

CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOODS

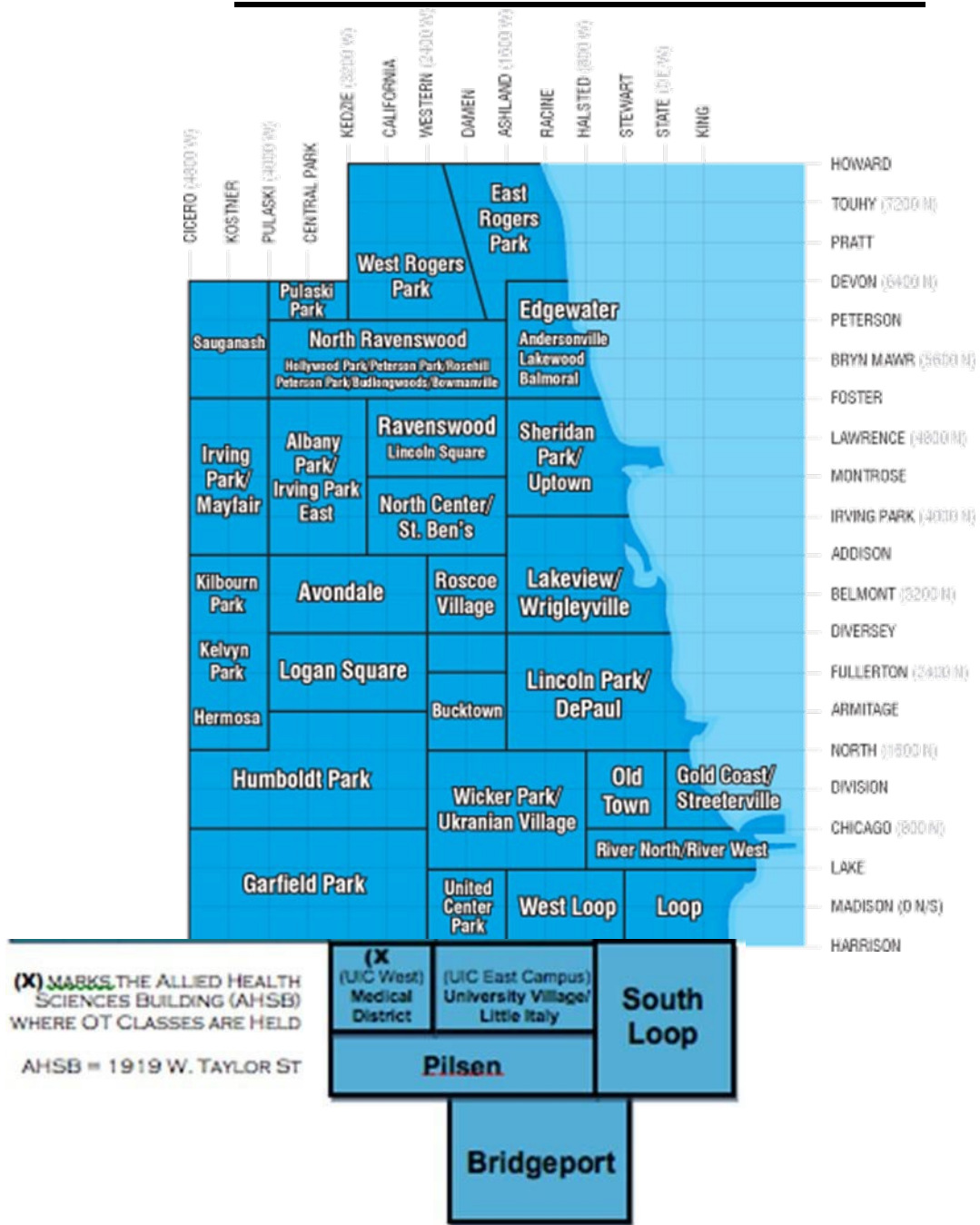


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HELPFUL WEBSITES

TRANSIT

<http://www.transitchicago.com/>

The Mapquest of Chicago public transit – calculates route options and travel time for anywhere in the city, it's great! Your UIC unlimited transit pass allows you to ride any city train or bus anytime without having to pay. FYI: UIC is near the BLUE (Damen Illinois Medical Center stop) and PINK (Polk stop) train lines. AIRPORT FYI: the Blue line goes north to O'Hare Airport, and the Orange line goes south to Midway Airport.

<http://ctabustracker.com/>

This is an easy reference point for checking bus times.

