

Hello!

TLC does NOT provide accommodations for students, but we have created this list to help guide you toward your own place to stay while you are in Tampa.

When you arrive in Tampa, and if you need a short-term place to stay there are 2 good options, a hostel or Air B&B:

HOSTEL

Check out one of Tampa's only hostels: <http://grams-inn-tampa.com/>

Address: 3109 N Ola Ave, Tampa, FL 33603

Phone: (813) 221-0596

This hostel is one bus ride away from Tampa Language Center. (Take the #1 bus north down Florida Avenue to arrive at TLC.)

You may also try: <https://www.couchsurfing.com/welcome> Use at your own risk!

AIR B&B

Air B&B is another option for a short stay. One of our students has several Air BNB in the Tampa area if you're looking for a place to stay, but normally not long term. You can see the rooms at the links below.

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/1606846789506791833?viralityEntryPoint=1&s=76>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/1007353165424385201?viralityEntryPoint=1&s=76>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/42159706?viralityEntryPoint=1&s=76>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/44182344?viralityEntryPoint=1&s=76>

<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/803861178362206492?viralityEntryPoint=1&s=76>

HOMESTAYS

We also believe that living with an American family can be a great way to start your life in the USA!

Students can book a homestay with [Student Room Stay](#) to become better oriented to their community and improve their American English skills. SRS also can help you to find an apartment for rent if you'd like too! They specialize in placing international students with carefully screened and fully trained American host families. Room, board and local transportation is \$217-\$282/weekly (depending on package selected). Please visit https://go.studentroomstay.com/tampa_language_center for more information or to apply online today.

You can also find affordable housing options near Tampa Language Center with <https://tlchousing.4stay.com/>. With 4stay you can find homestay options if you want to improve your English by experiencing local culture. In addition, there are shared rooms, private rooms and apartments for rent. All of the participating families and apartments undergo a rigorous selection, investigation, and approval process.

APARTMENTS

We understand that it can be a challenge to find an apartment in this area. Therefore, if you would like free assistance with searching for an apartment <https://apartmentinsiders.com/>

It can be difficult to find an apartment in Tampa if you are not actually here in the city. As an international student it can also be difficult because you don't have a Social Security number which is something that many apartment complexes will ask for

when you are starting to rent. If you don't have a Social Security number most apartment complexes will make you put down more of a deposit upfront. You will get this money back if you leave the apartment in good condition.

A student recently told us that if you are looking for a short-term rental (something less than 9 months, as this is normally the minimum for renting a standard apartment), <https://www.furnishedfinder.com/> has many places you can stay, and it is normally cheaper than Air B&B. Also, there is a website that allows weekly rentals and is normally cheaper than Air B&B pricewise: <https://www.padsplit.com/>

Another way that you can find an apartment is through Facebook groups. For example, if you are from Brazil you may look for a group called Brazilians in Tampa on Facebook and ask the group if there is anyone who can help you to find a place to live. Oftentimes, these groups post rooms for rent as well as houses and apartments.

I've also had students tell me that websites like [apartments.com](https://www.apartments.com) have helped them to find places to stay if you are looking for longer term rentals (9 months or longer).

Attached are two maps of apartment complexes near USF that I believe are FURNISHED apartments. This means that they already have beds and desks as well as other furniture in the apartment. Normally, internet, cable TV, electricity and water are all included in the price of rent. You can live by yourself (most expensive) or with 1, 2, or 3 random roommates (more roommates, the cheaper your cost of rent). Your roommates will be USF students 95% of the time and they try to match you based on a profile application that you fill out.

As you drive around, the area, you may see other apartment complexes too. These apartments are near bus routes and USF and are a 10 minute car ride to Tampa Language Center. The apartments near USF are close to grocery stores, and Wal-Mart, so you can easily get everything you might need with a short walk or bike ride. The apartments near Busch Gardens are closer to TLC but further from grocery stores. Below are links to the websites of many of the apartments mentioned on the maps.

Just a reminder, UNFURNISHED (empty) apartments are going to be cheaper, but you will likely have to buy all of your own furniture, pay for your own internet connection, water and electricity.

CLICK ON THESE LINKS BELOW TO SEE MORE INFO

[The IVY near USF](#)

[4050 lofts near USF](#)

[The Flats at 4200 near USF](#)

[Avalon Heights near USF](#)

[Lark on 42nd near USF](#)

[The Province Near Busch Gardens](#)

[The Lodge Near Busch Gardens](#)

[The Livingston Apartments](#)

[The VUE Tampa](#)

Areas of Tampa to Live in:

Some areas of Tampa that are nice to live in and are safe (*=this star means that this area also has good public schools)

Carrollwood-10-15 minutes from TLC

Westchase*-20-25 minutes from TLC

South Tampa*-20-25 minutes from TLC

Downtown, Channelside\$-15 minutes from TLC

New Tampa-20 minutes from TLC

Wesley Chapel*-20-25 minutes from TLC

Lutz*-15 minutes from TLC

Land O Lakes*-25-30 minutes from TLC

REALTOR

Finally, if you would like to talk to a realtor in Tampa about buying or renting a home or apartment, we have the perfect person for you! His name is Ivan Garcia and he was a teacher at TLC for many years. He can help you and he is familiar with international students and has helped people from all around the world. You can contact him at: igarcia.alignright@gmail.com or via phone or WhatsApp at +1-786-419-9294.

We hope all this info helps you but we do warn you to be careful during this process and if you have any questions along the way please let us know!