The 2015 PICS Housing Guide

By PICS interns for PICS interns
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Disclaimer:
This housing guide is offered as a convenience to future interns and was peer developed. PICS does not endorse or in no event shall become liable to Housing Guide users, or any other party, for any loss or damages, consequential or otherwise, including but not limited to time, money, or goodwill, arising from the use, operation or modification of the data presented. Therefore, by clicking the Guide application hyperlinks, users agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless PICS for any and all liability of any nature arising out of or resulting from the lack of accuracy or correctness of the data, or the use of the data presented in the Guide.
PICS Housing in the Past

PICS Interns have used Google, Craigslist, reached out for assistance from their Employer/Coworker, alumni, sororities or fraternities, and their friends and family, apartment listing sites, university housing sites, TigerTrade.

2014 PICS Intern Housing Survey Results

In order to better help PICS interns secure housing, we surveyed the 2014 interns and compiled the data to help inform you as you attempt to do the same. Please note that we do not have data from interns from every city where PICS organizations are located, but the data is a representative sample of the last year’s intern cohort.

We asked former interns to rate the most important factors they considered when making housing arrangements on a scale of 1 to 5, and here are the results:

1. Price (4.297)
2. Public Transportation Access (3.629)
3. Proximity to Job & Housing Amenities (3.519)
4. Safety/Crime (3.481)
5. Proximity to Food, Shopping, Entertainment (3)
6. Proximity to Gyms/Parks (2.037)

Key Housing Factors

Final housing arrangements vary intern by intern, but illustrated below are the most common housing arrangements secured by last year’s interns. Note that some interns’ past experiences have resulted in multiple arrangements made for the summer, and sometimes it is necessary. For example, one intern split time between a hotel and their alumni mentor’s house for the first 2 weeks, and then rented an apartment for
the other 8 weeks. Another intern sublet a room in an alumni’s house for 1 week, and then sublet from an apartment for the other 9 weeks.

Roommates
The most affordable options for housing for any college student will probably include having to room with others. For interns not living at home, 64% of interns reported having at least one roommate for the summer. We asked interns how many roommates they shared their living space with, and below are the results. The figure 4 also includes interns reporting having 4 or more roommates.
Securing Housing
Regardless of what option you choose, items to inquire about include: roommates, amenities offered (kitchen, bathroom, and laundry access being often the most important), if utilities are included, payment schedules, and any need for housing or security deposits and background checks.

- **37%** of interns who didn’t live with family/friends or lived at home reported having to pay a security deposit, so expect that you might need to pay for an additional housing expense at the outset to secure housing.
- **33%** of interns reported having to fill out some sort of application, and/or being subject to a background or credit check. If this is your first time filling out housing/leasing forms, we recommend having an older person help you look it over, but leasing or rental applications can be asked even for sublets/subleases.
- Only **11%** of interns reported having to pay for utilities as an additional housing expense.
Housing Search Channels

**Google**

It’s a great starting point to figure out how far to cast your net in your housing search, and often leads to some of the other aforementioned housing searches. Google’s best use isn’t to locate housing, but to ensure that you will be comfortable with your housing option. Use Google to figure out what to expect from living in different neighborhoods, the crime rate, how far it will be to commute to your PICS organization, or whether there are any grocery stores in the area, etc.

**Craigslist**

Craigslist is a good resource to find housing, but it can be difficult to navigate since you will be dealing with people you do not know. Click on the city/area you are looking at, and then choose the “sublets/temporary” option under housing. You can filter listings by price, but not every listing is created equal, and you will have to communicate constantly with the poster to get more information or pictures. Sometimes, you will be asked for a housing deposit or a background check. If you are not comfortable with this or know the place is not for you after receiving more information, it is nice to advise the poster so that the poster can advance talks with another person, as they are often communicating with multiple people seeking housing.

Oftentimes, the posters are looking for specific people, so try to fit their descriptions before contacting, like “LGBT-friendly” or “Seeking women only”. Another thing to consider is the ages of the people you may be rooming with.

If you have any friends or family in the area, you may ask them to look at the place on your behalf. You can suggest setting up a Skype talk with the poster to have a conversation about the place, and answer any questions you may have. If you have roommates, you can use Skype to meet them.

Ensure that everything checks out, and you secure your housing in such a way that both parties are satisfied with payment schedules. If you have to sign a sublet or leasing agreement, it is a good idea to have someone you trust look it over (such as a parent or relative). Craigslist does have a difficult reputation, but if you are willing to navigate the process, Craigslist tends to have the most diverse offerings. If you are looking for cheaper places, some interns consider it a starting point to consider.
Employer/Co Worker Assistance
Sometimes your employer will reach out to you and ask, other times, you may have to initiate a conversation. Please note, your supervisor is busy, so don’t expect them to find where you will live for the summer for you. Consider asking them if they have any suggestions of what parts of the city to look for housing, if they possibly know of anybody looking to sublet, or if they have any other resources you haven’t looked into for housing yet.

Alumni Assistance
If you know of any alumni who are living where you will be for the summer, reach out to them for suggestions and advice. Many alumni associations have discussion groups where you can join and post to ask if any alumni in the area are subletting or know of anyone that is subletting. You can be specific or picky about where you are looking to live, but it is best to leave your options open for the most responses. Once you login, click on the regional category, and then look into the forum specific to your city, like “Princeton-Chicago.” Another resource is your alumni partner. You can ask them if they know of anyone in the area who is subletting or if they could help you put a post out on the local club or alumni association website.
An example of some of the discussion groups.

**TigerTrade**

*TigerTrade* is an USG app that operates like an online exchange for Princetonians, and is specific to the Princeton area, but some NYC sublet options do pop up. To filter the listings, select “Housing and Apartments” as your category.

An example of the Housing and Apartments listings.
**Fraternities or Sororities**

If you belong to a national fraternity or sorority, reach out to anybody who has used their affiliations to live in one of the chapter houses/apartments for the summer. These tend to provide affordable options, and belonging to one can give you priority for living in the chapter houses. However, many have flexible policies, and you don’t even need to belong to a fraternity or sorority to live there. Many greek organizations have contact information posted on their websites, so if a certain university has a panhellenic website, that is a great starting point. Start by googling “[University Name] greek life” or “panhellenic council” or “interfraternity council” for these websites, and then you can individually go through different chapters.

