



# Off-Campus and Community Living

**I** ILLINOIS

# History of Off-Campus Community Living

## Tenant Union

The University of Illinois Tenant Union opened its doors in Room 296 of the Illini Union on September 20, 1971. From the beginning, their mission was to stimulate fairness in landlord-tenant relationships and to serve as a resource for students residing in privately owned housing.

## Campus and Community Student Services

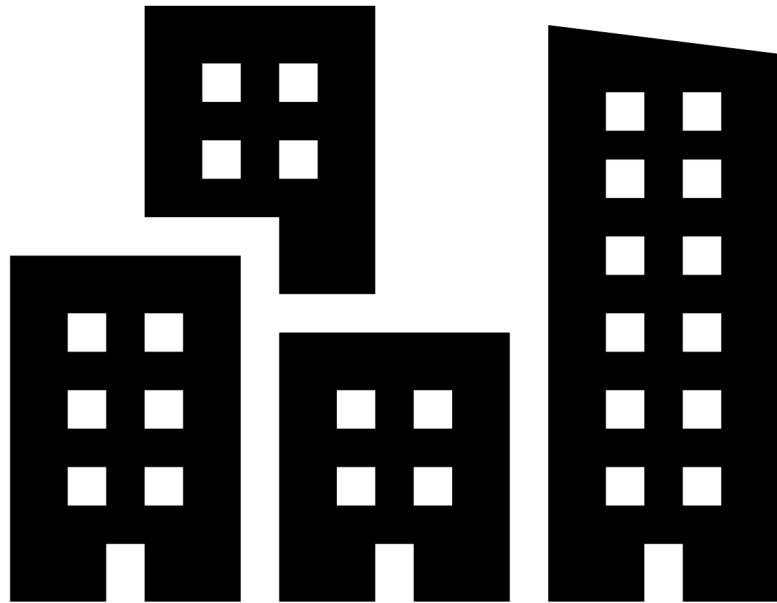
In 2015, the Dean of Students Office began Campus and Community Student Services to assist students who reside off campus adjust to living independently. Largely their outreach initiatives focused on safety awareness and connection to community resources.

## Off Campus Community Living

In 2018, the Tenant Union and Campus and Community Student Services (CCSS) merged to form Off-Campus Community Living (OCCL). OCCL is a program within the Student Assistance Center of the Office of the Dean of Students. This allowed for one entity to support and assist students living in privately owned apartments and homes.

# What does OCCL do?

Off-Campus Community Living supports students residing off-campus with the information and resources they need to be engaged in the community and build constructive relationships with peers, landlords, and other community leaders.



- Over 20,000 students choose to live in privately owned apartments and homes throughout the campus district and surrounding communities. Whether students are living near campus or in the surrounding communities, they are considered to live "off-campus."

# Services and Programs

- Off-campus housing search
- Tenant and lease education
- Grievance/complaint assistance
- Connections to the Champaign-Urbana community
- Safety education and programming
- Presentations and workshops



# Helpful Tools

The website has many tools for students to utilize when searching for housing including:

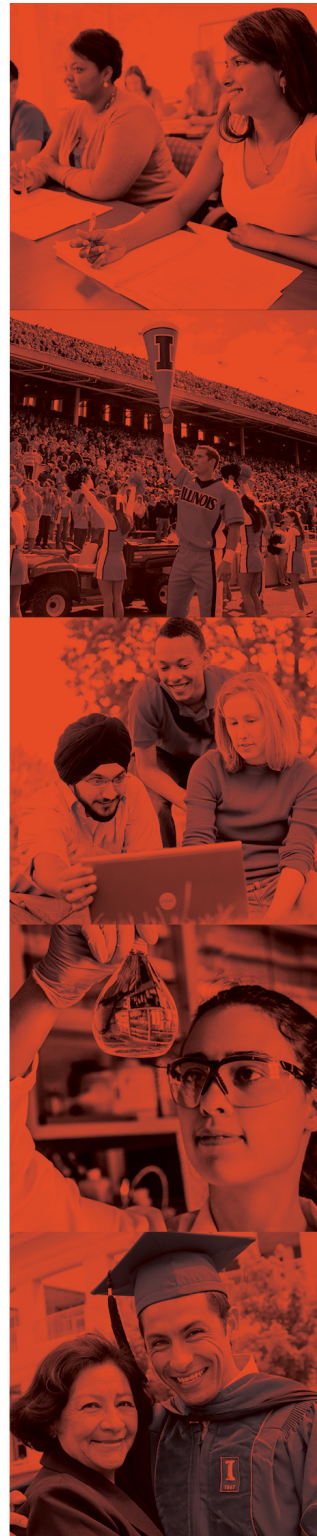
- Guide to renting apartments
- Budget sheet to determine costs
- Links to state and local laws regarding housing
- Informational brochures
- Subleasing information
- Tips for moving in and out of the apartment
- Past presentations regarding: COVID-19 lease concerns, evictions, security deposits, etc.

Website: <https://occl.illinois.edu/>



# Common Issues Student Tenants Encounter

- Roommate concerns
- Maintenance issues
  - Facility complaints not addressed
  - Code violations
- Financial insecurity
  - Paying for rent, utilities or food
- Safety concerns
  - COVID-19 related
  - Code violations
- Lease issues
  - Breaking leases
  - Subleasing
  - Billing concerns
    - Unexpected fees





# Contact Information

Off-Campus and Community Living  
300 Turner Student Services Building  
610 East John Street  
Champaign, IL  
(217) 333-0112  
[off-campuscommunityliving@illinois.edu](mailto:off-campuscommunityliving@illinois.edu)  
<https://occl.illinois.edu>

**I** ILLINOIS