<http://bus.uic.edu/>

The bus tracker for the UIC buses.

<https://www.google.com/maps>

Google Maps is the most reliable way to figure out public transportation in the city. It has a great app for iPhones as well! (Maps on the iPhone is a little less reliable)

GENERAL, AREA BUSINESSES, & SOCIAL EVENTS

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/entertainment/things-to-do/>

Profile several restaurants, bars, music venues, theaters, street festivals, special events, conventions, etc., including reviews, hours, addresses, phone numbers, and promotions. Can browse by neighborhood, price, genre, date, type of venue, etc. Great way to find the nearest Thai restaurant, bowling alley, sports bar, or movie theater or see what's happening in the city on a certain date.

<https://www.timeout.com/chicago/events-calendar>

Events around the city by month.

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en.html>

Offers some general Chicago information.

<https://www.uic.edu/life-at-uic/>

Link to UIC student life activities hosted by UIC

APARTMENT/ROOMMATE LISTINGS:

<https://www.zillow.com/>

Apartment search engine

<https://housing.uic.edu/>

Link to on-campus residence halls, roommate wanted ads, and landlord listings. Use your NetID to log in and view postings.

<https://offcampushousing.uic.edu/>

Link to off-campus housing options.

<https://chicago.craigslist.org/>

Link to listings for apartments, jobs, furniture, event tickets, etc.

<https://chicagoreader.com/>

Link to classifieds and area activity and business listings

<https://housing.uic.edu/>

Link to UIC on-campus housing homepage.

<https://www.domu.com/>

Apartment search local to Chicago. Free to search but landlords pay to list so there aren't a lot of repeats or listings. It also lets you search by neighborhood

<https://hotpads.com/>

Apartment search local for Chicago. Also allows you to see rooms for rent within apartments, as well as individual apartments. Can filter by parking garage, washer dryer, etc.

FREE SERVICES TO HELP YOU FIND AN APARTMENT IN THE CITY:

<http://www.chicagoapartmentfinders.com/>

<https://www.apartmentguysofchicago.com/>

AN OVERVIEW OF NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY

REGARDING SAFETY

Before looking at the different neighborhoods that are listed below, we wanted to provide you with some overall information on safety considerations within a large urban city such as Chicago. Safety considerations apply to all parts of the city regardless of time of day. Some examples include always being aware of your surroundings, trying to travel in groups, walking on well-lit sidewalks and pathways, refrain from using headphones or earbuds while walking and keeping all valuables out of sight. These safety tips can be taken everywhere, as well as any major city in the US such as Chicago. We hope this document is helpful in finding a neighborhood you can call home during your time at UIC!

The Office of Preparedness and Response has developed several educational materials that are available for all UIC students. More information on safety tips and tools can be found here: <https://ready.uic.edu/toolkit/be-safe-and-prepared/>

CAMPUS HOUSING

Location in the City: Single Student Residence Hall (SSR)—West Campus of UIC

Rent: Varies depending on number of roommates ranging from \$9000-\$13,000 for the school year. Please check UIC's website for the latest rates.

Commute to school/transportation: Walk across the street, less than 5 minutes. Takes 10-20 minutes to get downtown on the Blue or Pink line, as well as the 7, 12, and 157 buses. Depends on the time of day and where exactly you're going. 10 min cab ride or 45 min walk.

Pros of living here/Things to do: The best part about living on campus is the convenience- no commute to class, the CTA is easily accessible, and SSR is directly connected to the fitness center- so no need to even walk outside in the winter to go work out! SSR is also directly connected to the student center. Computer lab with some free printing and study lounges are available.

Other comments: A few bars around campus. Close to Little Italy and Pilsen. Taylor Street has some bars, restaurants, and good take-out places; the dorm is near the school gym/rec area.

MEDICAL DISTRICT/TRI-TAYLOR

(Medical District is east of campus, Tri-Taylor is just west)

Location in the City: Surrounding UIC's West campus

Rent: 1br - \$1200-2200, 2br - \$1800-2500 (Note: Large range of rent depending on what complex/building you are in in the area)

Commute to school/transportation: 10 minute walk to school. Near 157 bus and 12 bus. Can

easily bus to Pink, Blue, Green, Orange, or Red stations. Can also walk about 20 minutes to the Pink line. Jewel, Costco, Target, and Whole Foods are about a 25 minute bus ride away. Range of free, permit, and metered parking. About 30 minutes on public transit to get downtown.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Biggest pro is how close it is to campus! It is easy to get to the library and gym on West campus being this close as well. There is also a Chicago Public Library Branch nearby. Convenient food spots near, like Bacci Pizza, Italian bakeries, Chipotle, and McDonald's. Easy to commute into the city through the bus or bus to train to explore downtown.