*Phi Kappa Sigma (MIT) Summer Housing Information displayed on their website.*

**University Housing**

Summer Housing is available at most universities. Their policies are the most inflexible, so if any conditions seem inadequate for you, or if the expenses are too high, it may be best to try out other options. Usually, past interns have often said housing expenses are higher than average or higher than similar housing for the area. University housing is pretty streamlined, with an application process and all the information spelled out for students, and you know exactly what you pay for, with the added benefit of living with people your age (unless you weren’t looking to stay in dorms for 8-10 more weeks of the year). Also, you get to live in a college-town neighborhood.
Although more known for temporary stays like vacation subletting and couchsurfing, Airbnb can also be used for long term stays on a per month or per week basis. Directly from the homepage, you can find listings by typing in the city and the dates you are looking for. You can filter listings by price and “sharing” vs “private rooms”. A map is in your window so you can see the areas you’ll be living in, but some locations do not appear until you zoom in further on the map.

Message any listing you are even a little interested in as it can really affect your decision. Sometimes you may read a listing and be really interested but once you message the person they seem odd and you may want to rethink living with them for a certain period of time.

Try asking the person to tell you more about their listing and themselves, maybe giving them something specific to answer like ”what is the surrounding area like?” This will give you a feel for what your host is like rather than actually learning more about the listing. The reviews are always overly generous so they are not that helpful, unless you see something terrible (that is about the only time they actually tell you anything).
Do not be afraid to haggle. In the opening message, feel free to honestly talk about your background. It is ok to introduce yourself as a poor college student and ask if the price is negotiable (one intern reported saving app. 600 dollars). Such a request is especially powerful when you are planning to make a long stay.

If you feel especially comfortable after speaking to your future host, you may want to ask them how they feel about booking the room via airbnb for a weekend, and then paying the rest in person. Airbnb charges both of you a service fee (that can get pretty up large with big transactions) so people are normally very responsive to this. Frankly, you have nothing to lose in asking if you do so respectfully. If they say no, you are still in the same place you were before.

![Airbnb page for LA listings during the summer with cap at $935/month.](image)

**Airbnb page for LA listings during the summer with cap at $935/month.**

**Apartment Listing Sites**
Various apartment sites can be used, but it can be hard to find apartments just for the summer or for more temporary stays on these sites.

**Trulia**
Trulia is the largest online search engine for rental properties and neighborhood information. Advantageous information, including commute times, local amenities, demographics, and real estate market updates for both rentals and for sale, can be
found for free, all in one place, with no log-in or subscription required. There are some rental listings, maps, and rental advice specific to different cities.
New City Living Tips

Your Workplace
Don’t hesitate to ask your coworkers and supervisor for any suggestions as to what to see, do, and try out in your new city for the summer. If you have any co-interns, most likely non-PICS interns, reach out to them for things to do, especially if they are locals as well, so that you can enjoy what the city has to offer together. Even if you are living in your hometown, if you work in a neighborhood or district you haven’t spent much time in, chances are you can explore the area too.

Internet
The bigger the city you live in, the more likely there are things to do, so looking online is an easy way to find out what is happening in your area. Google anything (such as “Boston Events Calendar” or “Fun Summer Events in NYC”), and you will be guaranteed to find fun things to do. Also, look on sites like GroupOn to find discounts on local attractions, shops, services, etc. in your area.

PICS Interns
Feel free to reach out to former PICS Interns for advice/suggestions. We reached out to former PICS interns in developing this guide. If there are multiple PICS Interns in your city, reach out to them too for hanging out or going to check out the city.

Transportation
Especially if you are living in a new city, the first few days or week will be spent getting used to your commute. It is important to budget time to arrive at work even earlier than you’d like in case you have trouble finding your way. If you find yourself on a delayed train or bus or in traffic, it’s best to contact your supervisor and let them know about your situation -- (chances are they may be delayed, too).
BOSTON
Boston Housing-Specific Search Advice
This is what the most recent PICS interns had to say about where they lived.

Brookline

“During my internship, I sublet a room in a two-family house in Brookline Village, which is only a 15-20 min walk to the Boston Children’s Hospital. I found this family from a family friend I know in Taiwan. Brookline is an extremely safe and kid-friendly neighborhood. Its location was also very good in terms of my commute to work. I would walk to work everyday, even though the T (Boston public transportation system) and the “Partners Healthcare shuttle were convenient as well. Brookline is located near Coolidge Corner and Allston, which is where a lot of really great restaurants and grocery stores are located. I would definitely recommend looking into Brookline and Coolidge Corner, though it can be expensive at times. Other housing options include nearby universities, such as Northeastern, Boston University, and Emmanuel University, which are also very accessible to the Boston Children’s Hospital by T. Harvard medical school usually has first year medical student dorms available during the summer for rent called Vanderbilt Hall. However, the summer I was there, it was undergoing major renovations and was closed for the summer. It is very conveniently located right down the street from the hospital, making it a very ideal housing place. If it is available next year, I would recommend starting your search there. “

Cambridge

“I had a sublet with a Princeton alumna in Cambridge. The living conditions were satisfactory. The commute would have been more convenient if I had found an apartment in Boston, closer to the hospital. However, apartments in Boston in safer locations are usually more expensive than in Cambridge.”

Boston University

“I lived in summer internship housing at Boston University during my internship, and I would definitely recommend this living situation to next year’s B-SAFE intern. I lived in an apartment with a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, and large common room, and I only had to share the space with one other roommate. There were eight total apartments in my building - all housing college students who were also completing internships in Boston - and I met a ton of new people through this set-up. My apartment was situated right outside of Kenmore Square, and this location was very convenient because it was located close to 3 different T stops that made it easy to travel to and from work. Usually it took me about 30 minutes to travel to work, and I did not feel at all burdened by this commute. The neighborhood where I lived felt very safe, and it was fun to live near Fenway Park because the streets were always bustling on game days. The Kenmore Square area also features several different restaurants, Starbucks, ice cream shops, and a Barnes and Noble, and it only took about a 10-minute walk to get to the nearest grocery store and a Bed Bath and Beyond that made it easy to stock my apartment with different necessities during the first couple of weeks. Honestly my apartment’s only flaw was that it was slightly old.”
Northeastern University

“I lived at Northeastern University intern housing. This program was open to any students who were interning at an organization/company in Boston. The living conditions were pretty nice - it was apartment style college suites with a kitchen, two bedrooms, a living room, and a bathroom. However, there was no Wifi, which was a bit inconvenient. Depending on your preference, you could choose from having a single (shared with a suite mate) or a double. There were two subway stops on campus, the Orange and Green lines, which made commuting around the city very easy. My only complaint with the housing was that it was definitely overpriced, ($420/week for single occupancy and AC) and I recommend that students first look into nearby sublets before choosing this option. However, despite the price and lack of wireless Internet, it was a fine place to live during the summer.”

