

Housing guide Kalmar

Updated 2023-04-14

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1 How to do housing in Kalmar

This guide has been created to support international students at Linnaeus University in their process to find housing in Kalmar. To make sure you do not miss anything, read all the sections.

There are several types of housing in Kalmar, some of which you might be eligible for and some you might not be eligible for. Section 2 gives information on housing through Linnaeus University, while section 3 gives information on how you can find housing on your own.

Sections 4 through 9 give information on things you should be aware of when looking for housing and living in Sweden, such as the use of deposits, home insurance, frauds, and more.

If you have any questions after reading this document, you can find our contact info in section 9.

2 Housing through Linnaeus University

Linnaeus University provides housing guarantee to a small number of students. Exchange students from overseas and most scholarship holders are prioritized.

At <https://lnu.se/en/student/preparing-for-your-stay/accommodation/> there is a bit more information about what applies to different student categories.

2.1 How to register for housing through Linnaeus University

To receive housing via Linnaeus University you must: 1) Meet the requirements 2) Have made a housing application through the university and 3) Paid your tuition fee before the deadline. Contact the university to learn if you may apply for housing through them. If you are paying tuition fees and/or aren't an exchange student use internationalstudents@lnu.se. Exchange students email to inexchange@lnu.se.

Students arriving with family must secure accommodation themselves.

The university provided accommodation is available to you for 2 (two) semesters if you begin your studies on a fall semester. After two semesters you are no longer entitled to the university-organized accommodation. By then you will have had to apply for a regular student accommodation, either at Kalmarhem or with any other housing company. Read more on how to do that under section 3.

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

3 Find housing on your own

If you do not meet the requirements to apply for housing through the university, or if you have already stayed in university-organized accommodation for two (2) semesters, you need to find accommodation by yourself. There are a few places you can find housing: housing companies and subletters.

The biggest housing provider for students in Kalmar is Kalmarhem (see 3.1), but there are some other housing companies who let to international students (see 3.2).

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There are also a lot of subletters or private citizens who have accommodation they rent out (see 3.3 and 3.4).

3.1 Kalmarhem

As previously mentioned, Kalmarhem is the biggest housing provider for students in Kalmar. They have a thorough explanation on their system for international students on [this site](#). We recommend that you read it, then register for their queue.

Before you register with Kalmarhem, you must have received your Notification of selection results. You get one (1) point for each day in the queue system, and the one who has been in the queue the longest (therefore having the most points) has the greatest chance of getting an offer for the accommodation they have applied for.

International students who wish to apply for a student accommodation at Kalmarhem must:

- be admitted to at least 30 credits at Linnaeus University based at Kalmar Campus, Växjö or distance, and
- be registered at Kalmarhem.se with the same personal identity number that you have received from Linnaeus University.

Keep in mind that you can only live by yourself in a student accommodation with shared spaces.

Student accommodation is not available to PhD students.

Please note! Once you have registered, you need to e-mail Kalmarhem your Notification of selection (you can find it on www.universityadmissions.se or in LADOK).

3.1.1 How do I register at Kalmarhem.se?

Register at <https://minasidor.kalmarhem.se/mina-sidor/registrera-dig> (use the translate function for easier navigation).

- If you have a Swedish personal identity number, you cannot register with the number you got from Linnaeus University. Please register with your full Swedish personal identity number (YYMMDD-xxxx). Each x is equivalent to a number in a proper personal number.
- If you do not have a Swedish personal identity number, you need to register with the personal identity number you got from Linnaeus University.
 - If you get a Swedish personal identity number, please visit Kalmarhem at Larmtorget 3 with your new ID and it will be changed on your tenancy agreement and on Kalmarhem's "My Pages".

Please note! Once you have registered, you need to e-mail Kalmarhem your Notification of selection (you can find it on www.universityadmissions.se or in LADOK).

3.1.2 International payment to Kalmarhem

To Kalmarhem you can pay either by using a payment service like Wise or Trustly, or by payment from a foreign bank. See more instructions at the bottom of [this site](#), and please contact ekonomi@kalmarhem.se if you have any trouble with the payment.

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3.1.3 The student housing guarantee

From July to September, and November to January, Kalmarhem has an ongoing student housing guarantee for new Swedish students at Linnaeus University. This means that international students (and student that are not new to Linnaeus University) can only apply for student housing between February and June as well as during October.