Other comments: There are many professionals who live in this area. It is very common for healthcare professionals who work in Med District to rent here! Lots of new buildings in the area. It is also close to Little Italy which many people go to for food or bars. VERY popular for students to live here

LITTLE ITALY

Location in the City: Between UIC's East and West Campus

Rent: 1br - \$1700, 2br - \$2100, 3br - \$2400

Commute to school/transportation: 15-25 minute walk to campus. About a 5 minute drive to campus. About 10 minutes on the bus (12, 7, or more commonly the 157). Takes about 25 minutes on public transportation to get downtown! Pink line is about a 10 minute walk and Blue line is about a 15 minute walk. Free, permit, and metered parking available. Some 3 flats offer parking spaces with rent or at an additional monthly fee.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Many local businesses that are walking distance to get food or groceries. Trader Joe's, Jewel, Whole Foods, and Target are a 10 minute bus ride away. There are many restaurants with different cuisines (Italian, American, Chinese, Thai, Indian, etc) all walking distance, as well as cafes. Arrigo Park is near and huge to go have a picnic, go for a walk, or go with your dog. Convenient place to go and explore other parts of the city as well. Peers also enjoy living near other students and working adults.

Other comments: Students love being very close to campus but also having a strong neighborhood feel. Bus is very convenient on cold or rainy days, and walking is a nice way to unwind after class. Neighborhood is fairly quiet but still has many things to do. VERY popular for students to live here.

PILSEN

Location in the City: Southside, south of UIC's campus

Rent: 1 br - \$1300, 2br - \$1500

Commute to school/transportation: Public transit 15-20 minutes; walking 25-30 minutes; 10 min drive to campus. Very accessible to public transportation - near the 50, 18, 9, 60 bus as well as the Pink line. Residential streets are a mix of permit and free parking, and 18th street is mostly meter parking.

Pros of living here/Things to do: If you plan on grocery shopping there are many options walking (La Casa Del Pueblo, Metzsoy) or driving (Costco, Cermak Produce, Aldi, Jewel-

Osco). If you plan on eating out there is an abundance of authentic Hispanic food options! Vibrant arts culture – galleries including the National Museum of Mexican Art, murals, and Thalia Hall (music venue). Many coffee shops like Cafe Jumping Bean and Foxglove, as well as fun local bars.

Other comments: Many people love the close-knit community in Pilsen. It is very family-oriented and full of local businesses. Students also love the accessibility of the buses.

UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

Location in the City: Right by UIC's campuses and Little Italy

Rent: 2 BD/2 Bath \$2200 (Near the university athletic fields on East campus, prices vary because it's a condo building and also vary in the neighborhood)

Commute to school/transportation: Campus bus is ~15 minutes, CTA bus ~20 minutes, driving ~10 minutes, biking ~15 minutes. Close to the 12, 8, 18, and 157 buses. Access to the Blue, Pink, and Green trains. Some free street parking, but mostly permit or metered parking.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Community center/rec center within walking distance, walking distance to University Village Maxwell (restaurants, doctor offices), library, rec center, or gym, Little Italy library branch, grocery stores (Jewel, Trader Joe's, Target), CVS is up the road, and also close to Taylor St. (good for food, groceries, restaurants).

Other comments: The area is very dog friendly and residential. There are several parks/fields for a dog to run around. Many students choose to live here to live close to campus but still feel like they are in the city.

NEAR WEST SIDE

Location in the City: Across the street from the United Center

Rent: \$1300 - 1 bed, \$1800 - 2 bed, \$2000 - 3 bed

Commute to school/transportation: 25 minute walk, or 10 minute bus ride (50 bus). Add about 10 minutes if on the most north part of the Near West side. About 20 minutes to get to downtown using public transportation. West Loop is about 10-15 minutes! Close by to the 50, 10, and 20 bus as well as the Pink and Green line (Blue as well, just about an extra 10 minute walk).

Pros of living here/Things to do: Pete's Groceries, Walgreens, and libraries are all close by (also via bus). West Loop is great for shopping and restaurants. Union Park is nearby with baseball fields, tennis courts, and basketball courts.