“I stayed at Northeastern University for the first 7 weeks and then I had to find an apartment on Craigslist for the last few weeks. Northeastern is a very convenient location and if you can afford to pay for the housing option with A/C, the dorm can’t be beat. The housing ends the 2nd week of August, so I would recommend interns start their internship early so they don’t have to switch housing like I did. But even my 2nd apartment was nice and both were within 15 min walking distance to the hospital.”

“Northeastern U Dorms; expensive 4 reg dorm env, & didn’t extend all the way until the end of internship. Last 5 days in Boston was spent crashing over at friends’ places. Vanderbilt Hall (dorms @ Harvard Med) said to be better but closed Summer ‘14 for renovations.”

Back Bay

“I lived in Bayridge Residence, a women’s house through Opus Dei (you don’t need to be Catholic to live there!). I had my own bedroom with desk and everything, and shared a communal bathroom with the girls on my floor. Bayridge provided most of my meals (all except weekday lunches, which I was given at my internship). And they would clean my room every week. Honestly, it was really great! We had wifi included, laundry was on the floor above mine (you do need quarters), a library and music room downstairs. Plus, really awesome company with people from all over the world who were also staying in Boston. We had really great conversations. Also, Bayridge is right around the corner from the Esplanade (Boston), which was perfect because many times I would go to the park and work-out after eating, etc. I lived in the Back Bay (one of the more affluent neighborhoods in Boston) and worked in the South End (about 17 minutes away on bus).”

Intern Rating: paid $3,375; “worth its price”; “absolutely would recommend; “ very satisfied”; 0 roommates; searched via Google

South End

“Being in a student neighborhood did mean that the night-life got a little noisy on Fridays and Saturdays. However, in general I felt very safe and comfortable moving
around the city. My recommendation: make sure to get a place with a morning/evening commute that you will be comfortable with. The general area right around Jean Yawkey Place/Barbara McInnis House (780 Albany Street) is not the safest at night, but going up Massachusetts Avenue toward Cambridge is fine even after-hours (which I had to do a couple of times for my evening patient shifts). I would recommend looking for an apartment around the Berklee College of Music area. Cambridge is a bit far, but many other interns lived in the MIT area as well.”

“I lived in a very student-friendly neighborhood right by Symphony Hall in a little sublet apartment. Yes, I thought it was a wonderful location; I walked to and from work (about 25 minutes, else 8 minutes by bus) every day, and I was really in the heart of a neighborhood that was home to many schools and thus students. There was a Whole Foods nearby, and I was not even a five-minute walk from the Prudential Mall (lots of shops). Newbury Street and the Boston Public Library were about a 15-minute walk from my house, and I could get to the Boston Commons within a 30-minute walk. I also often went into the Cambridge area because my church was there, and in the balmy summer weather I would often walk to-and-from church, which meant passing over the bridge overlooking the spectacular Charles River. I was close to Fenway Park (go Red Sox!) and the Museum of Fine Arts. The public transit in Boston is also excellent, although it ends a bit earlier than I would have liked (right around midnight), so I could walk or catch the T to pretty much any place I wanted to go; I frequently had to maneuver around the city to get to the different clinical/shelters sites I wanted to visit.”

“I rented the basement portion of a Brownstone in South End from a very nice family that I connected with via a friend of my parents. I loved these accommodations and they were actually cheaper than Northeastern housing. I would recommend future interns try to reach out to any local Boston friends and see through word of mouth if anyone has any space to rent, sometimes it just works out nicely.”

**Dorchester**

“I sublet from one of my supervisor’s friends off the Savin Hill T stop in Dorchester. It was a nice apartment, and in a very safe neighborhood with convenient T access so I would definitely recommend the area. Savin Hill was home to a lot of families, young professionals, etc, so it was very diverse. It was only 15 mins into downtown, and the rent was more affordable than most parts of Boston at $750. A pretty affordable grocery store was one stop away at JFK/UMass (Star Mart). I would definitely recommend looking into Dorchester, parts of it are said to have a sketchy reputation, but many other parts are decent and much more affordable than most of Boston.”

*Intern Rating:* paid $1500 + $200 for a week at an alumna’s house; “worth its price”; “absolutely would recommend; “very satisfied”; 1
roommate; searched via Princeton-Boston discussion group and supervisor help

“During my internship I lived in the house that Epiphany owns and uses as a residence for their intern teachers. The house was a short walk from the school (no more than 5 minutes away) so I appreciated the convenience. I was also grateful that I was permitted to stay rent-free. The residency reminded me of living in a dorm since there were so many people (15-20) and we had to share common areas (kitchen, restrooms, common rooms w/TVs etc.). My recommendation for future interns is to remember to check the chore chart and always practice cleanliness even when it seems others do not.”

**Other Parts of Boston Area**

“I lived at home in a town north of Boston and commuted into the city by commuter rail every day. The commute was manageable and the office was very easily accessible by public transit.”

“I lived in two locations during my internship. I looked up locations through craigslist. I was forced to move in the middle of my stay because two separate but full-length arrangements I had made fell through, so this was a last-minute resort. Nevertheless, I was very pleased with both places that I stayed. I would recommend thoroughly looking through craigslist for the best deals. In terms of neighborhoods, the Longwood Medical Area where you work is nice and safe. Fenway and Brookline are a little further but within walking distance, and both are also safe. The main nearby neighborhood that can be slightly less safe is Mission Hill. There are also many nearby colleges that may be a little more pricey, but more convenient.”
Transportation

Driving
Driving around this part of the city is somewhat difficult--there’s a high volume of people, lots of traffic, and limited and expensive parking. Public transportation is highly recommended.

Commuter Rail
If you live on the outskirts of the city or in the suburbs the MBTA has several different commuter rail train lines that will bring you into the city at either North or South Station. Both are walking distance and subway (“T”) accessible from the office. Below is the link to the MBTA Commuter Rail Website:

http://www.mbta.com/schedules_and_maps/rail/

You can find any information regarding what line you’re near, train schedules, ticket pricing and monthly pass information.
If you will be taking the Commuter Rail or Subway (T) daily, it may be worth investing in a monthly pass. Monthly passes are cheaper if purchased online, or if they are presented to the conductor on your smartphone via the MBTA App. If you buy a ticket on an outbound train there is a $3 surcharge!

Be sure to check which trains are express trains. Express trains skip a few stops and get you in much quicker--as long as they don’t skip your stop! They run in peak commuting hours, usually around 7:00am and then again around 4:00-6:00. Check each specific line for more details.

