



# Housing Information - UvA





Moving to a new city and beginning a new study is an exciting experience. Amsterdam, famous for its historical buildings and canals, is a multifaceted city bustling with knowledge, commerce, creativity and innovation. The tolerant atmosphere and open-mindedness of its inhabitants form an inviting setting for scientists, entrepreneurs and artists alike, who often work together, inspiring and stimulating one another. It is this dynamic and challenging environment that attracts students to the city.

However, this means that affordable housing is extremely scarce. If you are a first-year Bachelor’s or Master’s student, or an exchange student, you can consider applying to UvA student housing. Please read through this information booklet carefully as it contains invaluable information with regards to housing in Amsterdam, location and room types, costs and other practical matters.

All information can be found on [www.uva.nl/housing](http://www.uva.nl/housing) as well.

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## Eligibility and UvA Housing application process

You will only be able to receive a housing invitation after you have accepted your offer to study at the Graduate School of Humanities. If you haven't done so already, we encourage you to accept your offer in MyInfo at your earliest possible convenience.

You will receive a housing invitation if you meet **all** of the following criteria:

- You submitted a complete application in MyInfo for a Master's programme at the Graduate School of Humanities before **1 March 2019**
- You have accepted your provisional acceptance letter in MyInfo
- You do **not** currently live in The Netherlands
- You have **not** lived in The Netherlands before
- You have registered with a non-Dutch address in Studielink / MyInfo

The Early Bird deadline for UvA housing is 7 June 2019. It is unlikely that we will be able to offer you a room if you apply for housing after the Early Bird deadline.

Housing matching starts at the end of June. This means room offers will be sent out from the beginning of July onwards. Every student only receives 1 room offer. You can decide to either accept or decline this room offer. Please be aware that if you decline your room offer, you will not be offered a second choice, nor will you get your **UvA housing fee** refunded.

*Note: during this time, check your Junk-mail folder daily, as housing offers from different providers might end up here.*

Unfortunately, due to the shortage of affordable rooms on the Amsterdam housing market, the UvA is unable to offer a room to every single applicant. Looking at statistics from the previous years, we are able to offer a room to roughly half of the students who apply to student housing. It is important to look for housing on the free market alongside your UvA housing application, as there is a chance we will not be able to offer you a room.

### Priority

Because of the high demand, the following prioritization applies:

1. Students who have a non-EU/EEA nationality
2. Students who have an EU/EEA nationality





## Location

The University of Amsterdam works with various different housing providers which offer housing options in various off-campus buildings spread across the city. These buildings are owned and managed by housing corporations who have an agreement with the UvA. Different room types, price ranges and locations are available.

Because the University of Amsterdam is a city campus, student housing is available at different locations across Amsterdam - close to, but not right on, campus. The maximum travel time from student housing to the UvA's campuses is about 45 minutes. Unfortunately, due to the high demand of student housing, it's not possible to choose your location. You can, however, indicate what price range you're comfortable with spending. Please note that while we try to take into consideration your preferences, this cannot be guaranteed.

If you'd like to learn more about the different neighborhoods Amsterdam has to offer, please [visit our website](#) for more information.

## Types of rooms available

In the online application form for student housing, you will be asked what type of room you prefer. We will try our best to assign you to a room in that category *if space is available*, although we cannot make any guarantees.

For some housing corporations, you'll be invited to choose a room using a room reservation system.

### *Private room*

You have your own room (for sleeping and studying) and your own kitchenette and bathroom.

### *Private room with shared facilities*

You have your own room (for sleeping and studying) and you will share facilities with other students. In some cases there is also a shared living room. Most of these rooms cater to international students.

### *Shared room*

You live in one room (sleep, study, eat) with another student of the same gender. In most cases, the kitchenette is inside the room.

- *Sharing with a friend:* If you'd like to share a room with a friend (same gender), you and your friend must both write this down on your application forms. Sharing with a friend is only possible in the low budget category.