Other comments: United Center is also walking distance, and great to go to an event right before it starts to get cheap box office tickets. Good option if you want to be close to school.

WEST LOOP/FULTON MARKET

Location in the City: West Loop (West of downtown)

Rent: 1br - \$2200-2700, 2br - \$3000 (note - there is a large range of rent prices as this is an up and coming area)

Commute to school/transportation: 10 minute drive to campus, 25 minutes on public transit.

Close to the Pink, Green, and Blue line, as well as various buses going in almost every direction. Parking tends to be metered, a spot included in rent, or an extra monthly fee.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Nicknamed Restaurant Row, Fulton Market has tons of restaurants, bars, and cafes to explore. There are endless shops, art galleries, and venues to visit. West Loop is home to some music festivals and street markets, especially in the summer. Working adults have more recently lived here, but there are a good amount of students in this area as well. This is an excellent area of the city to walk around.

Other comments: There is lots of history to this area that you can find walking around the area! Make sure to explore Greek Town as well as the fine dining the area has to offer.

SOUTH LOOP

Location in the City: South Loop (south of downtown)

Rent: (Note: Wide range of rent as there is a mix of high rises/ other buildings, as well as the more north section of the neighborhood being more expensive). \$1200-1800 - Studio, \$2000-2300 - 1 bed, \$2500 - 3000 - 2 bed)

Commute to school/Transportation: 15 minute drive; 25 minutes on #12 bus down Roosevelt (if further south: add time for 10-15 minute walk north to #12 Roosevelt/ or the #24, 29, 3 buses north to transfer to #12 Roosevelt bus; 30-40 minutes to west campus when taking the Pink line to Polk station. Very accessible. Easy access to red, green and orange lines and lots of buses around. If you're close enough to the loop you really don't even need a car! If you do bring a car, there is lots of street meter parking and available parking for permit parking (\$100 a year). Expect to pay \$100- \$250/month for parking in high rise or spots available with the apartment).

Pros of living here/Things to do: You have everything you need in the South Loop! Mariano's, Trader Joe's, Jewel, Walgreens, awesome Chicago libraries, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, shopping, and close to parks and lakefront. Close to the museum campus, Soldier Field, and Chinatown, Icon Theater, shopping, restaurants and a few bars.

Other comments: The South Loop is a common place for young professionals and young families. It is easy to get to 90/94 and Lakeshore Drive. South Loop is incredible because you get the city experience while still being close to campus.

CHINATOWN

Location in the City: Southside

Rent: 1br - \$1400-1600, 2br - \$1800-2100

Commute to school/transportation: 10-15 drive to campus, 30 minutes on public transit. Close to the Red line, 21, and 8 bus. One train stop away from connecting to the 12, 18, 1, 3, and 4 buses! Easily walkable area.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Chinatown Square is a culturally rich and beautiful attraction. There are restaurants, bakeries, tea shops, and souvenir stores surrounded by murals and longstanding architecture. There is a strong communal feel here. This is a historic neighborhood for sure! Fun karaoke and bars for night life.

Other comments: Many students head over to Chinatown in the summer months to walk around and explore the shops and restaurants.

PORTAGE PARK/JEFFERSON PARK

Location in the City: Northside

Rent: 1br - \$1200, 2br - \$1800, 3br - \$2100

Commute to school/transportation: 20-35 minute drive to campus. About a 45 minute commute using public transportation (Blue line to bus). Nearby to the Metra as well. Parking varies from free, to metered, to permit parking, but there is more free parking in these neighborhoods in comparison to other neighborhoods.

Pros of living here/Things to do: The Copernicus Center hosts theater, concerts, and community events. This area also has a lot of people from an Eastern European descent (particularly Polish and Russian immigrants) and has different Eastern European restaurants to try.

Other comments: This is a very residential neighborhood with many local bakeries and lots of family life.

EAST ROGERS PARK

Location in the City: North side (most north neighborhood)

Rent: \$950 - studio, \$1200 - 1 bed, \$1500 - 2 bed

Commute to school/transportation: Driving takes about 30-45 minutes depending on traffic. Red to Pink or Blue line trains takes about an hour. Street parking available, some blocks require street permits, some units have garage/spaces to park at with an additional monthly fee

Pros of living here/Things to do: Tons of restaurants, very close to the lake, dog-friendly, lots of trees and gardens, diverse and multi-ethnic neighborhood, still has a "college" feel thanks to Loyola University (Loyola's library has a reciprocal relationship with UIC - great place to study!), easy access to Evanston and the North Shore when you need a break from the city. Incredibly diverse.