**Subway (T)**
Students tend to live somewhere along the Orange, Red, and Green lines.

**Orange Line:** Destinations/Stops on the OL include Assembly Row/Square in Sommerville, the North End, Downtown Crossing, Chinatown, Back Bay, parts of the South End, and Jamaica Plain.

**Red Line:** Destinations/Stops on the RL include all of Cambridge, including Harvard Square and MIT, Sommerville, Downtown Crossing, Boston Common, the Charles River Esplanade, parts of Southie, South Station, the JFK Library and uMass-Boston, Dorchester, and Quincy. If you’ll be commuting from anywhere in Cambridge or from the cheaper neighborhoods in South Boston, chances are you’ll be using the red line. If you do, get off at the Downtown Crossing Station. If you arrive to Boston via bus, you will be arriving in South Station, with direct access to the T.

**Green Line:** Destinations/Stops on the GL include Allston/Brighton areas (where many college students live), Boston College, Boston University, Fenway Park, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Longwood Medical Area, Northeastern University, Boston Public Library, Boston Common/Public Gardens, and Back Bay. Note that this subway line is mostly at street level, and is has stops as close as a few blocks away from each other, so it runs notoriously slow. You also have to deal with hordes of fans during Red Sox games on this line. Also, the Green line splits into 4 other lines (B- Boston College, C- Cleveland Circle, D- Riverside, E-Heath) after the Copley Square station, so make sure you are boarding the right line traveling to your final destination.

**Silver Line:** Destinations/Stops on the GL include Logan Airport, South Station, the Design Center, and most of the South End. The SL actually runs on buses, but it is considered the same as a subway line. Taking the SL to the airport is actually a good
option, but you’d probably be more comfortable lugging multiple pieces of luggage on a car.

**Blue Line:** Destinations/Stops on the BL include Revere, Logan Airport, East Boston, the New England Aquarium, Bowdoin, and Downtown.

**Passes:** In general, monthly passes are definitely worth your while if you commute every day. For the technologically savvy, you can use your Charlie Card from your iPhone.

**Links**

Boston Housing Guide  
http://www.newenglandpremiere.com/boston-neighborhood-guide

Suffolk University Internship Housing  
http://www.suffolk.edu/explore/25309.php

BU Summer Internship Housing  
http://www.bu.edu/housing/summer/internship/

Northeastern University Intern Hosing  
http://www.northeastern.edu/internhousing/

MIT Interfraternity Summer Housing  
http://www.mitific.com/summer-housing/

**Boston Bucket List**

Boston is a pretty fun city with lots to see and do if it’s your first time in or around Boston. That being said, the nightlife is pretty much restricted to the 21 and over crowd. Below are what we have compiled from previous interns’ suggestions.

- Catch a movie! Every Friday night at the DCR Hatch Shell on the esplanade, or on Saturday nights at the Prudential Center lawn/garden.
- Catch a concert! There are orchestra concerts on Wednesday nights at the shell. The Boston Central Library offers concerts in the courtyard on Wednesday evenings. The Boston Harbor Hotel offers live entertainment Tuesdays-Fridays.
- Go to a pub or club! Trivia nights at pubs are also pretty fun and anyone can go, regardless of age (usually). There are a few clubs that are 18+ on some nights, like Ryles Jazz Club, RISE, and the Middle East. Karaoke bars include DoReMi and LimeLight Stage+Studios.
- Get aggravated on the Green line for taking so long!
• Go to a beach! Boston beaches are about as nice as you’d expect them to be, but they can still be fun. Castle Island is a bus drive away; it has somewhat rocky sand, but going on a tour at Fort Independence is neat. Sullivan’s is also nearby and has some great, affordable food. Carson Beach is a 2 minute walk from the JFK/UMass station. It has much better sand and volleyball nets on the beach.
• Have lunch atop the Prudential Center! One of the best views available of Boston.
• Get on the water! Kayaking in the Charles, or going on any of the Boston Harbor Cruises to the islands is a great way to spend some time seeing the natural beauty that Boston offers.
• Go whale watching! Boats leave from the New England Aquarium on the harbor.
• Catch a Red Sox game! Take a tour of Fenway Park while you’re at it. If it’s your first baseball game, you get free schwag at the gate, and there are some nights where students get really cheap tickets.
• Take a trip to the North End! The North End has dozens of italian restaurants and bakeries. Don’t forget to walk into Mike’s Pastry or Modern Pastry; you can’t go wrong in either bakery. Yell out the “British are coming” from the Paul Revere Statue by Old North Church -- actually though, don’t.
• Catch the street performers at Quincy Market! Close to the North End is Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall. Quincy Market is home to every cuisine imaginable, but is very touristy.
• Go to a museum! Boston is a great cultural city, and there are free museum Fridays which other should take advantage of.
• Head to the Esplanade or the Common! The Esplanade has free fitness classes over the summer. Go to them! They're great. and Boston Commons is another really great place to go (especially when they have free Shakespeare plays). Catch the Boston Pops concert on 4th of July on the esplanade.
• Walk the Freedom Trail! Catch all the sites of historical significance in Boston. Once you make it to the Bunker Hill Monument and the USS Charles, take the T boat back to Boston Harbor, it’s free if you have the weekly or monthly pass.
• Buy a book from the outdoor book stand in Downtown.

There are festivals nearly every weekend in and around Boston, so search event calendars like http://calendar.boston.com/, http://www.yelp.com/events/boston, & http://www.thebostoncalendar.com/, to name a few.
NEW YORK CITY
NYC-Specific Search Advice

This is what the most recent PICS interns had to say.

Columbia U Housing/Area

“I lived at Columbia University, which was about an hour commute from Albert Einstein/Montefiore. The living conditions were satisfactory, but housing was quite expensive. My supervisor had recommended that I live in Manhattan and commute to the Bronx rather than live there. But by the time I had heard this, much of the housing had been taken up and I had to search for housing, which became quite difficult. I would recommend that future interns put a deposit in Columbia housing or NYU housing as soon as they accept the internship offer instead of waiting till late April/May where options are fewer.”

“I lived in Columbia Intern Housing for the first nine weeks of my internship, and lived with friends for the last week (Columbia housing ended a week before my internship ended). I found the living conditions satisfactory. I was in a large, four-bedroom apartment with air-conditioning, a living area, and a kitchenette. The housing also came with access to Columbia’s gym. The area around Columbia is quiet during the summer, and the commute to Montefiore was roughly an hour, but considering its price and the benefits it offered I felt that Columbia was a good option and I would recommend other interns to consider it.”