### *Couples room (sharing with your partner)*

We have a small number of couples rooms. These are studio apartments with a double bed and private facilities (kitchenette/bathroom). Only one of you needs to be a UvA student, but you will be required to double pay the UvA housing fee.

### *Unfurnished rooms (for duration of more than 1 year)*

We have an extremely small number of unfurnished rooms with a bathroom and kitchenette. Unlike all our other accommodations, which are available for a maximum of one academic year, these unfurnished rooms can be rented for the duration of your study (Bachelor's or Master's students only, priority is given to students who will enroll in a degree that lasts longer than 1 year).

Please bear in mind that unfurnished rooms are completely unfurnished – this means that oftentimes there's no furnish whatsoever, so no flooring, carpeting or other upholstery.





## Housing providers

UvA student housing is a partnership between the UvA and seven housing corporations that offer mainly affordable housing across Amsterdam. When you are assigned a room in student housing, you will rent directly from one of these housing corporations:

- [De Key](#)
- [DUWO](#)
- [International Campus](#)
- [Student Experience](#)
- [Hotel Jansen](#)
- [Campus Diemen Zuid](#)

## Register for Room.nl

ROOM is the platform for student housing in the urban regions of Amsterdam, Delft, The Hague, Deventer, Leiden, Haarlem and Wageningen. From the age of 16, you can register for €35. For students who seek independent housing: the longer you are registered through [www.room.nl](http://www.room.nl), the higher you are on the waitlist.



## Cost of UvA student housing

Rent is between €350 and €850 per month, depending on the type of room you have. In addition to rent, you must pay administrative fees, a refundable deposit and in some cases local taxes.

## Administration fees

### UvA housing fee

When you submit your application for housing, you'll have to pay the UvA Housing fee. You can pay online, in Euros, using a credit card or PayPal.

UvA housing fee per person*	Early bird	Normal
1 semester	€190	€220
2 semesters	€375	€400

\* When applying as a couple, you are required to pay double the amount of UvA Housing fee

The UvA housing fee will be refunded if no room offer is given. If we offer you a room but you don't make use of this offer, the fee will not be refunded.

### Housing providers administration fee and deposit

You will be offered a room from one of the housing providers who work with us to provide student housing. The administration fee and deposit you are required to pay depends on which housing provider you're assigned to. More information is available in [this PDF file](#).

Unfortunately, due to the sheer volume of applicants and the room shortage, you're unable to choose your preferred housing corporation.



## How to find a room in Amsterdam?

UvA student housing is available for first-year international students and exchange students. Unfortunately, because of high demand, not everyone who applies for student housing gets a room. Some first-year students and most second-year students will have to look for accommodation on the private rental market.

Options include renting a room in a private home, flat-sharing with other students or staying in a student hotel.

### Private homes, flat-sharing and student hotels

Affordable housing in Amsterdam is scarce, so begin your search early. Consult our list of websites and organisations that offer rooms for students.

### [How to find a room in Amsterdam: tips and websites \(3 p.\)](#)

### Register with housing websites

If you know you're going to be staying in Amsterdam for longer than a year, we strongly advise you to register on [Studentenwoningweb.nl](#) and [ROOM.nl](#) as early as possible. These sites work with a wait-list. Usually, students are offered a room after being registered for 1.5-2 years.



## Local Taxes

Anyone living in Amsterdam who has their own private facilities (bathroom, kitchen) is expected to pay local taxes for services such as rubbish collection, water and sewage. These taxes are not included in the rent. The tax bill will be sent to you directly by the City of Amsterdam.

## Appealing local taxes

You need not pay these taxes if you have a low income. Consult the City of Amsterdam website for information (in Dutch) on how to [submit an appeal](#).

## Financial support

If you live on your own with private facilities, you may be eligible for a rent benefit (in Dutch: *huurtoeslag*) from the Dutch government. Check the Step-by-step plan below.

The government tax office provides detailed information on [rent benefit eligibility conditions and how to apply](#).

[Step-by-step plan for applying for housing allowance \(PDF, 8 p.\)](#)