

Emergency Information

(Emergency contacts and support at the front of the guide for quick reference)

Emergency Resources

- Emergency: 911
- Contact Care-Line
 - 24/7 Crisis Intervention, Suicide Prevention, Emotional Support
 - 740/383-CARE (2273)
- Marion General Hospital ER
 - 740/383-8500
- Turning Point Domestic Violence Shelter
 - 740/382-8988
- American Red Cross (fire/disaster/weather related disaster)
 - 740/725-9141

Marion City Police

Non-Emergency: 740/387-2525

Tips Line: 740/375-TIPS (8477)

233 West Center Street

Marion, OH 43302

Marion Sheriff Ohio

740/382-8244

889 Marion Williamsport Road.

Marion, OH 43302

Marion Campus Safety Department

Jade Elkins, Public Safety Supervisor/Police Sergeant

740/725-6300

Elkins.135@osu.edu

138 Morrill Hall

Office of Student Life

Get Involved!

Getting involved as a student at Ohio State is a vital part of your college career and personal growth. And let's face it: being involved is fun! You can meet new people, make new friends, and learn valuable skills for the future. There are not only opportunities to get involved but to start your own organization, regardless of whether your commute or live off campus.

For more information, visit osumarion.osu.edu and learn about the many opportunities students have here on campus!



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Finding Off-Campus Housing

The Search for Off-Campus Housing

Refer to online housing searches that have many online rental listings and landlord contact information. Please keep in mind that landlords and/or properties displayed on independent housing searches are not university endorsed or approved.

Currently, there is not any on/off-campus housing that is owned or moderated by The Ohio State University – Marion.

TOP CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHOOSING OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

1. **Affordability and Utilities**

A necessary first step when selecting your off-campus housing is determining if you can afford the cost of living. To determine the affordability of a rental unit, you will need to consider the following:

- Rent
- Utilities
- Renters insurance
- Books/parking/food
- Other living expenses (toiletries, clothes, supplies, etc.)

Because living within your means is vital, you should utilize a budget to keep track of your money. When renting a property, utility costs are often not included in the rent cost. Utilities can vary a great deal based on the type of unit you are renting and the age of the building, among many other factors. When living with roommates, Off-Campus Commuter Student Services suggests budgeting an extra \$150-\$200/month per person for electric, gas, cable, internet and water. If you're living alone, utility costs will likely be higher.

2. **Property Location**

You don't want to live where you feel unsafe simply to save money

- Visit the property during the day, night, and on weekends to see if there is a major difference in environment
- Talk to the current tenants and/or neighbors and see what their experience has been with the landlord and/or with the area
- Check out crime statistics for a particular area by visiting communitycrimemap.com
- Talk to your friends. Often, your friends can be your best resource when trying to find a suitable off-campus property

3. **Landlord Reputation**

To find out landlord's tendencies, talk to current tenants to find out what their experience has been with the landlord and ask questions such as:

- Was the place ready to move in at the start of the lease term?
- Does the landlord make repairs in a timely fashion?
- Does the landlord provide 24-hours' notice prior to entering the premises?
- Is the landlord respectful and easy to work with?
- Would you rent again from this landlord?

How to Inspect a Property

Before signing a lease, go through and thoroughly inspect the entire property. Below is a checklist to guide your inspection."

"If you see any issues and/or needed upgrades, discuss each item with the landlord. If they agree to

your requests, be sure to put each item in writing the lease.”

“After inspecting the property, if you and your roommates are still interested in renting it, request a sample lease form from the landlord.

STEP 1

Turn on all faucets/showerheads to make sure the hot/cold water works. Flush all toilets.

STEP 2

Confirm that there is at minimum **one smoke detector per floor**.

STEP 3

Check the thermostat and make sure the heat and air conditioning work properly

STEP 4

Open windows to check the condition of their hardware and to make sure they aren't painted shut. Bedroom windows should be large enough to escape through in a fire.

STEP 5

Inspect the walls, floors and carpet for moisture damage or mold

STEP 6

Make sure all exterior doors have **functioning locks**

STEP 7

Make sure there is a sufficient amount of **outdoor lighting** for your safety

STEP 8

Check all appliances to make certain they work

STEP 9

Talk to the current tenants to see if they have had any problems of issues”

Landlord-Tenant Law

Did you know there is a law in Ohio that regulates the relationship between landlords and tenants? This is known as Ohio Landlord-Tenant Law, and it

sets forth the rights and responsibilities for both landlords and tenants.

Note: The following information refers only to Ohio law and does not constitute legal advice.

Landlord and Tenant Obligations

Both landlords and tenants have certain statutory obligations, regardless of anything set forth in the lease.

