GETTING STARTED:
Securing housing is a big responsibility, and it is important to be prepared for the task. The following steps will help you complete the process:

• Start the process at least a month in advance
• Open a local bank account
• Decide how much you can afford to pay
• Prepare to pay application fees, first and last month's rent and security deposit
• Write down features that are important to you such as security, parking, laundry, pets, etc.
• Gather web, newspaper and other listings
• Call for availability and viewing appointment
• Inspect the properties carefully
• Fill out an application and be prepared to supply credit information and references
• Establish a move-in date
• Sign a lease or contract and get a copy

Real Estate & Housing Services:
The following companies will assist students with locating available apartments in the area:
www.apartmentguide.com
www.apartments.com
www.aptmag.com
www.craigslist.com
www.cho.ucla.edu
www.metrorent.com
www.renttimes.com (fee)
www.move.com
www.sublet.com (fee)
www.west siderentals.com (fee)

WestsideRentals.com
WestsideRentals.com is a leading apartment finding service that offers special packages for SMC students. Call Nick Galvan, 310-576-1498.
**Hostels:**

Hostel California  
2221 Lincoln Blvd.  
Venice, CA 90291  
310-305-0250 phone  
www.hostelcalifornia.us

Hostelling International  
1436 2nd Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90401  
310-393-9913 phone  
www.hihostels.com

**Areas in the Santa Monica Vicinity:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Miles away</th>
<th>Zip</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brentwood</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>90049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Hills</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>90210/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Palisades</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>90272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marina Del Rey</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>90292/93</td>
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</table>

**Less Expensive:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culver City</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>90067</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palms</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>90034</td>
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<td>Mar Vista</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>90066</td>
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<td>Venice</td>
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<td>90291</td>
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<td>West L.A.</td>
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<td>90025/64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Westwood</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>90024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important Phone Numbers:**

- Admissions: (310) 434-4387
- Bookstore: (310) 434-4650
- Campus Police: (310) 434-4300
- Counseling Dept.: (310) 434-4210
- Financial Aid: (310) 434-4343
- Main College Number: (310) 434-4000
- Scholars Program: (310) 434-4371
- Welcome Center: (310) 434-8101

**Once you've found the right place...**

There are a few important steps to take before signing a lease. Ask these questions:

- What is the length of the lease?
- What are the policies on deposits and refunds?
- What does the security deposit cover?
- Who pays the utility bills?
- Is parking provided? Is there a fee?
- Who pays for trash removal?
- Who repairs and pays for wear and tear damage?
- What is the maximum occupancy?

**Please Remember...**

- Leases and rental contracts are legal documents!
- Tenant is responsible for the care and rent of the unit for the duration of the agreement
- Do not sign a lease or rental contract without reading and understanding it
- Make sure all damages are listed on the lease and initialed by landlord before moving in.
- It is acceptable to pay by cash, check, or money order but ALWAYS get a receipt.

**Transportation...**

Contact the local bus companies for route information, directions and maps to get to Santa Monica College.

- www.mta.net
- www.bigbluebus.com
- www.culvercity.org/bus/sched.html

**Santa Monica College**

Office of School Relations/Outreach  
1900 Pico Boulevard  
Santa Monica, CA 90405  
www.smc.edu  
(310) 434-4189

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