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## 1 How to do housing in Växjö

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

There are various kinds of housing in Växjö: Some you might be eligible for and some you might not be eligible for. Section 2 gives information on Linnaeus University's housing policy, while section 3 gives information on how you can find housing on your own (that applies to most students). Sections 4 through 8 inform 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 taking part of this guide, you find our contact info in section 9.

You must be active during your search and contact more than one housing supplier. Never think that you will manage your housing 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.

We strongly recommend registering at Boplats (see 3.1 and onwards) as soon as you have the *Notification of selection results*. Do not wait until you have received the result of your residence permit application. The longer you are in the queue at Boplats - it is free of charge -, the more points you get which enhances your chances to secure accommodation. It is a recurring issue that oversea students hear from the Swedish Migration Board late, which adds stress to the already complicated search for accommodation.

## 2 Housing through Linnaeus University

Linnaeus University provides housing priority only to exchange students from overseas and some scholarship holders. If you do not belong to any of these student categories, you must search and secure housing on your own.

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

Students arriving with family must secure accommodation themselves. This is because the accommodation provided by the university consists of dorms rooms that are for one person only.

## 3 Find housing on your own

Likely 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 Växjö is Vidingehem (Boplats) (see 3.1). On campus there are also other student housing companies (see 3.2). Their supply is not listed on Boplats.

Then there are subletters or private citizens who have accommodation they rent out (see 3.3).

### 3.1 Introduction to Boplats Växjö

Registering at Boplats is the only way to collect statistics on the number of students that are searching for housing. For this reason, we encourage all students to register at Boplats even if you later choose another landlord.

**Switch** 010-330 30 09 | **Email** [info@linnek.se](mailto:info@linnek.se) | **Facebook** Linnékåren Växjö | **Instagram** @linnekaren.vaxjo

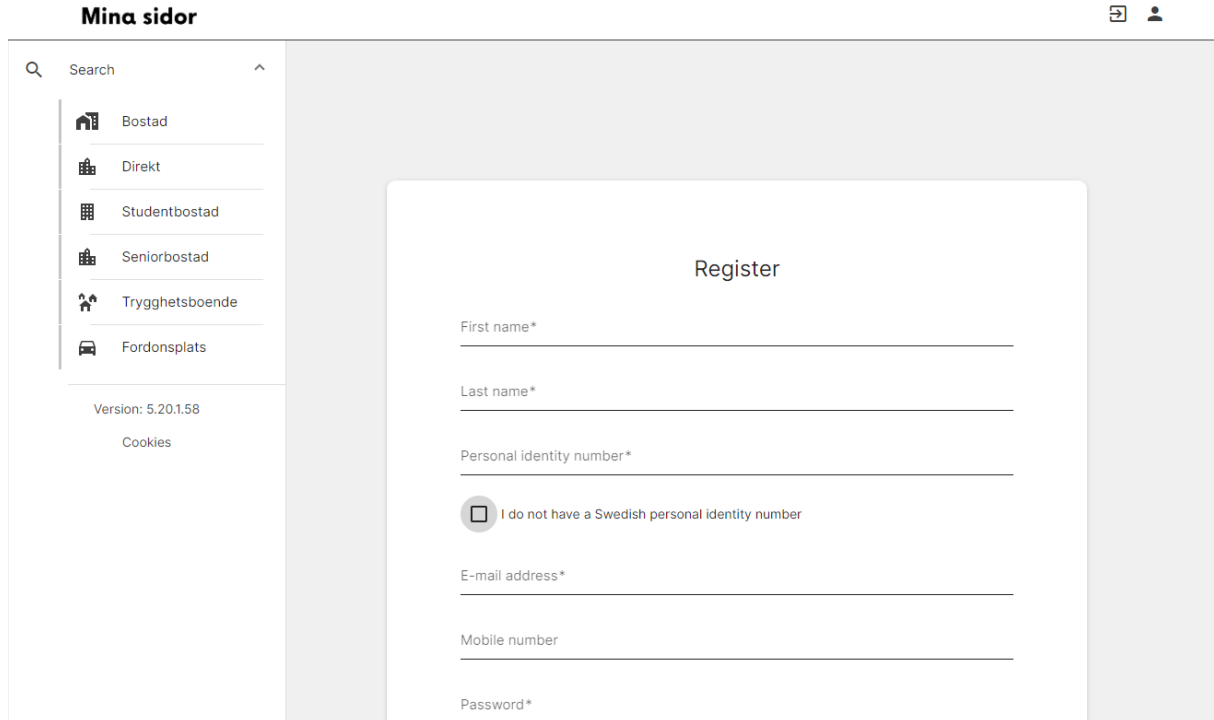
**Visit** Pelarplatsen 8, 35252 Växjö

[linnek.se](http://linnek.se)

