Finally off campus? Living on your own for the first time? New to Santa Cruz? CONGRATULATIONS! Here’s a guide on how to navigate living off campus as a member of the Santa Cruz community!

Off Campus 101

Looking for Housing
- Make sure you’re living with housemates whose values and goals align with your own.
- You can live with friends or find new friends through platforms like the UCSC Housing, Sublets & Roommates group on Facebook or the NextDoor app.
- Begin searching for housing with help from the Community Rentals guide! Find out more at communityrentals.ucsc.edu.

Living Expenses
- When living off campus, your expenses will likely include an initial security deposit, monthly rent, utilities (PG&E, water, cable TV, internet, and waste), transportation, and groceries.
- Moving off campus may result in changes in your financial aid, so speak with a financial aid advisor for guidance!

Landlords
- When you apply for rentals, some landlords require a rental application that may ask for the following: application fee, credit report, proof of income, pet contract, criminal background check, proof you’re a UCSC student, contact info from previous landlords, and housing references. They may also request a Parental Letter of Guarantee.
- Thoroughly review your lease before signing.
- Respect rules set in place by your landlord as specified in your lease!
Be a Respectful Neighbor

Get to Know Your Community
- Introduce yourself to your neighbors when you move in.
- Exchange contact information.
- Notify them when hosting events.
- Respect parking spaces on the street or in parking lots.
- The NextDoor app is a great local social media platform to get alerts about your neighborhood.

Party Etiquette
- Review and follow your lease.
- Inform neighbors beforehand of your party plans:
  - Start and end times, number of people, contact info, etc.
- Ensure that people get home safely. DO NOT let people drive if intoxicated.
- Respect quiet hours between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
- Clean up afterward.

Addressing Issues—Know Your Rights!
You shouldn’t feel uncomfortable in your community. We’re here to help! If you are being targeted by hate/bias, you can report this to UCSC directly through the UCSC Hate/Bias Reporting Form.

- Any act of misconduct should be reported through the UCSC Public Incident Report.
- Other resources:
  - Dial 9-1-1 for all emergencies.
  - Santa Cruz Police—Off-campus non-emergency incidents: (831) 471-1131
  - UC Santa Cruz Campus Police—On-campus non-emergency incidents, public service requests, or inquiries: (831) 459-2231
  - Anonymous tip line: (831) 459-3847
  - Injury reporting & medical treatment: Contact the Office of Risk Services, Workers’ Compensation at (831) 459-2850, or the City of Santa Cruz Rental Inspection Program at (831) 459-1787.

Moving Out
Donate or Sell Unwanted Items!
- Walnut Avenue Family and Women’s Center: Accepts furniture and large items.
- St. Francis Soup Kitchen: Accepts clothing and hygiene products.
- Goodwill Donation Centers
  - Sell items to consignment stores or on resale platforms (Facebook Marketplace, eBay, Poshmark, etc.).

Bulky Item Pickup Program
If you have any bulky furniture items you don’t want, don’t leave them on the curb! Schedule a bulky item pickup at cityofsantacruz.com/bulkitem or call (831) 420-5220. The City of Santa Cruz will discard your bulky furniture items for you. If your name is on the utility bill for your property, then you can access this service (limited) throughout the year for no additional charge. Call for more information.

Other Resources

Food/Clothing Security
- **Slug Support:** Offers basic needs services on a case-by-case basis; reach out for any specific needs! deanofstudents.ucsc.edu/slug-support
- On-campus food pantries and food assistance are available at no cost. See basicneeds.ucsc.edu for more information.
- Apply for CalFresh EBT Food Stamps to subsidize the cost of groceries! Most UCSC students who apply receive benefits: www.getcalfresh.org.
- **Cantú Clothing Closet:** A resource for queer and trans students at UCSC to access clothing and accessories, including shoes, bags, hats, and jewelry, free of cost, located in the Lionel Cantú Queer Center on campus.

Health Resources
- **UCSC Health Center:** (831) 459-2211
- **Counseling & Psychological Services:** caps.ucsc.edu