“During my internship, I subletted an apartment from a Princeton alum right next to Columbia University in Manhattan. It was a great apartment, though tough to sleep in during the heat wave due to its lack of air conditioning. Overall though, a good experience though I would recommend to future interns to live with a roommate.”
NYU/Greenwich Village
“I lived in an NYU Dorm. I would definitely recommend it. I lived in a traditional dorm, which means it did not have its own kitchen, so I was required to sign up for a meal plan. My total cost per week was $320, including the meal plan. Though I wish I could have had a kitchen (some NYU summer dorms do have kitchens), it was still convenient and cost-effective to live in the dorm I lived in. For NYC prices, I think I got a pretty good deal. Furthermore, the location of NYU was ideal: I was at the heart of Greenwich Village, and close to many subway stations.”

“I lived in NYU dorm housing and both the housing and location were excellent. I stayed in Rubin Hall which was located on 5th Avenue near Union Square and Washington Square. Although my commute to work was 1 hour to the Bronx, I would highly recommend this option for housing.”

“I lived in Rubin (5th Ave between 10th and 11th streets) of NYU summer housing. Rubin Hall has both doubles and triples with bathrooms. I lived in a spacious double and shared a bathroom with my roommate. There is no air conditioning or kitchen facility within the building. There is a laundry machine in the basement of the building. There was an air-conditioned lounge on the second floor of the building where many of the interns in the building spent time and got to know one another. The dining hall that was open to the summer housing residents was located next to Washington Square, only a few blocks away from Rubin Hall. As a summer housing resident, I had access to Palladium gym which was a few blocks away right along Union Square. Overall, I would recommend this housing location because it is a great location (near many subway stations, near Greenwich Village, and near Union and Washington Squares). The only downside is that the meal plan is expensive and food in the city is generally expensive (but so delicious!!). “

Intern Rating: paid $2,200 for the summer; “worth its price”; “would recommend; “very satisfied”; 1 roommate; required to pay security deposit; “slightly overpriced”

“I lived in a NYU dorm. It was a one room triple with private bathroom, and I had access to a limited meal plan as part of my room and board payment. It was relatively cost-effective, though I lived in a dorm with no AC. “

Intern Rating #2: paid $3,100 for 10 weeks; required to pay housing deposit; “would recommend”; 2 roommate; “slightly overpriced”

East Village
“I started off living in the East Village at 7th and 2nd, subletting a studio from an NYU student. I shared the studio with a friend from Princeton. It was a 4th floor walk up in an old building with poor AC, but the area is fantastic. Unfortunately, we had a bed bug infestation and a mite problem, that affected nearly the entire building. Needless to say, we got out of there real fast. For two weeks, we commuted from my house in New Jersey (an hour and a half each way) which was a pain.”

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**Intern Rating:** East Village -- Lived in communal Quaker house; paid $1,100/month; “slightly overpriced”; had to pay for AC; “would recommend; “satisfied”

**Yorkville**
“Finally, we found a new place in Yorkville (87th and East End) through the NYC Princeton alumni listserv. The place was fantastic - 4th floor 3BR apartment in a newly renovated building, right by the park, in a very residential neighborhood. The apartment was gorgeous and very clean, and the neighborhood, while quiet, was very safe. I recommend that future interns subscribe to the NYC listserv in April/May and start looking. Don’t be worried if May rolls around and you still don’t have a place - having apartment searched practically all summer, I can tell you that most people don’t post openings until a couple weeks to a month in advance. It’s all very last minute.”

**SoHo**
“Two other Princeton friends and I subletted an apartment in Soho from Princeton alumni. The living conditions were wonderful -- and it was only a seven minute walk to work! I would definitely recommend students to sublet if they can. Many of my friends also had great experiences in the NYU dorms.”

**Harlem**
“I lived in Harlem. My living conditions were pretty good. I found it through Craigslist and it was chill.”

**Brooklyn**
“I lived in Brooklyn, 30 mins away from work. I absolutely loved the apartment I lived in as well as my flat mates.”

**Brooklyn Heights**
“I lived at the King’s College residence on Clark St. which is open to interns during the summer. The conditions were excellent and it was less than a 10 minute walk to work. The building is clean and the staff is friendly. The neighborhood is beautiful and I personally loved the fact that I did not have to take the subway to commute.”

“These dormitory style buildings on Clark St. are about a five minute walk from the courthouse and located in Brooklyn Heights, which is an absolutely fantastic neighborhood. Even though it’s easy to commute from Manhattan and other parts of Brooklyn to the courthouse, it would have been extra convenient to be able to walk to work.”

**Park Slope**
“I sublet from a friend from high school who goes to NYU. I lived in a brownstone in Park Slope.”
Suburbs
“I lived at home in northern New Jersey and commuted daily. It is a bit of a hassle and if I did it again I would probably choose to live in the city but overall it worked out just fine.”

Transportation
Driving
Don’t do it, it’s NYC. It’s easier and faster to walk or take public transportation.

Commuter Rail
If you live out in the suburbs, commuter rail is relatively convenient from Long Island, mainland NY, or New Jersey.
Long Island Rail Road
Metro North Rail Road
NJ Transit

Bus
Buses are more convenient if you use them to commute from the suburbs versus using the city buses. The MTA website has bus information on it, and the Port Authority Terminal on 42nd street is where buses from the suburbs arrive and depart from.
**Subway**
NYC City subway lines run from the MTA. You’ll have to get a MetroCard, and the 30 day ride pass can be the most economical if you use it enough. Fares and schedule information can be found [here](#).

**NYC Bucket List**
Below are what we have compiled from previous interns’ suggestions.

- Walk on The Highline
- Visit the Chelsea Market
- Go Shopping in SoHo
- Try some food at Red Rooster in Harlem
- Go to Smorgasburg in Brooklyn
• Visit Governor’s Ball on Randall’s Island
• Catch the views from the Hudson at the South Street Seaport
• Go to all the museums along the Museum Mile (museums have a pay-what you wish day)
• Catch a show from the Upright Citizens Brigade Comedy
• Eat lunch and then dinner in Chinatown and Little Italy (walking distance from each other)
• Walk the entire Brooklyn Bridge before sunset, and then catch the views from Brooklyn Bridge Park. (or sunrise)
• Catch a broadway show that you haven’t seen before
• Visit Coney Island and watch the hot-dog eating contest
• Catch a Yankee’s Game
• Watch a movie at Bryant Park
• Visit the Williamsburg Flea Market
• See a show at Shakespeare in the Park

Links

Educational Housing Services
http://www.studenthousing.org/

NYU Summer Housing
http://www.nyu.edu/summer/housing/

92Y Student Intern Housing
http://www.92y.org/Uptown/92YResidence-Student-Intern-Housing

NYC Intern Housing/King’s College
https://www.nycintern.org/apartments/

NYC Summer Internship Guide

NY for Students and Interns
WASHINGTON, D.C.
DC-Specific Search Advice
This is what the most recent PICS interns had to say.

