

Student Housing FAQ's



What things do I need to be thinking about?

As you are finalizing your Admission documents, being accepted to DMAC, and coordinating your Financial Aid, it is wise to look ahead to the housing process so you will be prepared to take the final step in becoming a DMAC Student! As you probably know, DMAC does not offer on-campus housing. We do, however, have a Housing Assistance Program to help you find housing that works for you. Here are some key points to consider with your parents/guardians in the weeks leading up to your start date:

1. Where can I find information regarding housing opportunities at DMAC?

- Go to: Website – www.dmac.edu
- Select the “Student Services” Tab located along the top of the page.
- There you can download all of our Housing Documents: Housing FAQ’s, Local Map of Apartments, Local Complex Information, Useful Phone Numbers, etc.
- Within these documents you will find answers to most of your questions. There are also apartment/housing listings right there for you to see!
- While we lean towards accommodations within close walking/driving distance to the college campus, we also work with realtors to find you beach front properties, if interested. There is something for everyone’s taste.

2. Who is the main contact for housing for DMAC?

- You must complete the admissions process and acceptance, followed by meeting with the financial aid advisors to complete and finalize your Financial Aid. After that, you will be given 3 forms to fill out by your admissions representative, Budget Worksheet, Housing Profile, and Roommate Profile. (These forms can also be found on our website) Once all your forms are completed you will be directed to our Student Involvement Coordinator.
- Contact: housing@dmac.edu for more information.

3. When does the Housing Process begin?

- Once you decided to come to DMAC, and you turn in the three documents you were given by your Admissions Representatives; you will be contacted by the Housing Coordinator.
- The Housing Coordinator will talk with you about your housing options and which option suits you best.
- You should plan on giving yourself at least two months before school starts to actually starting looking at apartments and starting the application fees. Apartment complexes need notice as to when you would be moving in, it is important to start looking as soon as possible so you will be able to rent from the apartment complex you would like. This will give you time to get settled before school starts.

4. What is your maximum monthly budget for rent and utilities?

- This should definitely be your starting point when considering your options for Housing. Take a look at your monthly expenses and compare it to your monthly income (or talk with your parents if they will be assisting you monetarily). In most cases, you will be required to show proof that

your income is at least 3 times the amount of rent you will be paying. Use the Budget Worksheet to help you with this process

- Also consider any added expenses you might have when you move into a new place. For example, apartment complexes can require an application fee (\$50 - \$100), an administrative fee (\$99 - \$250), and a security deposit (anywhere from \$250 to 2 months' worth of rent). Utility companies also might require deposits. And of course, think about any supplies/furnishings you might need to buy or rent for your new place!
- Rent can vary depending on a few factors; apartment location, amenities, floor level and view etc. On average rent can cost from anywhere from \$650 (with a Roommate) to \$1,000 per month (without a Roommate) plus utilities per month. A roommate is not guaranteed, but DMAC will do what we can to pair you up with a roommate from the lottery process. Each student should look at budgeting \$1,000 plus utilities per month.

5. Do you want to have a roommate to save on cost, or would you prefer to live by yourself?

- Living alone certainly has its benefits, but it also comes at a higher cost. If you are on a tighter budget, consider having a roommate to cut down on the cost of rent and utilities. The DMAC Student Life Coordinator can help you find a roommate that is looking for a similar living situation.
- The Student Life Office will work as a Roommate Finder Service by searching for suitable housing for all students, both incoming and returning. While meeting with your Admissions Coordinator you will complete a Roommate Profile Sheet.
- Housing assignments are made around a month to a month and a half before the semester starts. While DMAC has established strong relationships with independent properties, inventory cycles are consistently changing, therefore there is no guarantee until lease is signed.

6. Will you have your own transportation?

- If you have your own vehicle, you will have more housing options available to you. But even students without a car find other ways of getting around. Many choose to bike to school or carpool with other students. Think about what you would be comfortable with, as your decision on this also plays a big part in what areas you will need to look at for housing.
- The Palm Tran bus is the local public transportation in the area. Palm Tran buses run throughout the day, every day of the week. The Palm Tran website contains maps and schedules of each route, and their customer service can help you figure out the best route from point A to point B.
- The cash fares are \$1.50 for a single trip or you can purchase Unlimited 31-Day Passes at any Palm Beach County Library for \$60.00 Regular Price (\$45 Reduced Price for Students with Student ID under the age of 21, Senior Citizens, or anyone with documented and permanent disabilities).
- For current rates, please check their website:
 - <http://www.pbcgov.com/palmtran/>
 - Palm Tran Customer Service: 1-877-930-4287

7. What amenities are most important to you?

- There might be some things you are just not willing to live without. If that's the case, make a list of requirements you're looking for to save time and energy once you begin working with the Housing Coordinator. Some examples might include: Washer/Dryer in unit, pool, gated entrance, assigned parking, walking distance to stores, central A/C, utilities included in rent, or distance to Public Transportation.
- Apartments are typically unfurnished which allows you to select and add your own personal touch.
- On the Useful Numbers document, you have access to view various cost effective chain stores and thrift stores that you can easily use to furnish your apartment – allowing our DMAC students a variety of stores to shop through very economically and efficiently.

8. Will you have a pet with you?

- Having a pet might limit your options for housing, as all apartment complexes and landlords will have specific restrictions and guidelines regarding pets. Also, most often you will be required to pay an additional pet deposit, so be sure to budget for that if you will have a pet with you.
- If you will be bringing a pet with you, also make sure that is known if you will be searching for a roommate. You will need to find someone who is not allergic, and who will enjoy having your pet around as much as you do!