Other comments: Lots of variance with traffic time when this north in the city.

EDGEWATER

Location in the City: Northside (right by the entrance of Lake Shore Drive)

Rent: 1br - \$1150, 2br - \$1700, 3br - \$2400

Commute to school/transportation: 30-45 minute drive to campus, about an hour taking the bus to campus. Lots of access to public transportation (Red line, 50 bus, 92, 36, 147). About 20 minute drive to get downtown and 45 minutes on public transit. Mix of permit, free, and meter parking, but a good amount of free options on the side streets.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Many different restaurants and cafes in the area that are reasonably priced. A very diverse part of the city with local businesses that feel homey and relaxed. Near dry cleaners, gyms, Jewel, and Marianos for errands.

Other comments: Edgewater is near Loyola's campus and near the lake, so there are lots of students and young working adults in this area, as well as families.

UPTOWN

Location in the City: Northside

Rent: \$1100 - studio, \$1500 - 1 bed, \$2000 for 2 bed/2 bath condo

Commute to school/transportation: Driving— 35 minutes; CTA (public transportation) – 1 hour (Take Red line then transfer). Very close to the Wilson train stop as well as the 26 and 151 buses. Parking on street can be permit or metered with some free parking.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Close to Montrose Harbor, the Lakeshore path, and local coffee shops. Lots of diverse restaurant options (Vietnamese, Ethiopian, Mexican, etc). Green Mill (a jazz club owned by the Al Capone syndicate), the Riviera, and the Aragon Ballroom as well as cultural centers such as the Black Ensemble Theater are all in Uptown. Target and Jewel are right in the area. Very close to other neighborhoods like Andersonville and Lakeview

Other comments: Very diverse neighborhood in the city. Averages bigger apartments at a cheaper price. Consider variance with traffic times this north in the city. Buena Park is right south of this and is another neighborhood with similar amenities.

LINCOLN SQUARE/RAVENSWOOD

Location in the city: Northside

Rent: Lincoln Square: Studio: \$915; 1BR: 1100; 2BR: \$1400. Ravenswood: Studio: \$1100; 1BR: \$1300

Commute to school/Transportation: 30 minute drive to school, 1 hour on public transportation. Quick drive to Lake Shore Drive, as well as I-90 and I-94. Walking distance to Western, Rockwell, and Damen Brown Line Station. 11 bus can be taken to Western Brown Line Station and 49 bus can take you to the Western Metra stop, Western Blue Line Station, and Western Pink Line Station. Street parking (typical to require zone permit passes) or on site parking spot (typical to pay monthly for parking)

Pros of living here/Things to do: Many small businesses and restaurants, especially up Lincoln Avenue and Lawrence Avenue. Explore local shops, go to many restaurants, visit the Davis Theater, go on a walk down Lincoln Avenue through the square.

Other comments: Many young families and people live in Lincoln Square. It has historical charm, booming from so many generations of immigrants, with a new and modern flair now. A very residential and fun part of Chicago!

ANDERSONVILLE

Location in the City: Northside

Rent: 1br - \$1300, 2br - \$1800

Commute to school/transportation: 30 -45 minute drive to campus, 45-55 minutes on public transportation. Close to the Red line, as well as the 50, 22, and 147 bus.

Pros of living here/Things to do: So many restaurants, cafes, bars, and parks in the area. Andersonville has lots of Swedish heritage, including the Swedish American Museum. The neighborhood is incredibly walkable, with many shops and antique stores mixed in with the

restaurants down Clark. Andersonville is known for its local businesses! Make sure to walk around to see the beautiful architecture and gardens.

Other comments: There tend to be lots of homeowners in this area as well as competitive rent as many people stay long term, but rent is comparatively more affordable!

LAKEVIEW

Location in the City: Northside

Rent: (Note - large variety of location and rent options – Lakeview encompasses many neighborhoods north of the loop. Please keep that in mind while looking at rent averages). 1br - \$1300-1700, 2br - \$2200-2600

Commute to school/transportation: 25-35 minute commute to campus driving. About 45 minutes - 1 hour on public transit (can take buses or Brown/Pink line). Great access to public transportation including the Red, Purple, Brown, and many buses like the 151, 22, 36, (and even more). About 25-35 minutes to get downtown using public transportation and 15-20 minutes while driving. ****Note:** Lakeview is a very large neighborhood, so check the specific cross streets for how close the public transit is. Range of free, permit, and metered parking (but more permit and metered than free). Some parking spaces included in rent or in a monthly fee.

