

Student housing comparison

Compare the entire obligation, not just a monthly figure. Use official offers and contracts. Note whether each quote is per person, per bed or per unit; add summer housing when relevant.

Question	Home A	Home B
Property / room / quote date		
Contract dates / number of payments		
Full rent or housing total		
Extra utilities / meals / transport / fees		
Cash needed before move-in; deposits separate		
Cancellation / replacement terms to confirm		
Study / sleep / roommates		
Daily route / accessibility / maintenance		

Check the agreement

Ask who is responsible for payment, how changes or early departure are handled, and which office confirms accommodations. Keep the complete agreement and written answers. Local rules and agreement types differ.

Fictional USD example: $\$1,100 \times 9 = \$9,900$. $\$850 \times 12 + \$80 \times 12$ utilities + $\$300$ fee = $\$11,460$. Different periods: add summer needs to the shorter option. Food and other costs excluded.

Highest-impact unknown / contact / next step:

Use current provider contracts and rate pages; UCI examples and source links are in the accompanying guide.