

CHOOSING ROOMMATES

The person or persons with whom you choose to live may have a significant effect on your personal and academic experience. Be selective. Do not agree to the first prospective roommate out of convenience or accept someone about whom you have reservations.

Whether you are choosing people to move into your house, or you are being interviewed about a room that is available for rent, we suggest you discuss the following issues:

Rent & Utilities

How much can you afford to pay every month in rent?
Which bills will you share? How will they be split?

Food & Cooking

Do you and your roommates expect to share both the cost of buying food and the responsibilities involved in preparing it?
Who will take responsibility for cleaning dishes, pots, pans and other kitchen appliances?

Cleaning & Tidiness

Who will clean what? How often?
Decide exactly what "clean and tidy" means to you.

Personal Habits & Individual Needs

What hours do you usually sleep, relax, or socialize?
How much privacy do you need?
What about relationships? Are you (or they) likely to have a friend, boyfriend or girlfriend spend the night frequently or visit often?
Do you need a private bedroom? Would you be prepared to share one?
Do you need total silence when you study or can you only study with noise?

Smoking & Drugs

Would you prefer to have a smoker or a non-smoker as a roommate?
Clarify your stance on the use of alcohol and illegal drugs in your household.

Music and Television

What are your musical likes and dislikes?
Do you watch TV everyday, all-day or once in a while?

Many students complain about roommate disagreements. "She does not do her share of the housekeeping." "He plays the stereo too loud." "They moved out without paying their last month's rent and now I am stuck with it." We strongly suggest that all roommates sign agreement forms prior to finalizing their rental agreement. This will minimize most of the common roommate disagreements. You will find samples provided in this guide.

GETTING AROUND

Bus Transportation

There are many bus routes servicing CSULB which are provided primarily by the Long Beach and Orange County Transit District. You can contact Long Beach Transit at 562-591-2301. Orange County Transit can be contacted by calling 714-560-6282 or visiting their web site at <http://www.octa.net> Bus schedules and rates may be obtained directly from the carriers and are also available in the University Student Union.

CSULB campus Connection provides a free shuttle to and from the surrounding areas of the University and the campus itself. Shuttle routes change periodically. A current shuttle route is on the last page of this guide.

Long Beach City Maps

Detailed street maps of the greater Long Beach area are available at the Housing Office for \$5.00 each.

Once these general questions have been answered, you will be better equipped to begin your search.