Pros of living here/Things to do: So many options of fun things to do. There are a wide variety of restaurants (Thai, sushi, Chipotle, Panera, great brunch spots, empanadas, burgers- you name it), bars and coffee shops, and cafes. The lake is a walk/short drive away and has a connecting path toward Lincoln Park. There are farmers markets in the summer as well! So many young people in Lakeview with great bars and nightlife. Close to Boystown (Northalsted) as well as Wrigleyville.

Other comments: Many students enjoy living here to be by other young adults and have many fun weekend options. Traffic to get to campus can occasionally get tough since you may have to get through a busy part of the weekend.

WRIGLEYVILLE

Location in the City: Northside

Rent: 1br - \$1600-1900, 2br - \$1800-2500 (Note, wide range of rent in Wrigley)

Commute to school/transportation:

Pros of living here/Things to do: Home of the Chicago Cubs! Many young adults in the area with a strong nightlife. A good mix of apartments, condos, and single-family homes. Some great coffee shops, great ice cream shops, and bakeries nearby. Make sure to check out Sluggers to do some batting cages and see their dueling pianos! Close to the Northside beaches and lake.

Other comments: It gets VERY busy around the time of the Cubs games

LINCOLN PARK

Location in the City: Northside

Rent: 1br - \$1800, 2br - \$2500 (note: there is a wide range of average rents depending on the part

of Lincoln Park)

Commute to school/transportation: 20-35 minute drive to campus. 40-50 minute commute using public transportation. Close to the Red, Purple, and Brown line as well as the 8, 50, and 151 buses. Most of Lincoln Park is permit parking, with few free blocks and metered main streets. Some apartments offer a parking spot on the premise in the rent or at an additional monthly fee. About 25-30 minutes to get downtown on public transit.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Booming and popular neighborhood in Chicago. Lots of bars, restaurants, shopping of all sorts, close to Wrigley Field (about 10 minutes on the El), and [arks like Oz Park, Lincoln Park, and Lincoln Park Zoo. Fairly close to the lake too! Students live here to have easy access to restaurants, grocery stores, night life, and be by other young adults. Big walking area.

Other comments: Near DePaul University. Very young area of Chicago and has lots of students and young families.

OLD TOWN

Location in the City: North of the loop/downtown

Rent: 1br - \$2500, 2br - \$3500 (note: range of rents depending on how north or south in Old Town you are)

Commute to school/transportation: About 40-50 minutes by train (Brown line to Pink line; Red line to bus; bus to bus). 15-25 minutes driving. Very close to the Red and Brown line, as well as buses to go in almost every direction. Most streets require permit parking, with some meter parking.

Pros of living here/Things to do: here are many cozy pubs, Second City, shopping, and lots of restaurants down Wells St. Close to Lincoln Park, the Lincoln Park Zoo, Green City Market, and North Avenue beach.

Other comments: Many students choose to live here to be around a mix of other young folk and working professionals.

GOLD COAST

Location in the City: North of the loop in downtown, towards the lake.

Rent: \$1600 - studio, \$2200 - 1 bed, \$3500 - 2 bed. Note: more expensive part of the city

Commute to school/transportation: 30 - 45 minutes if you make the CTA to school. About a 20-35 minute drive depending on traffic. 3 minute train ride or 10-15 minute walk to get into the heart of downtown. Very accessible to both the L and buses. Expect to pay \$150-\$350/month for parking or ~\$10/hour for garage parking. Very little street permit parking (but it exists! Usually paid parking); majority is garages and valets with paid street parking.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Super convenient. Close to grocery stores, drug stores, restaurants, bars, and shopping. Very close to the lake for beaches/running/biking, very close to downtown. Restaurants and bars everywhere. A few blocks away from Michigan Avenue and Water Tower Center to shop.

Other comments: Many people choose to live here to be very close to downtown and have access

to fun events, restaurants, and the lake.

RIVER NORTH

Location in the City: North of the Lopp, downtown

Rent: \$2100 - studio, \$2800 - 1 bed, \$4400 - 2 bed

Commute to school/transportation: 30-45 minutes depending where you are (closest to Chicago red line, short walk to pink or green line the farther south you are) by El, 15-25 minutes by driving with little to no traffic; 25-35 minutes during rush hour. Very accessible to public transportation. Mostly meter parking and attached parking can range between \$175-300 per month

Pros of living here/Things to do: Many great places to go out, meet up with friends, easy to get to other parts of the city from. This is LIVING downtown. Magnificent Mile and the River are walking distance. Tons of restaurants, close to Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, Walgreens. Fun/fancy nightlife and restaurants.

