

This guide has been created to support especially international students at Linnaeus University searching for accommodation. Here you find info on tenancy agreements, housing links and general info. Read all the points, 1-13, for a well-planned "house" hunting.

1. START EARLY and be persistent!

As soon as you have decided to study at Linnaeus University you should also start planning your stay in terms of your future accommodation. Never think that it will be solved last minute. Every semester there are students that find themselves paying rent way over their budgets, and sometimes students choose not to begin studies here due to lack of affordable housing.

You need to be active during your search and contact several housing suppliers. Searching for accommodation takes time! Many of the housing companies have no or very little information in English but do not let this limit you.

It is a regular practice for housing companies to ask for some sort of security before signing a contract. Expect to pay one or two rents in advance, and or pay a deposit. Contact the housing company in question if questions arise.

2. Removed housing priority for most international students

Linnaeus University is decreasing the number of dorm rooms/flats that have been available to students paying tuition fees. Exchange students from overseas and scholarship holders are prioritized from fall 2021. At <https://lnu.se/en/student/preparing-for-your-stay/accommodation/> there is more information about what applies for different student categories in terms of housing. The Linnaeus Union has not (yet) been fully informed in the matter. As soon as we have, we will update this guide.

The biggest changes for international students are that there may be fewer furnished accommodations on the market. If you are only searching for furnished options read more under point 7.

The other change is that instead of paying the whole rent up front you will likely be asked to pay 1 or 2 rents in advance and, also a deposit as security.

3. Register for housing through Linnaeus University (if you meet the requirements)

To receive housing through the university you must 1) Meet the new requirements 2) Have made a housing application through the university and 3) Most importantly paid the tuition fee before the deadline. Contact the university to know if you may apply or not: if you are paying tuition fee use internationalstudents@lnu.se If you are an exchange student email to inexchange@lnu.se

If you have a chance to receive housing through the university and will seek that opportunity keep in mind that you may not share a dorm room with anyone else. After two semesters you are no longer entitled to the university-organized accommodation. By then you will have to apply for a regular (student) accommodation. Read more in the following points.

The moving-out-date for the university-provided accommodation is June 15 (Jan 15 if you move in a spring semester). This means that from June 16 (or Jan16) you need to have arranged a new accommodation on your own, in advance, and there are no exceptions.



4. Create an account at Boplats Växjö

To create a customer application, go to https://www.boplats.vaxjo.se/My-pages.aspx?lang=eng&pgPage=pgClientRegister_ClientInfo.aspx

Sometimes students experience difficulties when trying to create a customer application, because of the question about your Swedish social security number. Tick the box where it says, "Not a Swedish social security number" and then fill out your year of birth, birth month and birthdate in this format: 19990525 (born May 25th 1999).

At Boplats there are two queues: One regular and one for student accommodation. The student queue is free of charge, the regular queue is free for 1 year. After there is a yearly fee. If you plan to stay in Växjö after completed studies, it is a good idea to remain in the regular queue after the first year.

Until you have received the Notification of selection results you collect points at Boplats. Each day in the queue is equivalent to 1 point. Once you have been admitted to studies use the points to apply for rooms and/or apartments. At <https://www.universityadmissions.se/intl/start> download the Notification of selection results to provide it to Boplats that will unlock the student housing queue.

At Boplats there are apartments from the companies Växjöbostäder and Vidingehem. The apartments accessible via Boplats are not furnished but some dorm rooms (in Swedish corridor) are. If you are only searching for furnished options but do not wish to stay in a dorm room, read more under point 7.

Registering at Boplats is the ONLY way to gather statistics about how many students are searching for a place to stay. For questions related to Boplats (queuing points, access to the students' queue etc.) email to boplats@vaxjo.se

5. The admission rounds' impact on the availability of rooms and apartments

If you apply to Linnaeus University in the master/international round (deadline Jan 15) you receive the Notification of selection results in early April. Three months later, on July 9, the Notification of selection results is announced in the national round. Local students, often with (a lot) more queuing points then get access to Boplats (persons already in Sweden/Växjö may queue from the year they turn 17).