Georgetown
“I lived in a beautiful little townhouse in Georgetown that I found on Craigslist. The living conditions were great and I loved my roommates. Paying rent was tough, however, due to the PICS payment schedule - my mom had to pay my first two months rent until I got the first 2/3 of my stipend, and then I basically had no money waiting on the last 1/3.”

George Washington U
“I lived at a George Washington University dorm during my internship. In general, the living conditions were typical of a college dorm, but my experience was very negatively affected by the long commute, frequent inspections (in which my belongings and food items were often moved or tampered with, and inspectors’ trash was left behind), infrequent cleaning of the facility, maintenance issues (laundry machines were broken for several weeks), frequent fire alarms, and unsafe environment (reports of assaults and armed robberies in the area). Though GWU dorms may be a relatively affordable option for interns, the difference in cost may not necessarily make up for the difference in quality.”

“I lived in George Washington University Dormitories for the most part. Living conditions were satisfactory, and I would suggest living at GWU, though the better kept living areas are pretty expensive.”

“I lived in an apartment I found on Airbnb. I lived with two other PICS interns, one of whom also worked at the hospital. The rent was cheaper than GW and WISH (I paid $1600 for the whole summer), and I was only a 5 minute Uber ride to work (yes, I used Uber to get to work with one of my roommates). The apartment was pretty good, except one of the rooms had bedbugs. We had to deal with that…But that’s not something you can predict no matter where you go, so I definitely recommend Airbnb as opposed to GW or WISH if you want to save money and have a say in what type of housing you live in.”

“I lived at George Washington University, in Mitchell Hall. Accommodations were fine, but not as clean as Princeton’s dorms. The rooms themselves were not ideal, but for the price (I paid about $3000) it was probably the best bang for my buck.”

Intern Rating: paid $3,100 for the summer; “worth its price”; “would recommend; Lived in Mitchell Hall; “satisfied”; 0 roommates
**Dupont Circle**

“I lived in DuPont circle, a 15 minute walk from CPI. The location and the room were great, found it on craigslist for $1100 including utilities. Try to go for something in that area since walking is much faster than taking the bus or the metro.”

**Capitol Hill**

*Intern Rating:* paid $3,500 for the summer; “worth its price”; “would recommend”; “very satisfied”; 4+ roommates; required to pay security deposit

**WISH**

“I lived in Washington Intern Student Housing (WISH). It was very convenient - I lived a few blocks from Union Station and there was a shuttle to the hospital every 10 minutes. Also, the apartment comes stocked with all the necessary cooking/cleaning equipment. Great choice for interns working at CNMC!”

“I lived on Capitol Hill with two other PICS interns in a Washington Intern Student Housing apartment (WISH). It was cozy, but it had everything we needed and wasn’t crazy expensive. We had a free thirty minute commute to work (half walk, half hospital shuttle) and lots of nearby activities/restaurants.”

“I lived at WISH housing with three other people - two of which were PICS interns also working at the hospital. The apartment was next to Union Station which was great for transportation on the metro and also the shuttle to the hospital. It’s also a safe area, which is the top priority. The apartment was a little bit small and costly but definitely worth the investment.”

*Intern Rating:* 3 roommates (all Princeton); “would recommend”; paid $2500 for summer; “slightly overpriced”

**Chinatown**

“I lived in an apartment with another Princeton student in Chinatown. Our living conditions were excellent, since we were renting from someone we knew. I would recommend that future interns try to rent with someone that they know. Also, the DC metro is very easy to use, so future interns should focus more on the quality of their housing than the distance to work when choosing somewhere to live. I know many students choose to live at GWU, and found it very satisfactory.”
Suburbs
“I rented a room in a house in Rockville, MD, which is about 30 min from NIH by car (but could be 30 min - an hour by public transportation). The conditions were satisfactory: a big room, furniture provided, but a kitchen and bathroom shared with a few other renters. I would recommend living in Rockville because it is relatively safe and much, much cheaper than Bethesda. However, I would recommend living within walking distance from the metro because buses are less convenient. Additionally, if the interns plan on going to D.C. often, Rockville is quite far. (I went exploring in D.C. every weekend, so it’s definitely do-able, but didn’t like getting home too late.) I would recommend not having a long commute to work.”


Transportation
Commuter Rail
If you live out in the suburbs not served by the DC’s Metro, commuter rail is served by either Virginia Railway Express or Maryland Area Regional Commuter Train.

Bus
The bus system is served by DC’s Metro Bus and there is a DC circulator bus with only $1 fares with limited routes to several destinations, like Georgetown, Union Station, and Dupont Circle, among others.
DC’s subway system is operated by Washington Metro. SmarTrip cards are available, but are pretty expensive for the 28 day pass relative to other cities, so should be considered if you make really extensive use of it. Definitely try to live somewhere where you can walk to groceries, stores, etc. if possible if you decide to avoid the card expense and pay only per subway trip. Metro also has different fares for peak and non-peak times. More information found on the Washington Metro website. Many interns have recommended living along the Red line, where stations in Maryland in well known suburbs like Bethesda and Silver Spring, American U, Dupont Circle, Chinatown, WISH housing near Union Station, and Catholic U of America are located.
WISH can offer these rental rates for summer session 2 (mention PICS and Dr. Martin Eichelberger ’67), they are per person per semester and include everything except bedding and towels:

- **Summer Session 2:**
  - Quad rooms: $3000
  - Triple rooms: $3200
  - Double rooms: $3550

*There is no fee to apply, but to reserve housing a $300 processing fee and $200 refundable security deposit is also required.*

All WISH locations house interns only, are furnished, in the historic District and Metro accessible. Our receptions, social mixers, outings and speaker series are free to all residents.

George Washington University Summer Housing
http://living.gwu.edu/summer-housing

Georgetown University Summer Housing
http://housing.georgetown.edu/summer/

American University Intern Housing
http://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/ucgs/summerinternhousing.cfm

Catholic University of America Intern Housing
http://conferences.cua.edu/summer/

DC Summer Housing Guide

DC Neighborhood Guide
DC Bucket List

Below are what we have compiled from previous interns’ suggestions.