At Boplats you collect points each day you are in the queue, points that you later use to apply for rooms and/or apartments. Each day in the queue is equivalent to one point.

### 3.1.1 Create an account at Boplats

Visit [Boplats](#), go to [Register](#). Foreign students may experience problems when registering. This is because of the question about Personal identity number. In the image below, pay attention to the square symbol highlighted in gray. If you do not have such a number, mark the square.



The screenshot shows the 'Mina sidor' (My pages) section of the Boplats website. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Bostad, Direkt, Studentbostad, Seniorbostad, Trygghetsboende, and Fordonsplats. Below the menu, it says 'Version: 5.20.1.58' and 'Cookies'. The main content area is titled 'Register' and contains the following fields: 'First name\*', 'Last name\*', 'Personal identity number\*', a checkbox labeled 'I do not have a Swedish personal identity number' (with a gray square icon), 'E-mail address\*', 'Mobile number', and 'Password\*'. There are also icons for search and user profile in the top right corner.

At Personal identity number - fill out your year of birth, birth month and birthdate in this format: 19990525 (the example is for a person born May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1999). After registration you will receive a verification email.

### 3.1.2 The queuing system at Boplats

When you register for student accommodation (called studentbostad) you are - automatically – also registered to the regular housing queue for one year. If you plan to stay in Växjö after completed studies, we recommend remaining in the regular queue. After one year you will receive a bill that you pay to remain in the regular queue. Please note that as a newly admitted student you will most often not have enough points for flats in the regular queue.

The student queue is free of charge. Read more about the [student queue](#).

To prove that you are indeed a student at Lnu, download the *Notification of selection results* from [University admissions](#). Then upload it onto My pages at Boplats that will then unlock the student housing queue. If you experience any issues, contact Boplats directly, [boplats@vaxjo.se](mailto:boplats@vaxjo.se)

### 3.1.3 Accommodation types at Boplats

At Boplats there are apartments and dorm rooms from *Vidingehem*. Apartments on Boplats are not furnished but dorm rooms generally are. Pay attention to each ad; some info is available in

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English, some only in Swedish. Again, when questions arise about the information in the ads etc. turn to [boplats@vaxjo.se](mailto:boplats@vaxjo.se)

If you are only searching for furnished options but do not wish to stay in a dorm room, see 3.3.

### 3.1.4 The admission rounds' impact on the availability of housing at Boplats

If you apply to Linnaeus University in the international round you receive the *Notification of selection results* in late March or early April (depending on if you will study a bachelor or a master). About three months later - July 11 - the Notification of selection results are announced for the national round. Local students, often with more queuing points, then get access to Boplats.

From July 11, 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 from mid-April to July 11 is especially important. If you receive an offer and have the option to sign for a room/apartment prior to July 11, do so.

### 3.2 Other housing companies in Växjö (on and off campus)

There are at least four student housing companies not linked to Boplats. *Heimstaden*, *K2A* and *Stubor* all have accommodation on campus or in the proximity. With these companies you usually make an interest application online on each company's website or similar.

Go [here](#) to get more info about the above-mentioned housing companies as well as to other permanent and/or more 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 availability.

### 3.3 The Linnaeus Union's housing agency

Looking to sublet? Linnaeus Union has a housing [agency](#) where one finds sublets and rooms with private owners. There is no registration on this site, instead contact each landlord/subletter directly. When both a phone number and email are available, phone even if it is expensive from your location. When reaching out to landlords you reach them faster with a phone call which can make all the difference.

At our housing agency you may make filtered searches on types of accommodation, location, maximum rent. Check the housing agency regularly. It differs if the apartments are furnished or not, so make sure to check what is included when looking for offers.

