Hello and welcome to the Biology Department at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill! We are so delighted that you have chosen to join our department to begin your journey toward your PhD. While we are confident that you chose UNC and our department primarily out of academic considerations, we are also inviting you to make Chapel Hill and the surrounding area your home. This document is to provide you with housing information with recommendations by current Biology graduate students. This list is not by any means exhaustive and is not an endorsement of these complexes over others, but it does provide a good overview of what is available. We hope you will find this guide helpful in what can sometimes be an overwhelming process.
Chapel Hill

Chapel View Apartments

Located 10 minutes from campus and on three Chapel Hill transit bus lines (NS, T, and A). Pet friendly, each apartment comes with a fully furnished option, in-unit washer and dryer. There is a trailhead to Chapel Hill Forest North right on the property.

1BR/1BA: $875
2BR/2BA: $1170 (individual leases--$585/each)

Some cons include: Old building, not very sound-proof.

Chapel Hill vs. Carrboro

While Chapel Hill can be slightly more affordable, graduate students may be more drawn to Carrboro due to the smaller population of undergraduates as well as easier access to local businesses (i.e. coffee shops, restaurants, bars, farmer’s market and a co-op).

Crosstown at Chapel Hill

Newly renovated apartments between Chapel Hill and Durham. Conveniently located by Highway 54 and I-40 exit (close to Southpoint Mall). Has 2 pools, a bark park, gym, tennis courts, on-site laundry facilities.

1BR/1BA: $1055-$1165; 2BR/2BA: $1200-$1310; 3BR/2BA: $1380.

Not on the Chapel Hill bus line. Would need to take the Triangle Transit or pay for parking for Park and Ride (closest Park and Ride is about 5 minutes away).
Laurel Ridge Apartments

Approximately a 20-25 min walk, or a 10 min bike ride to campus and/or downtown Chapel Hill/Carrboro.

The J bus routes stops right outside complex fairly often, at least every 15-20 min. Easy to get to campus. It is not within walking distance to a grocery store, so would need to use a car, bike or ride the bus. There is a shortcut between complex and Franklin Street and the walking time is about 15 minutes. Apartments are nice inside and clean. Maintenance is responsive. There is a pool, sand volleyball court, tennis courts, playground and two fenced-in dog parks.

1 BR $725 - $755/month; 2 BR $915-$1055/month; 3 BR $1200-$1400.

Shadowood Apartments

Located on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, approximately 2 miles from campus. A bus comes about every 10 minutes throughout the day (NS, T, and A routes). Nice pool area, community is quiet, mostly other grad students, maintenance is very responsive and the exterior is currently being updated. Washer/dryer included. Pet friendly (pet fee applied).

It can be expensive for the size of the unit (i.e. $920 for 530 sq feet). Currently, website shows IBR/IBA ranges between $785-885; 2BR/2BA is around $1085.

University Commons

Condominiums, each until owned by individual landlords. On the J and D bus routes (about 15 minutes to campus by bus). Quiet neighborhood/community, in-unit washer/dryer, each room as its own bathroom. Each room is rented out individually. Plenty of parking. $450/month, not including utilities. Small kitchen for 4 people.

**Glen Lennox Cottages**

Has been a popular choice in the past, but there are plans to demolish these units in the next 5-10 years, so no renovations are planned, which are needed as units are old. Frequent cockroach problems. It is a very quiet neighborhood, quaint units, residents are mostly other grad students and families. Multiple bus routes so easy to get to campus.

**University Gardens**

Centrally located in Chapel Hill and affordable, but strongly not recommended by a student. Bad neighborhood (lots of petty crime and occasional serious crime (robberies involving firearms)), some units are in poor condition, noise travels very easily from unit to unit, not very close to grocery stores.
Carrboro

Autumn Woods

Convenient for the bus during the morning and late afternoon but not during the middle of the day (only the CM is running). Apartments are average to nice inside (updated kitchens, big bedrooms and closets). It's a very nice place--just a little expensive. Mostly young families and graduate students. Close to grocery stores, 10-15 minute bus ride to campus. The maintenance staff is generally good about fixing things timely.

1 BR/1BA $960-$1000; 2BR/2BA $1180; 3 BR/2BA $1450

Ashbrook Apartments

Convenient bus routes (JFX, CM, CW). Reasonably large apartments and are easy to share with roommate. Quiet (very few, if any, undergrads) and recently renovated. 2 miles from campus. Tennis courts, pool, grills and picnic area, and on-site dog park. Washer/dryer included. Friendly management and quick repairs. Please call complex for current pricing.