- Go to every Smithsonian Museum
- Visit every DC monument and memorial
- Visit the Capitol
- Canoe on the Potomac River from Georgetown
- Catch a Jazz in the Garden Concert in the Sculpture Garden
- Catch a movie on the Mall, it’s free!
- Go to the DC Jazz Festival
- Catch the fireworks on the Mall on 4th of July
- Catch a view of DC from the National Cathedral or the Newseum’s Balcony
- Go to Ben’s Chili Bowl in the Shaw
- Visit Malcolm X Park, it’s awesome
- Hike the Valley Trail at Rock Creek Park
- Head over to some cool jazz clubs on U Street
- Truckfest is a must-do, even though it’s way overpriced
- Take a picture of the Albert Einstein Memorial, because you are Princeton
- Walk or bike on the C&O Canal
- Visit all the Streets and Avenues named after the 50 states (and take a picture)
- Go to the Georgetown Flea Market
- Take in the Library of Congress’s Main Reading Room
- Listen to a Supreme Court Oral Argument (seating is limited)
- Take a stroll in Dumbarton Oaks
This is what the most recent PICS interns had to say.

**Venice Beach**

“I lived in Venice Beach, about a 15 minute drive to work. I recommend staying in a place very close to the office because LA traffic makes travelling difficult. Other students found a flat two blocks from the beach on Craigslist and believed it was a good place to stay as well for the summer.”

**Pasadena**

“I lived within walking distance of The Huntington Library, in the poolhouse of a lovely woman named Helena Singer, at 381 S Meridith Ave in Pasadena. My living conditions were basically perfect for all my needs. I had just enough space, an easy walk to work (as well as Trader Joe’s and other stores) so I didn’t need a car (Pasadena also has a good bus system, and Mrs. Singer was always happy to provide rides), and Mrs. Singer was incredibly kind. I found her through a list of housing accommodations. I’ll definitely recommend her to future interns. I paid $2,5000 for the summer”

**South Central/University Park (USC)**

“I lived in the Theta Xi house at USC. It was a fantastic living arrangement and was my favorite part about the summer. I met some great friends who I will definitely keep up with.”

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Intern Rating (for USC): Paid $550/month + $550 deposit; “slightly overpriced”; “had all amenities, laundry, kitchen, AC, etc.”, “would recommend; “very satisfied”; searched via Craigslist; had 4+ roommates; unexpected expense was “a bicycle to get around”, but “tons of used bike stores nearby that will buy your bike back at the end of the summer”; had to pay for some time that was outside of the time of the internship

Downtown
“I lived in an apartment (the Visconti) in downtown Los Angeles, north of the LA Natural History Museum. By car, it was a 15-20 minute car ride without traffic to the museum. I was very satisfied with my living conditions; I had my own bedroom, bathroom, and a parking spot. I found my roommate and apartment through a friend at USC. For future interns, it would be best to find a room through a USC friend or mutual friend since most USC students need to sublease their apartments over the summer.”

Other Areas/Suburbs
“I lived at home, about one hour and a half away from the museum. I took a train that brought me to the museum. I liked living at home, but the commute was much too long. The reason why I lived at home was because the renting/subletting in LA, especially in an area near the Museum, is much too expensive. I could not afford renting/subletting, given the hourly (and taxed) pay I was getting from the museum. The area around the Museum is also known for not being the best area to live in for LA. My recommendation to future interns would be to find out first whether you will be able to afford a place based on whether the organization can pay via an untaxed stipend or taxed hourly pay. I know others who struggled immensely with this problem.”

“I lived in San Gabriel in an apartment that I found on craigslist with two housemates. It was fine. I did not get along well with my roommate, but the apartment was a great price and since it was close to work, it was worth it. I don’t have many recommendations for future interns regarding housing. I would, however, recommend trying to get a car during the stay. I would have had a much worse experience without one. I shipped mine across the country, but for future interns who do not have a car or cannot afford to ship one, I would recommend trying to work something else out. Having a car was crucial in San Marino!”

“I lived at home, simply because it was the best decision financially. There are not a lot of economically-friendly options for renting near La Canada Flintridge. Students who do not live at home should probably expect a bit of a commute for living in cheaper areas!”

“I lived with a friend who lived in the area. I would recommend that future interns take into account the distance between where they decide to live and their internship (mine was from My Friend’s Place). L.A. traffic extends throughout much of the day; thus, it could
take an hour to drive 20 miles (this was my commute every day). The public transit system isn’t always the best either so having a car, if possible, would be best.”

Transportation

Driving
A car is essentially a must in LA. Past interns have lived without a car, but have complained about the lack of convenience in LA’s public transportation system. Not that it’s impossible to survive without a car, but be very strategic about picking a neighborhood where a lot of your needs can be met. Many LA interns are also from the area and commute from the suburbs. Expect a lot of traffic.

MetroRail
MetroRail is a combination of light rail transit (Blue, Green, Gold and Expo) and a subway system (Red and Purple lines) that is operated by LA’s Metro. The light rail is not as fast as the subway, so there are longer wait times than public transit available on the East Coast. The Metro also operates the bus system, but many of the suburbs in Southern California have their own bus systems.
Links
University of Southern California (USC) Summer Housing
https://housing.usc.edu/index.php/summer-housing/

University of California - Los Angeles (UCLA) U Loop Sublet Housing
http://ucla.uloop.com/housing/index.php/sublets

LA Bucket List
Below are what we have compiled from previous interns’ suggestions:
- Catch a Dodgers baseball game
- See a concert: there are always fun concerts in LA; the Hollywood Bowl is an amazing experience
- Explore Downtown LA
- Go to the Santa Monica Pier
- Walk to the Hollywood Sign
- Catch the view from the Griffith Park Observatory
- Go to Disneyland in Anaheim
- Go to Rodeo Dr (Rodeo Drive) in Beverly Hills
- Eat at Kogi BBQ
- Go to Marichi Plaza
- Go to the Museum of Tolerance
- Go to the Egyptian Theater
- See every star at the Hollywood Walk of Fame
- Visit the Huntington Library
- Go to Venice Beach
- Go to Watts Tower
- Eat at Pink’s Hot Dog
- Buy a Sprinkle’s Cupcake from the ATM
This is what the most recent PICS interns had to say.

Rogers Park
“The Rogers Park neighborhood, near Loyola University, is a low-cost neighborhood ($500-600 a month is not hard to find). You could probably sublet from a Loyola student via Craigslist, and it’s right on the beach (probably the most amazing part!). That was about a 30-minute commute via the Red Line, and 40-50 minutes if I wanted to do a little more walking.

Lincoln Park
If you are willing to spend a little more than Rogers Park and get a little more of the “Chicago” experience (as well as be closer to friends who are working consulting/finance internships, which are generally in the Loop), I’d highly recommend Lincoln Park - it’s young, full of cool, cheap restaurants, and has lovely green spaces.

