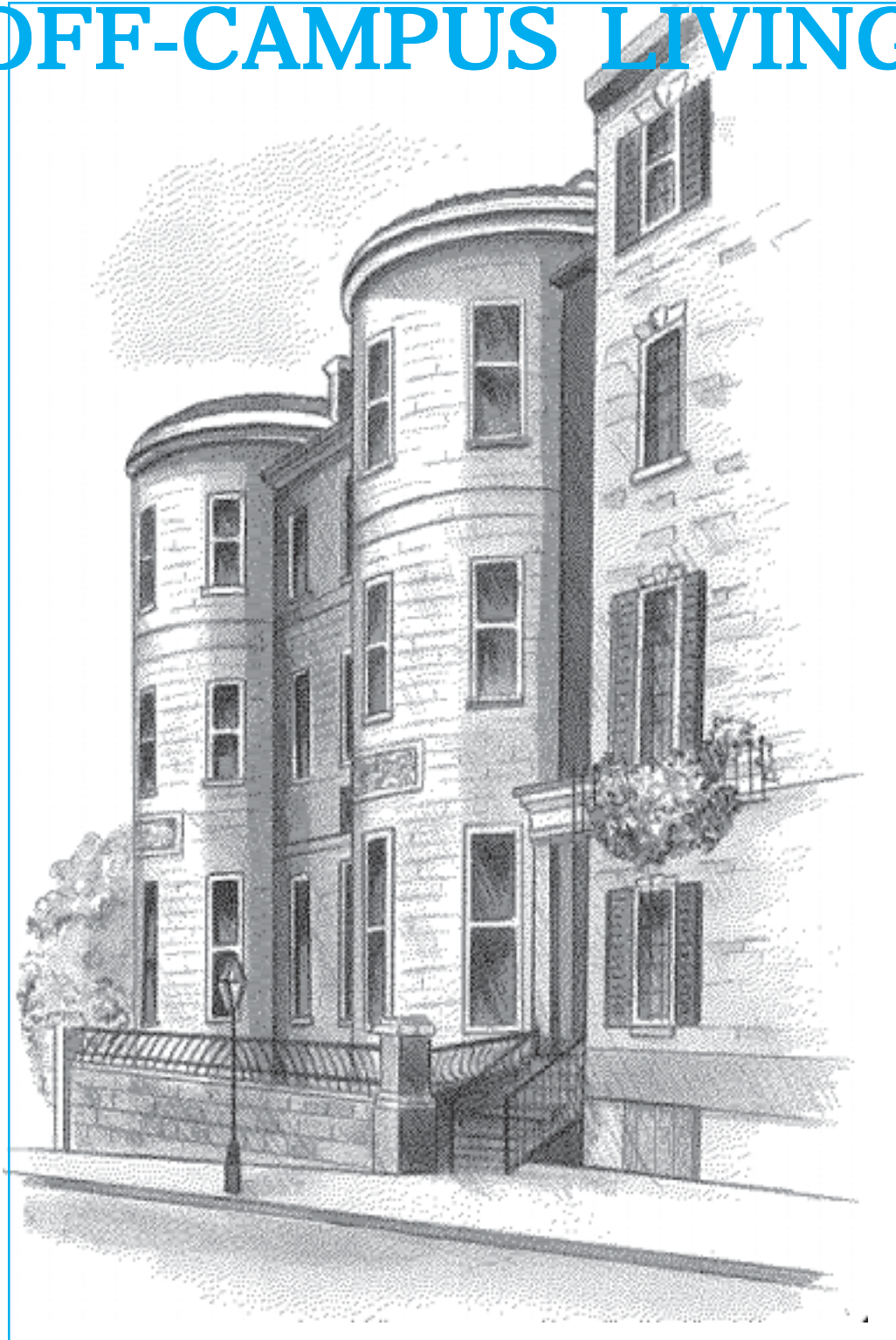


OFF-CAMPUS LIVING



**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL LIFE**

Welcome to the third edition of the **Off-Campus Living Guide**. We are proud to provide you with accurate and reliable information to ensure a successful tenancy. We have enclosed information on moving in and out, property managers in the area, a list of some of the larger apartment complexes and sample roommate agreement forms. The **Guide** will also provide you information on how to connect your utilities and who to contact.

Renting in the community can be simple and fun. Be sure to spend plenty of time on your preparations - on choosing the right roommates, deciding where you want to live and how much you want to spend. This will ensure that you know exactly what your commitments are when you sign your rental agreement or lease.

Good luck to each of you in your search for rental housing! Our office hours for Off-Campus Housing are Monday through Friday 8 AM - 3 PM. Call or stop by and we will be happy to assist you.

Renee McDonald, Coordinator
Off-Campus Housing

Limitation of Liability

The Off-Campus Survival Guide is provided solely as an informational service to students and landlords. We have made every effort to ensure that the information included is correct and current. Readers should note that no guarantee is given, nor should any be inferred, with regard to the accuracy or timeliness of any material the Guide contains. California State University, Long Beach shall not be liable for any damages whatsoever arising from any errors or omissions made herein.

Introduction to CSULB'S Off-Campus Housing Service

Long Beach, with its housing shortage and rising rents, can be a hard place to find a home. The Housing Office at CSULB has developed this booklet to help you find and maintain the best living situation possible. With proper planning, careful selection of roommates and clear communication with your landlord, you can find a place that meets all or most of your needs.

The Housing Office is located at the corner of Earl Warren Drive and Atherton just north of the Parkside Commons complex. The office is open Monday - Friday, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Where Do Students Live?

Recent surveys indicate approximately 60 percent of our students live within 15 miles of the campus and 85 percent within 25 miles. Student demand for on-campus and community housing is continually increasing. Since our on-campus residence halls cannot accommodate everyone, many students find it necessary or preferable to seek housing in the surrounding community.

Competition For Housing

Housing demand in Long Beach is constant throughout most of the year. However, competition among tenants intensifies dramatically around July 1 and peaks throughout the entire month of August. Thousands of CSULB students, along with those at the local community colleges converge on Long Beach during this period to find housing for the year. The housing demand is so strong in some of the beach areas that landlords can readily rent their property without advertising, simply by placing a "For Rent" sign in the window. Students who already know which areas they prefer are often wise to drive through the areas and look for window signs.

Rental Housing Costs

Rental housing costs vary considerably depending on amenities, how long a renter stays in one place (longer tenancies are

associated with more reasonable rents), number of roommates (more roommates help share costs), location (rentals near CSULB tend to be more expensive) as well as utilities and eating habits.

In Early 2002, the **average** cost of rentals advertised through the Off-Campus Housing Listing service were as follows:

Room in a Private Home	\$375
Roommates Wanted	\$400
1 Bedroom Apartment	\$800
2 Bedroom Apartment	\$1100
3 Bedroom Apartment	\$1400
Studios/Guest Houses	\$600
2 Bedroom House	\$1200
3 Bedroom House	\$1500

Search Selectively

Now that you know when to search and how much money you will need, there is one more step to take before you begin searching for rentals and contacting landlords. Outlining your priorities in advance will prevent the hassle of visiting rentals that do not meet your needs. Think about the following issues:

- How much rent can you afford?
- Do you want a place by yourself, or do you want to live with roommates?
- How far from campus do you want to live? What kind of transportation will you need?
- What kind of life-style do you want? A quiet and studious atmosphere, a very social home life or a bit of both?
- What kind of physical setting is appealing to you. Do you want to live near the beach or in the shore or have the convenience of living near campus?