

# Housing guide Växjö

Updated 20260309

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## 1 How to do housing in Växjö

This guide is created to support international students at Linnaeus University in their process to find housing in Växjö. To make sure to 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 refers you the information about housing provided by Linnaeus University, while section 3 gives information on how you can find housing on your own (and that applies to most students). Sections 4 through 6 inform on things you should be aware of when looking for housing, such as the use of deposits, home insurance, possible frauds etc. Section 7 to 9 focuses who may get a Swedish personal identity number and how to apply for it, what is bankID and how to get it, as well short info on how to prepare if you travel to Sweden with kids. If you have any questions after reading this guide, go to section 9.

You must be active during your search and contact more than one housing supplier. There are several student housing suppliers, on and off campus. Never think that you will manage your housing last minute. Every semester there are students that find themselves paying rent way over their budgets.

We strongly recommend registering at Boplats (see 3.1 and onwards) as soon as you have your *Notification of selection results*. The longer you are in the student queue at Boplats - that is free of charge - the more points you get which enhances your chances to secure accommodation.

Do not wait until you have received the response to your residence permit application. It is a recurring challenge that oversea students hear from the Swedish Migration Board late, which adds stress to the often-complicated search for accommodation.

## 2 Housing through Linnaeus University

Linnaeus University has housing priority only for exchange students from outside of Europe and for some scholarship holders. Most students must search and secure housing on their own.

Linnaeus University has some [general information](#) about student housing.

Students arriving with family/partner 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

The biggest housing provider for students in Växjö is *Vidingehem* (Boplats, see 3.1) but there are several other student housing companies that offer housing on campus that aren't listed on Boplats (see 3.2).

There are also private citizens who have accommodation they rent out (see 3.3) that can be student accommodations, but also non-student accommodation, on and off campus.

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## 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 each semester. Therefore, we encourage all students to register at Boplats even if you later choose another housing supplier.

At Boplats you collect points each day you are in the queue. The points are then used for applying 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](#). In the top right corner, change to English again. You may experience difficulties when registering due to the question about Swedish personal identity number. In the image below, pay attention to the square symbol highlighted in grey. If you do not have such a number, mark the square.

Next to *Personal identity number* - fill out your year of birth, birth month and birthdate in the format 19990525 (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 (on the site referred to as “*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](#).

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

Each semester, *Vidingehem* checks that you have taken minimum 15 credits (needed to remain in student housing). Exceptions are made for sick leave, parental leave and for Doctoral students (regardless of reason you will be asked to provide a certificate to prove your situation).

### 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 English, some only in Swedish. If you are only searching for furnished options but cannot stay in a dorm room, see point 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 10 - 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 10, 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 early April to July 10 is important. If you receive an offer and have the option to sign for a room/apartment prior to July 10, 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*, *SBS Studentbostäder* 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. It is common that registration with the smaller housing companies is made with bankID (point 8). If you don't have bankID, contact the company directly, and they will help you.

Go [here](#) for info on the above-mentioned housing companies as well as 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. If you find accommodation here, 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 site regularly. It differs if the apartments are furnished or not, so make sure to check what is included.

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## 3.4 Facebook groups

There is a Facebook group for housing in Växjö, [Future flatmates Växjö](#)

Then there is a group that is open to all students on campus, [Växjö campus](#)

To buy or sell stuff, join [Linnéuniversitetet Köp & Sälj](#)

Please read section [4.3](#) carefully if you are approached on Facebook or WhatsApp etc. with an offer from a private citizen. Every year there are students that fall for offers that are “too good to be true”. If you see an ad on Facebook, check if the ad is cross posted in other groups. If so, it could be an indication it is a scam. Go to section 6 to read more.

## 4 Tenancy agreements

Frequently Linnaeus Union receives questions about housing contracts: What needs to be in the contract, is the rent ok etc. You will find contract templates and other useful information at [Bopoolen](#). They will only answer questions etc. from students at Lund University, but the info on the website is great for students searching for information on contracts etc.

### 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 in a termination form. Housing companies usually rent out accommodations three months in advance so to get a (new) flat from June 1 you must apply for an accommodation as early as March.

### 4.3 Subletting from/to students

It happens that students and others advertise on Facebook, on WhatsApp, or elsewhere about available rooms and apartments that do not follow the rules and regulations explained in this guide. Often it is people 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 housing company you are renting from. Only studies abroad, pregnancy, long term illness or military service are valid reasons to get permission to sublet. It is illegal to put up your student housing on Airbnb. Ignoring these rules may lead to you losing your apartment and that you are banned to use 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 is that criminals gain access to student housing, to sell drugs or engage in other criminal activities on campus.

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Choosing to rent a place without a firsthand contract often comes with risks. To better understand your rights and obligations as a tenant, go to 4.5 and 5.

## 4.4 10 months vs. 12 months' rent

Students staying one semester or shorter often misunderstand the 10 months' rent rule that is common in student housing. However, 10 months' rent does not mean that you must pay rent for 10 months. It refers to that when renting a room or an 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.

## 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 to take part of the Pdf).

## 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, [Länsförsäkringar Kronoberg](#). Contact by phone, 0470-720000 or by email [info@lfkronoberg.se](mailto:info@lfkronoberg.se)

## 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 you get into a serious dispute with your housing company, their membership may help you better than we at Linnaeus Union can.

## 6 Beware of housing frauds

Unfortunately, there are those that try to take advantage of international students or other newcomers trying to navigate on the often-complicated housing market. If you see an ad on Facebook, try to see if the same person/account has posted in several other groups. If yes, it is likely a scam.

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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 transactions are done 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](#). Please note that questions should be asked to us and not to Bopoolen, but Bopoolen has more extensive information about housing contracts etc.

If you suspect that you are a victim of a fraud, your priority should be to contact the Swedish Police (phone number: 114 14 if from inside Sweden, +46 77 114 14 00 if from outside of Sweden).

If it is an ongoing crime, call 112. If you found the accommodation through Linnaeus Union's housing agency, please notify us so that we can block the advertiser and possibly avoid that the fraudster goes after other students.

## 7 Personal identity number

To apply for a personal identity number, you must be admitted to studies longer than 12 months: A master programme, a full bachelor, or to a PhD.

Applying for a personal identity number is done at the local [Tax Agency](#) (Skatteverket). The process to get a personal identity number may take up to nine weeks, depending on when you apply and how many others that apply around the same time.

Students admitted to studies shorter than 12 months cannot get a personal identity number.

## 8. BankID

Besides getting a Swedish personal identity number, it is very useful to also get [bankID](#). It is required for several services such as registering for accommodation, logging into your bank app, paying for things online etc. Not everyone is eligible to get bankID. To apply for it, you must be a customer in one of the banks that issues bankID.

## 9. Bringing your spouse/children?

If you plan to arrive to Sweden with a spouse and/or children, you must find accommodation on your own, even if you belong to one of the prioritized categories (point 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 arranged.

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## 9.1 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.

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

## 10. Questions?

**Do you need further guidance?** Don't hesitate to contact the International 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 general practical information for new students, go to [Linnaeus University's page for new students](#)



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