Don’t live in Uptown just because of convenience; it’s really not that bustling and is generally gentrified with areas that you really want to stay away from. It would be difficult as a non-Chicagoan to know where you could and could not go at night (or even during the day), and there is a high crime rate right near the Red Line train stop by the center during the course of my internship. If you’re worried, look at the police blotter.”
The Loop

“I lived in a studio apartment in the Loop, about a block away from Millennium Park. It was a FANTASTIC location, and I loved living in the center of the city as well as being close to parks and the lakefront. I found an apartment as a sublet via craigslist. I will say that cost can be an issue. I shared the studio with a roommate to cut down on costs because it was such a good location. I would encourage students to look at craigslist, as many of the dorms were quite expensive and not flexible. I would also suggest looking with another person, as it is easier and more affordable! Also, public transportation was great in Chicago, and it was very easy to take the bus, the Metro, or the L (the rail system).”

“I lived in a dorm, in the School of the Art Institute. It worked out very well, and the living conditions were more than satisfactory. It was a great location. The room had everything I needed, and it was much easier than trying to find and rent an apartment for the summer. I would recommend this housing option for future interns. I also met several other interns in the city who were staying in a building called the Buckingham, which is closer to the Museum and which seemed to work well for them.“
The ‘L’& Trains
Chicago trains run mostly on elevated tracks by CTA and are generally convenient. Some stations extend to the nearby suburbs. 30-day passes are available on Ventra transit accounts. Suburban rail is more comprehensively provided through METRA, and of course, you should anticipate longer wait times.
Links
School of the Art Institute of Chicago Summer Housing
http://www.saic.edu/lifeatsaic/summerhousingforinterns/

Loyola University Summer Housing
http://www.luc.edu/reslife/currentstudents/summerhousing/

University of Illinois-Chicago Intern Housing
http://www.housing.uic.edu/intern/index.php

The Buckingham
http://thebuckinghamchicago.com/student-summer-housing

University Center Summer Housing
http://chicagosummerhousing.com/

Chicago Bucket List
Below are what we have compiled from previous interns’ suggestions:
  ● Attend the Taste of Chicago (outdoor food festival)
  ● Take a Chicago Architectural cruise tour from the Chicago River
  ● Take a picture with the bean at Millenium Park
  ● Walk along the Navy Pier
  ● Catch a Cubs or White Sox Game at Wrigley Field, and take a tour too!
  ● Explore the Field Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago
  ● Catch the view from the top of Sears Tower
  ● Walk along Lake Michigan
  ● Go to Lollapalooza at Grant Park
  ● Visit the Museum of Science and Industry
  ● Eat some fried shrimp from Calumet Fisheries
  ● Watch the Seussical at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater
  ● Get a scoop from the Original Rainbow Cone in the South Side
  ● Go to Oak Street Beach
  ● Cheer in Chinatown at the Dragon Boat Race
  ● Go indoor ice skating at the Aurora Skate Center
“I lived in a single room at the Axis Apartments, only a two-minute walk from my workplace. The quality of the room was fine. The price was affordable, and the location could not be beat. I would definitely recommend this place as an inexpensive housing option. I would also recommend looking to sublet an apartment from a student, which might be even cheaper and offer the space of an entire apartment.”

“During my internship I lived on University of Pennsylvania’s campus, and I commuted back and forth to the downtown office with my bike. My living conditions were great, and I would definitely recommend staying in the University City area for future interns.”

“I lived at the Radian Apartments (subletting from a Penn student). Great location. Very nice.”

“I lived in Drexel University apartment-style housing at University Crossings. It was a great place, and I didn’t mind living with 2 Drexel students as roommates. I would recommend this place because it’s very conveniently located!”

“I was in an apartment-style dorm with two Drexel University students. It was Drexel University housing. Space was really big, great facilities, private bathroom, kitchen,
and close laundry access. It was a bit expensive though: there was a $200 application fee and $670 rent per month (I stayed 2 months). Still, I started looking for housing pretty late (like in June, when my internship was in July), so it was good enough. Very convenient location. I had 2 roommates but only one who shared the room with me (and it was a gigantic room, like the size of a triple at Princeton, plus a big common room with a kitchen).”

**Center City**

“I lived in the Curtis dormitories in the new Lenfest Hall. The facilities were amazing as the building is only 3 years old. I had an amazing suite with 3 roommates. My room at Princeton this year will feel like a downgrade in comparison! I was blessed to have such amazing living accommodations, and I envy future interns who get to live in this wonderful facility!”

**Suburbs**

“I lived at home during my internship and commuted into Center City Philadelphia by train (about an hour and a half both ways). I was happy with this choice, though commuting can take up both time and money, because I wanted to spend a lot of time with my family this summer. For any commuters, I recommend buying a monthly rail pass, because you can also use it as a free pass on the subway. Explore the city! Sometimes on my lunch break I would take the subway into Old City or another part of Philly and see the sites.”
Transportation

Driving
If you have your own car, or are from the suburbs, you can drive to work, but many interns reported having long commute times.

Commuter Rail
If you live out in the suburbs, commuter rail—run by SEPTA—is relatively convenient. You should probably invest in the monthly pass, as it also works for the subway.

Subway

SEPTA runs the subways. Since SEPTA still operates on tokens, investing in the monthly pass is a very convenient option.
Links

UPenn uLoop Subletting
http://upenn.uloop.com/housing/index.php/sublets

Drexel Summer Intern Housing
http://drexel.edu/dbs/eventConference/conferenceCenter/SummerInternHousingProgram/

Colleges & Universities Summer Housing
http://campusphilly.org/philly-things-to-know/summer-housing/

Philly Bucket List

● Visit the Philadelphia Art Museum and run up all the steps
● Eat out in the Reading Terminal Market (like a big food court)
● Buy a book from random secondhand bookstores (there's one around 40th street that I really liked)
● Visit the Philadelphia Zoo
● Visit all the historical things, like Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell
● Eat an authentic philly cheese steak
● Go to the aquarium in Camden (Go with friends! It's not the safest area.)
● Go to the 4th of July celebration and Made in America concert (you'll hear about it; it's huge)
● Get some ice cream at the Franklin Fountain
● Attend the PECO Multicultural Series festivals
● Shop at the Franklin Flea outdoor market
● Visit the Franklin Institute
● See a fireworks show at Longwood Gardens
● Catch an Awesome Fest outdoor movie
● Catch a Phillies game
● Paddle on the Delaware at Penn’s Landing
● Bike or hike the Wissahickon Creek in Fairmount Park
● Lounge in a hammock at Spruce Street Harbor Park
● Picnic at Rittenhouse Square Park
● Play a giant board game or kubb spel at the Eakins Oval