Landlord Obligations under Ohio Landlord-Tenant Law

- Comply with all applicable building, housing, health and safety codes
- Keep the property in a fit and habitable condition
- Keep all common areas safe and sanitary
- Maintain all appliances and equipment
- Provide 24-hours' notice prior to entering the unit (unless there is an emergency)

Tenant Obligations under Ohio Landlord-Tenant Law

- Keep the property safe and sanitary
- Dispose of all garbage in a clean, safe and sanitary manner
- Properly use electrical/plumbing fixtures
- Comply with housing, health, and safety codes that apply to tenants
- Refrain from damaging the property
- Keep appliances supplied by the landlord in good working order
- Do not disturb your neighbor's peaceful enjoyment

(Continued...)Tenant Obligations under Ohio Landlord-Tenant Law

- Allow the landlord to enter the premises if request is reasonable and proper advance

notice is given. Proper notice typically refers to 24-hours' notice, although in an emergency, it may be less

Roommate 101

Discussing how to find that perfect rental property is essential, but finding a compatible roommate is just as, if not more, important. Take as much time and care in choosing your roommate(s) as you do in choosing where you live. Below is a list of resources and tips to keep in mind through your search.

1. Budget

Not all students are in similar financial situations. Discussing financial expectations prior to signing a lease is crucial. This can help avoid future conflict when it comes to money issues. If you are concerned with your roommate's ability to pay rent regularly, ask to see a credit report and offer a copy of your own, in return. Finally, implement a monthly budget and stick to it!

2. Clear Expectations

Some landlords require rent to be paid in one check, so make sure to create an agreement on how and who will pay the rent each month. The best way to present clear expectations is by drafting and signing a roommate agreement. Visit OSU Marion's Student Life office has a pre-drafted roommate agreement!

Also consider the following household rules:

- Will the household have quiet study hours?
- Will everyone share the cost of food or shop individually and have a hands-off policy?
- Will everyone be permitted to have overnight guests, and if so, what are the stipulations?
- Will there be temperature regulations on the thermostat?

3. Discuss the Lease Term

Regardless of whether or not you are living in the rental property all year round, you are responsible

for paying your rent on time for the entire lease term. Make sure you and your roommate(s) are aware of one another's plans and that you are all in agreement on items such as:

- Will each roommate be responsible for paying a share of the utilities, even if he/she is not residing in the property?
- If a roommate wants to find a replacement for his/her room and the landlord permits this, is everyone comfortable with the arrangement?
- Will the current roommates have a say in selecting the new/temporary roommate?

4. Unforeseen Circumstances and Dealing with Household Conflict

You can't predict everything in life, but you can certainly plan for the future. For example, a roommate may run into financial difficulties and be forced to move out without paying rent. This may leave the financial burden on the remaining roommates(s). Therefore, it is best to decide how the household will deal with a situation such as this, to help resolve potential conflict in the future.

In addition, it's nearly impossible to discuss every scenario that may come up during the lease term, but you can generally outline resolution procedures to help when, or if, conflict arises. For example, roommates can establish a house meeting and voting system to resolve the problem.

The Office of Student Life has a roommate agreement to begin the conversation about expectations and agreements in your new home together.



It's best to contact companies at least two weeks before you move in. You may need the following to set up your utility account:

- Rental address
- Deposit fee
- Proof of identity (license, student ID, etc.)
- Either your Social Security Number or a passport

3. **Reserve a Moving Truck**

Reserve a moving truck well in advance, so you're ready to go on move-in day.

Preparing to Move: What's Next?

Moving into an apartment/house is a very exciting time, as you'll have a new place to live and a new sense of freedom, as well as a new set of responsibilities."

1. **Schedule a Date to Pick Up Your Keys**

This is a great opportunity to ask your landlord to do a walkthrough before you move your furniture into the unit.

- ➔ Plan ahead if you don't want to end up with three toasters and one chair. Clearly arrange which roommates are bringing which furniture beforehand

2. **Set Up Utilities**

(Gas, electric, water/sewage, internet, cable, etc.)

Generally, it will be the tenant's responsibility to make arrangements for utility connections.

ADDITIONAL OFF-CAMPUS LIVING RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT:

<https://offcampus.osu.edu/posts/documents/occss-living-guide-2017-online-5b1-5d-5b1-5d.pdf>

<http://osumarion.osu.edu/student-life/housing.html>

Being Safe Off Campus

Home Safety

Introduce yourself to your neighbors and exchange contact information. By creating a close knit community, you can help inform each other of suspicious activity in your neighborhood.

- Keep your heat at 65°F to prevent your pipes from freezing or bursting
- Contact the post office to hold or forward your mail: holdmail.usps.com
- Lock your doors and windows

Leaving for Break?

- Take/secure your valuables, including your TV
- Use safety timers to give the illusion of activity in your home
- Disconnect electrical extensions, even toasters
- Tweet/Instagram your vacation photos once you return, but not during your trip

General Safety Tips

- If you see something, say something. Call 911 for emergencies and 740/387-2525 for non-emergencies
- Do not open your doors to strangers. If you have a scheduled utility company appointment, ask for an ID or badge before allowing entry
- Keep your doors and windows locked at all times, even when you are home!

