 626-282-2007

**Alcole Properties:** 606 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Alhambra, 626-308-1221 - <http://www.alcoleproperties.com/>

**Apartments in Pasadena:** *tell the manager you are an international student and cannot get a social security number. Ask if you can make payment arrangements without a "credit check". Get a written receipt for all payments!*

**The Ellison Pasadena:** 3300 East Foothill Blvd., Pasadena

**Luxe Pasadena:** 1769 East Walnut, Pasadena

**Holly Street Village:** 151 East Holly, Pasadena

**The Hudson:** 678 East Walnut Street, Pasadena

**Trio:** 44 North Madison, Pasadena

**Rental Websites:** General search for apartments and rooms. Search in the following communities: *(Alhambra (the closest community to campus), South Pasadena, Pasadena, San Gabriel, Temple City, Rosemead, & Arcadia*

[www.calstatela.edu/housing/campus-housing](http://www.calstatela.edu/housing/campus-housing)

[www.westsiderentals.com](http://www.westsiderentals.com)

[www.apartments.com](http://www.apartments.com)

[www.apartmentfinder.com](http://www.apartmentfinder.com)

[www.zumper.com](http://www.zumper.com)

[www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com)

### **Zip (Postal) Code Map:**

[http://web.calstatela.edu/univ/housing/documents/form/Surrounding%20Zip%20Codes\\_MAP.pdf](http://web.calstatela.edu/univ/housing/documents/form/Surrounding%20Zip%20Codes_MAP.pdf)

### **Transportation Around the Los Angeles Area (Cal State LA has a transit station on the side end of the campus):**

**Uber** - <https://www.uber.com/>

**Lyft (operates like Uber)** - <https://www.lyft.com/>

**Metro Bus & Rail** - <https://www.metro.net/>

Foothill Transit - <http://foothilltransit.org/>

Union Station – a large transportation hub located in downtown Los Angeles - connections to Cal State LA: <http://www.unionstationla.com/>

Big Blue Bus (Santa Monica) - <https://www.bigbluebus.com/>

Alhambra City (ACT) - [http://www.cityofalhambra.org/page/322/public\\_transportation/](http://www.cityofalhambra.org/page/322/public_transportation/)

### RENTING AN APARTMENT – General Information

**1) Please remember that in the USA, if you sign a lease agreement, you usually cannot cancel the lease before the end date.**

**2) If you need to leave before the lease expires, you will have to pay the remaining amount due on the lease term.**

**3) In some cases, if the apartment manager can find someone else to take over the apartment, then, you may be able to leave without paying the remaining balance. However, this is not always possible.**

1. **The landlord will probably ask for a social security number when you apply.** Please tell the landlord you are an international student at Cal State LA and, by law, cannot get a social security number. Ask if you can make special payment arrangements without a “Credit Check”. You may have to pay several months in advance.
2. **Always get a written receipt for any and all deposits, rent payments, and any other payments you make to the landlord or management company.** Or, if the payments are done online, keep all electronic receipts.
3. **Ask the landlord about the time period of the lease.** Make sure the time period of the lease fits with your plans. If the lease goes beyond your planned stay in the USA, you will still have to pay the entire amount of the lease!
4. **You will probably be asked to sign a rental contract** – read it carefully and make sure you understand it BEFORE you sign. Get copies of all documents.
5. **Most apartments do not have furniture.** Some do not have refrigerators. Sometimes the landlord will provide a refrigerator for a small charge. Also, the landlord may have suggestions about renting furniture.
6. **Furniture Rentals (CORT):** Most apartments in the U.S. are not furnished. CORT provides furniture rental packages and housing information for students living off-campus. Use this link especially prepared for Cal State LA students:  
[http://www.cort.com/usanow?sc\\_cid=em\\_et\\_pro\\_hied\\_losa603091809CalStateLosAngeles](http://www.cort.com/usanow?sc_cid=em_et_pro_hied_losa603091809CalStateLosAngeles)
7. **All apartments are required by law to have heat and hot and cold water.** If you need air conditioning (cool air), make sure you ask about that because it is not always in the apartment.  
Southern California area can get very hot in Spring, Summer, and Fall too (over 100°F/38°C). Our hottest months are July, August, and September. Sometimes October can be hot depending on the weather patterns.
8. **Utilities: ask about the electricity, gas, and water.** Usually, the tenant (you) pay for electricity and gas. The landlord usually pays for water. You will need to arrange for the electricity and gas to be in your name so that you can receive the bills. You may be required to pay a deposit to the utility company. Use these links:
  - a. For electricity outside LA city boundary: Southern California Edison: [www.SCE.com](http://www.sce.com)
  - b. For electricity inside LA city boundary: LADWP: [www.ladwp.com](http://www.ladwp.com)
  - c. For natural gas: Southern California Gas: [www.socalgas.com](http://www.socalgas.com)
9. **Television and/or Internet:** Check to see which companies serve your residential area. You will need to enter your “zip code” (postal code).  
<https://www.cabletv.com/ca/los-angeles#tv>
- 10) **Mobile/Cell Phone Companies:**  
<https://www.att.com/>  
<http://www.t-mobile.com/>  
<http://www.sprint.com/>  
<http://www.verizonwireless.com/>