Other comments: More expensive part of the city

LOGAN SQUARE

Location in the City: North west side

Rent: 1br - \$1600, 2br - \$2100 (wider range of rent here)

Commute to school/transportation: 20-35 minute drive to campus, 45 minutes on the buses (74 and 50) or the train (Blue line to bus).

Pros of living here/Things to do: So many restaurants and bars, as well as local businesses. Many places to shop, as well as lots of parks. Full of summer events like vintage festivals and farmers markets. An up and coming area with many young folks - you'll always have something to do without being in a louder part like downtown!

Other comments: Not too many "big" grocery stores (Jewel, Whole Foods, etc) in the area, but commutable to get to them.

BELMONT CRAGIN

Location in the city: Northwest side

Rent: Studio: \$800; 1BR: \$900-1200; 2BR: \$1200-1500

Commute to school/transportation: 25 minute drive, about an hour using 2 buses (transfers required)

Pros of living here/Things to do: A mix of suburban feel, long standing Chicago businesses and industry, and locally owned restaurants

Other comments: About a 15 minute drive to get to the Blue Line train or the highway

UKRAINIAN VILLAGE

Location in the City: Northwest side

Rent: 1br - \$1700, 2br - \$2000

Commute to school/transportation: About 20 minute drive, 25-30 minutes on the 50 bus. Close

to the Blue line, as well as the 49 and 50 bus. About 20 minutes driving or 35 minutes on the bus to get downtown. Mix of free, permit, and metered parking.

Pros of living here/Things to do: There is a Marianos, Whole Foods, and Jewel within a 15 minute driving radius. Tons of restaurants and a few bars in the area. Many people take advantage of the stores and restaurants and walk all the time, with lots of dogs in the area. Very walkable!

Other comments: Lots of local businesses.

WICKER PARK/BUCKTOWN

Location in the City: North (West) side.

Rent: \$1600-\$2200 for a 1 bedroom- studio, \$2300-\$2400 for a 2 bedroom, \$3100 for a three bedroom.

Commute to school/transportation: 25-45 minutes by #50 Damen bus, #9 Ashland bus, #49 Western bus or the Blue line (depends on where in Wicker Park/Bucktown you live) (Damen or Western stop → Damen/Illinois Medical District stop—this takes like 40 minutes including a 10 min walk to the AHS building). Very close to Blue Line Damen and Division stops. Multiple buses in the area too. Permit, meter, and free parking in the area.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Wicker Park Fitness, Wicker Park Athletic Club, Bucktown Athletic Club, actual Wicker Park - hosts events and farmers markets. Holstein Park in Bucktown has a free public pool, too. Tons of bars and restaurants (very cool and trendy place to go out for young professionals, especially as an alternative to downtown). Many places to shop, eat, go out to cafes, or study.

Other comments: There are cute walking paths in the area! Fun, vibrant, and although there are many new spots, there are also old school local shops as well.

ROSCOE VILLAGE

Location in the City: West of Lakeview, on the North Side

Rent: \$1000 - studio, \$1150 - 1 bed, \$2000/2200 - 2 bed

Commute to school/transportation: Damen bus takes about 35-45 minutes. Is a convenient straight shot down to AHS building! By car it's about 25-35 minutes, depending on how close you are to Western Ave. About a 30 minute commute downtown using the Brown Line, and about 25 minutes driving (depending on traffic). There are 2 Brown Line stops in the area (Addison and Paulina). The 77 and 11 bus can take you to the north parts of the city as well as to other train stops. Mostly free parking available throughout this neighborhood with some permit parking (rare for the city!)

Pros of living here/Things to do: Lots of new shops are in the area, from great cheap finds to pricey boutiques as well as antique shops. Services abound for restaurants, hair salons, dry cleaning, grocery stores, drug stores, pet training/ boarding/ grooming, dog park. Target, Costco, and several grocery store options close by. Many different restaurant cuisines (Vegan, vegetarian, Italian, Thai, Japanese, American, and many more) as well as local pubs and bars.

Other comments: This neighborhood attracts a range of younger residents and families. It has a residential/ small community feel with lots of local events. It is a less crowded area of Chicago while still being about a mile and half from the lake and close to transport to take you to other parts of the city.