From July 9, the number of points required for each apartment will be much higher than before (because more students are actively searching and competing over the available objects). That is why the window between April 9 and July 9 is so important to international students. If you receive an offer and have the option to sign for a room or apartment prior to July 9, please do so.

6. Other housing companies providing student accommodation (on and off campus)

There are several student housing companies not linked to Boplats. To see their availability, you must contact them directly. Heimstaden, SBS (Studentbostäder i Sverige AB) and Stubor have accommodation on campus. With a few, it is possible to fill out an application of interest while in some cases you contact the company through a contact form on their website. Check out <https://linnek.se/eng/bostadsinfo/> for more information, there you can also find links to a few temporary housing options.

If it is getting close to the start of the semester and you are still searching for a place, we advise you to phone each company to check the availability.

7. Sublets, furnished accommodation etc.

Linnaeus Union has a housing portal that is open to all students at <https://linnek.se/eng/bostadsportal/> Here you find sublets and rooms with private landlords. No registration is made, instead email or phone the contact persons/ landlords subletting. When both a phone number and an email are listed in the ads, phone even if it is expensive from where you are. When landlords are approached you reach them faster with a phone call which can make all the difference.



Students also post housing ads in the group Future flatmates Växjö but often those are short-term options.

8. Contracts and home insurance

Frequently, the Linnaeus Union receives questions about contracts: what needs to be included, is the rent normal etc. From our website you may download templates of housing contracts.

When signing a contract, it is common that the housing provider asks for a home insurance. The Linnaeus Union has a cooperation with the company Hedvig to offer cheap home insurance to students. Go to <https://linnek.se/eng/med-hedvig-forsakring-blir-du-karmedlem-for-1-kr-2/>

Please note that only students with a full Swedish personal number may take part of the offer from Hedvig. If you do not have a Swedish personal number (and cannot get one), investigate the possibility to use the home insurance that you have where you live now (in your home country). There are a few insurance companies in Sweden offering a home insurance to students (temporary or permanently) without a Swedish personal number, for ex. Trygghansa, Dina and If.

9. Rules and obligations once you have secured accommodation

Once you have secured accommodation, do you know what rules and obligations you have as a tenant? Go to <https://vaxjo.se/sidor/bygga-och-bo/bostad-och-boende/boendemiljo.html> to download a pdf with rights and obligations for tenants.

10. Beware of housing frauds

Sadly, there are those who try to take advantage of international students or other newcomers trying to navigate on the tough housing market. Think very carefully before sending money or sharing personal information. This is especially important if someone asks you to transfer money to an international account. Landlords who claim to be abroad, or who require large deposits to foreign bank accounts, are often scammers. When a transaction is done to a foreign account it is not possible for the Swedish police to investigate it. Read more at <https://bopoolen.nu/en/beware-of-frauds/>

If you suspect that you are a victim of a fraud, contact us at the Linnaeus Union and we will do our best to help you.

11. Bringing your spouse/children?

If you plan to bring spouse and/or children you must find accommodation on your own, even if you fall into one of the prioritized categories. This is because the accommodation provided consist of dorm rooms which are for 1 person only. If you will study abroad with family, it is even more important that you have secured accommodation prior to your arrival. It is better to arrange it so that family members arrive once accommodation is arranged. For ex. studies start late August, you have long term accommodation from October = your family arrives in October.

12. Queuing for pre-school placement

The waiting time to get a placement in pre-school (children below 6 years old), is up to 2 years. To register for a pre-school placement in Växjö you must have an address in Växjö. If you sign for accommodation in an adjacent municipality it is in that municipality that you must queue for a pre-school placement. It is good to know that it is not possible to put a child below 1 year old in day care. This means that your spouse must stay home with the child/children. Join <https://www.facebook.com/groups/274456743165968/> to get to know current students who are in Växjö with family.



13. Do you have any questions?

Anything you are wondering about? Do you need further guidance?



Don't hesitate to contact the Student Coordinator at the Linnaeus Union at karin@linnek.se or

contact the Linnaeus Union's administrators at info@linnek.se

