FAQ- Property Managers & Landlords

1. **How can I advertise my property to students?**

   ODU uses a property listing service company, Off-Campus Partners. Through the website, http://blue.odu.edu/housing/off-campus.php, property managers and landlords can post local properties that are available for rent to ODU faculty, staff, and students. For $50 dollars, a landlord/property manager can post an individual listing. Listing your property is easy—just click on the "Have a listing? Post it now" button on the homepage. For apartments or property management companies with multiple listings, contact the Off-Campus Student Life Office for more information about posting your listings.

2. **What is the advantage of posting my propert(ies)?**

   The website gets over 30,000 site visits a year and is the primary way the Off-Campus Student Life office connects students to off-campus properties. With the creation of the Off-Campus Student Life Office, the website is frequently promoted to students through email and advertisements on campus and during Off-Campus Living 101 sessions (sessions for students considering living off-campus).

3. **How can I create a good property profile to attract student renters on the website?**

   Many students are unfamiliar with the Norfolk area. Letting students know the distance in miles and driving time, as well as whether the listing is within walking distance, helps the students orient the property in relation to campus. If the property is accessible by public transit, it is important to list that as well. We also recommend adding pictures and full description of the property and its safety features.

4. **When are most students looking for off-campus housing?**

   Most students are looking for off-campus housing from March to August to rent starting in August (for the Fall semester). There are also students who transfer to the University for the Spring Semester. They tend to look for housing in November or December.

5. **Can ODU guarantee my property will be rented if I post on the site?**

   Students review the site for properties that meet their criteria. We cannot guarantee that a student will chose your property to rent.

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Off-Campus Student Life
757-683-4187
1105 Webb Center
https://www.odu.edu/life/offcampus

6. **Are there other ways to promote my propert(ies)?**

   The Off-Campus Student Life Office will hold two Off-Campus Housing Fairs in Spring 2017. For information about how to sign up for the fair, please contact offcampuslife@odu.edu.

7. **I've never rented to students before. How do I make sure I get good student tenants?**

   Student renters may be first time renters, with little understanding of the expectations and responsibilities associated with renting. Additionally, they may not have rental history. It is important to thoroughly assess whether the student understands and is willing to live up to your expectations, including lease term, notice needed to move out, payment of rent, property cleanliness and upkeep, etc. It is always a good idea to include expectations that are important to you in your lease.

8. **What are some resources available to assist me?**

   If your property is located within the City of Norfolk, you should take advantage of the City of Norfolk's Rent Ready Norfolk (RRN) program. The program offers FREE quality assessments and educational workshops to landlords in the area. A landlord can become Rent Ready Norfolk Certified through the program. ODU has plans to include an explanation of the Rent Ready Norfolk Certification, and a logo beside properties that have completed the certification, in the near future. For more information on the program, call 757-664-RENT (7368) or email rentready@norfolk.gov.

   You can also request a FREE security survey of your property with Norfolk Police Department (NPD). During this survey, NPD will assess your property and give you a list of recommendations to secure your property to make it less attractive to burglars. To request additional information, call 757-664-6901.

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