Fire Safety

House Fire Prevention

Follow these tips to reduce your risk of personal or property damage from fire

- Have at least one smoke alarm on each floor of your residence
- Check smoke alarm batteries each semester
- Always know two ways out, especially from bedrooms
- Keep items at least three feet from heat sources, including your furnace
- Don't grill on a porch or within 20 feet of a building
- Don't store gasoline or lighter fluid inside your residence
- Don't overload electrical outlets

If a fire breaks out, get out and stay out. Call 911

Common Factors in the Nation's Campus Fires

- Missing or disabled smoke detectors
- Careless disposal of smoking materials
- Impaired judgement from alcohol consumption
- Upholstered furniture fires on decks and porches

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of residential fires

75% of fire fatalities occurring in off campus residences were attributed to disabled smoke alarms, alcohol consumption, or lack of sprinklers. Careless smoking and discarding of cigarettes is the leading cause of fire deaths

Personal Safety

Keeping Yourself Safe

Never walk alone at night. To decrease your chances of being involved in a crime, follow your gut:

- Walk in well-lit areas
- Wear light colored clothing at night
- Never leave valuables in your car
- Avoid alleys
- Don't leave headphones or earbuds in while walking
- Never give out your personal or financial information to strangers
- If on Columbus campus or urban areas, know where the emergency "blue-light" telephones are located
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Let someone know where you are going, your expected arrival time and the route you expect to take to reach your destination

The Marion Campus Public Safety Office offers safety escort services to students, faculty, and staff.

The service is free and requires only Ohio State Marion or MTC identification.

Uniformed personnel with mobile communication capabilities are available to walk (*or in some cases drive*) persons to and from on-campus destinations.

Hours of operation for safety escorts are:

9am-10pm Monday-Thursday

9am-7pm on Fridays

For security purposes, safety escort personnel carry and exhibit identification.

The hours of operation are:

8am-11:30 Monday-Thursday

8am-7pm Fridays

For additional details on this program, or to arrange a safety escort, contact the Marion Campus Public Safety Office, room 138- Morrill Hall or call (740) 725-6300.

Campus & Community Resources

Academic and Campus Resources

Academic Success Center

Morrill Hall 216

(740) 725-6236

Provides:

- Free peer tutoring in most subjects
- Assistance with writing in any subject
- Free tutoring in math
- Free tutoring in STEM programs

Tutoring is available both one-to-one and in small groups.

Houses:

- A small (8- station) computer lab
- Free printing and scanning
- Free copy machine
- Conference room for group study
- Study spaces with white boards and reference materials

“Come see us. We’re here to help!”

Contact:
academicsuccess@osu.com

General Computer Lab

Located: 220 LC (Library Classroom Building)

Provides:

- PC and Mac computer lab
- Free printing/scanning
- IT help and consultation

Media Lab

Located: 281 Morrill Hall

Provides:

- PC and Mac computer lab
- Free printing/scanning
- Free laminating services
- Video camera rental services

Marion Campus Library

(740) 725-6254

<https://marionlibrary.osu.edu>

Provides:

- Borrow books from campus or request materials through OhioLINK and other University Libraries with BuckID
- Textbooks and other professor approved materials on hold for student use and study
- Tables and seats for studying
- Charging station for most mobile devices
- Conference rooms and private study rooms available
- Computer access on first and second floor
- Black and white/color printing and copying available

Additional Academic Resources

Marion Public Library

Located:

445 East Church Street
Marion, OH 43302

(740) 387-0992

- 5-10 minute drive from campus
- ~15 minute bicycle ride from campus

Provides:

- Free computer usage
- Printing/copying services
- Borrow books from location or request materials from other public branches
- Weekend access to print papers or research materials
- Free WiFi

Urgent Care, OhioHealth

130 University Drive, Suite 1300

740-692-4440

Hours: 9am-9pm, 7 Days a Week

Living Resources

Alber Student Center

Fitness Services:

- Free with BuckID
- Weight room and cardio
- Locker room complete with shower
- Gymnasium with available basketball, volleyball, rock climbing – all free
 - May include weekend hours
 - during certain semesters
- Cafe

Other:

- Make your student ID “BuckID”
- Alber Student Center, Room 104
- 740/725-6206
 - Bring:
 - Driver’s License/State ID
 - 9 digit student number

Transportation

- Marion City provides public bus transportation to citizens and students
 - A bus shelter is on campus
 - A discounted service fare is offered to students!
 - Because there is no set schedule, contact the transit office to request the bus

Demand Service - Transit Information

Call (740) 382-9850

8AM – 4PM, Monday-Friday

~ Expect bus within a half-hour ~

Marion Area Transit:

- Demand Bus Service Fare (Curb-to-Curb)
 - \$0.60 student discount
- Enhanced Bus Service – Inside City Limits
 - By appointment only
 - \$1.25 student discount
 - Can be a reoccurring appointment for class schedules, if certain time for pick up or drop off is not already reserved.
 - Be sure to call in and reserve well ahead of time!
- Enhanced Bus Service – Outside City Limits
 - \$1.85 student discount
- 5 Miles from City Limits
 - \$3.10 student discount

Monthly Passes and Ticket Books are available at the transit office. Discount cards can be provided to students with identification.

Visit: www.marionohio.us/transit/fares

for more information

- Marion Area Transit Office:
137 South State Street
Marion, OH 43302