### 3.4 Facebook groups

There are Facebook groups for housing in Växjö. Check out our [Future flatmates Växjö](#). Then there are other groups where current and new students can meet and ask questions. These are [Freemovers at Linnaeus University, Sweden](#) and [Växjö campus](#). Please read section 4.3 carefully if you are approached with an offer from a private citizen.

## 4 Tenancy agreements

Frequently Linnaeus Union receives questions about housing contracts: What needs to be in the contract, is the rent ok etc. For contract templates and more visit the [website](#) from our colleagues in Lund.

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## 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 personal identity 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.

## 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** months period of notice. When you wish to cancel your tenancy agreement you must fill a termination form. Housing companies usually rent out accommodations three months in advance so to get a (new) flat from for ex. June 1 you must apply for an accommodation as early as February.

## 4.3 Subletting from/to students

It happens that students and others advertise on Facebook, on What's app, or elsewhere about available rooms and apartments that do not follow the rules and regulations explained in this document. Often it is persons that wish to sublet their room/apartment during the three months period of notice.

If you have a room/apartment that you want to make available, you must get permission from the landlord/housing company. Only studies abroad, pregnancy, long term illness or doing the military service are valid reasons to get permission to sublet. Ignoring these rules may lead to you losing your apartment and a ban from Boplats.

You may only sublet student accommodation to other students. Ignoring this may lead to that people with no relation to campus gain access to student apartments which in turn makes it more difficult for students to find student accommodation. Worst scenario criminals gain access to students, for example to sell drugs or engage in other criminal activities on campus.

If you choose to rent a place without a firsthand contract it may come with risks. To better understand your rights and obligations as a tenant, read more below.

## 4.4 10 months vs. 12 months' rent

Students staying one semester or shorter often misunderstand the 10 months' rent that is common in student housing. However, 10 months' rent does not mean that you must pay rent for 10 months if your stay at Lnu is shorter. It refers to that when renting a room/apartment until further notice there is a "rent-free" period during summer (in fact your rent is higher the 10 months you pay, and then the summer is rent free). Most landlords offering student apartments use this system, while regular non-student flats have 12 months' rent.

### 4.4.1 Students with housing priority vs. 10 months' rent

If you are a student with housing priority (meaning that you have accommodation through Linnaeus University) the rent-free period does not apply since your contract has a fixed move in/move out-date.

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## 4.5 Living environment

It is useful to know the rules and obligations when you move to a foreign country. Växjö municipality has compiled information on [what you can expect of your living environment](#) (use the translate function).

## 4.6 Home insurance

When signing a contract, it is common that the housing provider asks for a home insurance. If you have a full Personal identity number, you may take part of offers from any agency of your choice. If you do not have a Personal identity number and cannot get one have a look at the student offers from the insurance companies [Trygghansa](#), [Dina](#) or [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 between you and your landlord, their membership may help you to a higher extent than what we at Linnaeus Union may.

## 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 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. For transactions to foreign accounts, it is often not possible for the Swedish police to investigate. 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 the Linnaeus Union and we will do our best to support you.

## 7 The Personal identity number

To apply for a Personal identity number, you must be admitted to studies longer than 12 months. This means either to a master program, a full bachelor programme, or to a PhD. Students admitted to studies shorter than 12 months cannot get a personal identity number.

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

## 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 (see 2.1). 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 arranged.

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## 8.1 Queuing for pre-school placement

To register for a pre-school placement in Växjö you must have an address in Växjö. If you sign a tenancy agreement in an adjacent municipality, it is in that municipality that you must queue for a pre-school placement. It is not possible to put a child below 1 year old in day care.

You can find further information on pre-school placements in Växjö municipality [on this site](#). (use the translate function).

## 8.2 Facebook groups

Join [Växjö students with kids](#) to get to know current and other new students who are in Växjö with family.

## 9 Questions?

**Do you need further guidance?** Don't hesitate to contact the Student Coordinator at the Linnaeus Union at [karin@linnek.se](mailto:karin@linnek.se) or contact the Linnaeus Union's administrators at [info@linnek.se](mailto:info@linnek.se)

If you are searching for information on when the semester starts and/or are looking for general practical information, go to [Linnaeus University's page for new students](#)