You can find updated information about the student housing guarantee on [this site](#).

3.2 Other housing companies in Kalmar

Besides Kalmarhem there are other companies providing accommodation in Kalmar. Kalmar Municipality has compiled a [list of different companies](#) (use the translate function in the navigation bar) that provide accommodation in Kalmar. Of these it is foremost Rikshem and Sveaviken that offer student accommodation.

3.3 The Linnaeus Union housing portal

Looking to sublet? The Linnaeus Union has a housing portal where you find sublets and rooms with private owners. There is no registration on this site, instead contact each landlord/subletter. When both a phone number and an email are listed in the ads, phone even if that is expensive from your location. When landlords are approached at speed you reach them faster with a phone call which can make all the difference.

Find the ads at <https://linnek.se/eng/bostadsportal/> where you can make filtered searches on types of accommodation, area, maximum rent etc. Check the housing portal regularly since new ads are posted several times a week.

It differs a lot if the apartments are furnished or not, so make sure to check what's included when looking for offers.

3.4 Facebook groups

There are several Facebook groups for housing in Kalmar. To find them, search for "lägenheter Kalmar" if you are looking for apartments and "hus kalmar" if you are looking for houses.

4 Tenancy agreements

Frequently Linnaeus Union receives questions about contracts: what is/should be included, is the rent ok etc. Read more on the website from our colleagues in Lund: [Bopoolen](#).

4.1 Paying a deposit

It is common for housing companies to demand a deposit from international students as security when paying the first rent. This is because tenants without a Swedish personal number can leave before the three months of giving notice has ended and the companies have no way of tracking the tenant to pay rent. Local students with a Swedish personal number can more easily be tracked through the population registry.

4.2 Time periods for tenancy agreements

All regular tenancy agreements for (student) accommodation (not provided by the university) are until further notice and with three-month period of notice. When you wish to cancel your tenancy agreement you must fill a termination form. Housing companies usually rent out

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accommodations three months in advance so to get a new home for example from June 1 you need to apply for a new accommodation as early as February.

4.3 Living environment

It is always useful to know the rules and obligations when you move to a new country. Kalmar Municipality has compiled some [information on what you can expect about your living environment](#) (use the translate function in the navigation bar). Make sure you check it out, both so that you know what you can expect from your landlord and so that you know what your neighbours can expect from you.

4.4 Home insurance

When signing with Kalmarhem, you must have a valid home insurance, and it is often required also when signing with other housing providers.

If you do not have a Swedish personal identity number, check what possibility there are to use the home insurance that you have where you live now (in your home country). If this is not an option, there are a few insurance companies offering a home insurance to students without a Swedish personal number, for example *Trygghansa*, *Dina*, and *If*.

5 National tenants' association

We recommend students living in rented accommodation to become members in [Hyresgästföreningen](#) (HGF). It is the national tenants' association and if any problems arise that are housing related, their membership comes in very handy.

6 Beware of housing frauds

Sadly, there are those who try to take advantage of international students or other newcomers trying to navigate on the often-complicated Swedish 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 often not possible for the Swedish police to investigate it. Read more on the website from our colleagues in Lund: [Bopoolen](#).

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

7 The Swedish personal identity number

To apply for the Swedish personal identity number, you must be admitted to studies longer than 12 months, meaning that you must either be admitted to a master program, a full bachelor programme, or as a PhD. Students admitted to studies that are shorter than 12 months cannot get a Swedish personal identity number.

If you are eligible to apply, do so at the Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket).

Observe that some people use the term “Swedish social security number” instead of Swedish personal identity number. They usually mean the same thing, but the tax agency uses Swedish personal identity number.

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8 Bringing your spouse/children?

If you plan to bring your spouse and/or children you must find accommodation on your own, even if you are one of the prioritized categories (section 2). This is because the accommodation provided consists of dorm rooms which are for one person only. If you will bring your family, it is even more important that you have secured accommodation prior to your arrival. It is safer to arrange it so that family members arrive once accommodation is sorted.

8.1 Queuing for pre-school placement

You can find information on pre-school placement in Kalmar Municipality on [this site](#) (use the translate function). If you have any trouble with the queuing system or have any questions about pre-school placement, please contact the municipality.

9 Questions?

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

If you are looking for information on when the term starts and/or are looking for general practical information, go to Linnaeus University's page for new students: <https://lnu.se/en/student/new-student/>