Bridges At Chapel Hill *(don't let the name fool you, its in Carrboro)*

On the J and D bus lines. Units have washer/dryer and nice updated appliances and carpeting. Fireplace in living room and very spacious Pet friendly (breed restrictions). Fitness center, tennis court, pool, and dog park. Staff is great and they take care of work orders very quickly. Management/staff will check on your apartment for you if you are away for lengthy periods of time for field work, conferences, etc.

1BR/1BA $810-$919/month; 2BR/2BA $969-$1074/month
Chambers Ridge Apartments

Great place for graduate students and young professionals. Very quiet and the management and maintenance staff are friendly and very helpful. Close proximity to CM and J bus lines and only a 3 min drive away from the JFX park and ride. Large private balconies/patios, swimming pool, and community events. Pet friendly and pet fee applies.

1 BR/1BA, $905
2BR/2 BA, $1095-$1145

Chateau Apartments

This apartment complex is very nice for its age. The managers and maintenance staff are very accessible when needed. Rent and utilities are affordable for a 1 bedroom (student quoted $650 for rent plus approximately $110 for utilities). All units are 1 bedroom and are 800 square feet. Water is included in rent. Lots of buses to campus in the morning and evening. There is a pool, picnic and grilling areas and two laundry facilities (the units do not have washers/dryers, but the laundry facilities are nice). Residents may experience some road noise.

Rock Creek Apartments

Very convenient bus access (J-Line), the maintenance and staff are very responsive, quiet, pool, tennis courts, and fitness center. Pets welcome, but certain breed restrictions. Can be a bit far to walk to campus or to a grocery store, but biking is probably okay. There have been comments that the building is a little old so the heating and cooling costs can be high.

1BR/1BA $810-$1000/month; 2BR/2BA $940-$1100/month
Additional Housing Options

Townhomes/Condos Rented Out By Non-Corporate Landlords:

A few of our current graduate students live in townhomes/condos that are owned and rented out by individual landlords. Please consult Craigslist, Zillow, or Realtor.com for current rental offerings. Below are a few townhouse/condo complexes where units are usually owned and rented out by individual landlords.

- Finely Forest
- Kensington Trace (current Biology graduate student is moving out of her town home and it will be available to rent starting August 1st)
- Weatherstone
- White Oak Condominiums

Local rental agencies that have been used by students include, but are not limited to, Mills Rentals, Mill House Properties, Louise Beck Properties, and Red Door Company.

Baity-Hill Graduate and Family Housing and Mason Farm Single Graduate Housing

Baity Hill Graduate and Family Housing provides housing for married students and students with children. Additional information can be found at https://housing.unc.edu/housing/apartments/baity-hill-graduate-family-housing.

Mason Farm Single Graduate Housing provides on-campus housing for graduate students. Please visit https://housing.unc.edu/housing/apartments/mason-farm-graduate-housing for more information.

Utilities included in rent. Clothes care center in every building. Basketball courts, playground, picnic area with grills. Play dates and events for children are organized in the community room. Very quiet, study-friendly, and safe. On the U, RU, N, and CM bus routes. Onsite parking is available, but for an additional fee (issued through UNC Department of Public Safety) and a permit for a second car is not guaranteed. Covered (basement) parking.

Nice housing at a very reasonable price. A few cons include: parking fee, distance from Franklin Street, not close (or within walking distance) to a grocery store, and it can be difficult for visitors to find parking.

Please visit the following link for information regarding 2018-2019 rates: https://housing.unc.edu/housing/rates
Resources

Through the Office of Student Affairs, Off-Campus Student Life and Community Partnerships provides students, faculty, and staff with resources and support in navigating life off-campus, including finding housing and roommates. If interested, please navigate through the following websites to access the plethora of off-campus resources and current listings of available housing options: https://offcampus.unc.edu/.

Craigslist:
http://raleigh.craigslist.org/ then look under the housing section.

Chapel Hill Transit and GoTriangle:

Figure out how you intend to commute to campus before signing a lease. Living further away from campus is feasible because of the great public bus system. Chapel Hill Transit is free and serves all areas of Chapel Hill and Carrboro. GoTriangle services the Triangle Area (Wake, Durham, and Orange counties). Patrons of GoTriangle must pay a fare and/or purchase passes in order to use this service. You can find more information at the following websites:

- Chapel Hill Transit: http://www.townofchapelhill.org/town-hall/departments-services/transit
- GoTriangle: http://www.gotriangle.org/

Again, this is not an exhaustive list or an endorsement of any complexes. You are encouraged to look outside the housing options listed in this guide in order to fit your needs. You can also reach out to other graduate students in your lab. or please feel free to contact Kenlyn Merritt (kenlyn@email.unc.edu), the Graduate Student Services Manager for the Biology Department, with any questions.