WEST SIDE/WEST TOWN

Location in the City: Northwest side

Rent: 1br - \$1650, 2br - \$2100

Commute to school/transportation: 18-27 minutes to school by blue line or bus. 20 minute drive to school. This area is close to public transportation to get downtown, north, south, and west!

Buses and trains include the Blue line, and buses 8, 56, 65, 66, 70.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Lots of nightlife on the weekends with grocery stores, and public libraries only a few blocks away. Many cafes and good local restaurants.

Other comments: More of a residential part of the city. Typically students live here because it is fairly convenient to get to both of UIC's campuses and to have a more neighborhood feel.

HYDE PARK

Location in the City: Southside, University of Chicago is housed here

Rent: 1br - \$1300-1500, 2br - \$2000-2400

Commute to school/transportation: 20 minute drive to campus. 45 minutes - 1 hour using public transportation (various options including bus, L, and metra). Near Red and Green line as well as various bus stops. Free, permit, and metered parking available.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Beautiful historic architecture, Frank Lloyd Wright houses, Museum of Science and Industry, art exhibits, music/theatre performances and scholarly talks at U of C, large parks, direct access to lakefront beaches and running paths, ample coffee shops. There are some local restaurants as well as many new restaurants popping up. Make sure to check out the Gothic architecture Hyde Park is known for. A good selection of both grocery and drug stores; also within close distance of South Loop (if you have a car), where you will find Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, Target in one spot.

Other comments: The world-renowned University of Chicago attracts scholars and students from around the globe, creating a truly cosmopolitan neighborhood. Hyde Park is one of the most ethnically diverse, and the most income diverse neighborhoods in Chicago.

BRIDGEPORT

Location in the City: Southside

Rent: 1br - \$1200, 2br - \$1400

Commute to school/transportation: 15-20 minute drive to campus, 30-35 minute commute on public transportation (has the 8 bus to take you north and transfer onto many connecting lines). Near Orange and Red line as well. Parking is free on many side streets! Some permit and metered mainstreet parking. Easy access to Lake Shore Drive and expressways).

Pros of living here/Things to do: Very close to Chinatown, Pilsen, White Sox Stadium (currently Guaranteed Rate Field, formerly Comiskey Park), all kinds of food places, small grocers, bars, coffee shops (very cute and cozy Bridgeport Coffee shop-good place for study and meeting, Dunkin Donuts and locals), ice cream shops, three Chicago Park District parks, and a Mariano's on Ashland and Archer. 1.5 miles from 31st Street Beach!

Other comments: Take advantage of all the local restaurants and cheap Sox games when they come around!

LITTLE VILLAGE-SOUTH LAWNSDALE

Location in the city: West side of the city

Rent: studio: \$650-850 1BR: \$900-1300

Commute time to school/transportation: Via public transit - 25-30 min Via car - 15-20 min, depending on traffic. Kedzie and California Pink Line Stations nearby. About 35 minute commute to downtown via public transportation. Parking - In between neighborhood streets there is free parking, however other streets (such as main streets) are paid parking/permit.

Pros of living here/Things to do: There are a variety of stores (clothing, shoes, food) and restaurants to enjoy and murals around to look at. During the warmer months there are festivals and carnivals to attend. Rich culture with authentic Mexican food and art. Beautiful terracotta welcoming arch at the heart of 26th street with surrounding stores.

MCKINLEY PARK

Location in the city: Southwest portion of the city, off the 35th/Archer orange line train.

Rent: studio: \$850-1100 1BR: \$800-2000

Commute to school/transportation: 15 minute drive. Via public transit - 30 minutes (can take Damen bus from the orange line right up to campus which is about a 15 minute bus commute, sometimes waiting time takes longer). 20 minute drive to get downtown. Can walk to all buses such as 49/62/39/50/35 easily as well as the orange line which will take you downtown pretty quickly.

Pros of living here/Things to do: There is an enormous park where there is an ice skating rink in the winter, and a roller skating rink in the summer. Huge baseball, basketball, and bike paths for those who are interested. This neighborhood also is a 5 minute drive from the white sox stadium as well.

Other comments: Not a lot of nightlife as it is a family neighborhood, but there are lots of food options such as Thai restaurants, Mexican restaurants, etc.

DES PLAINES

Location in the City: Northwest suburb.

Rent: (More typical to own), \$2500 - 1 bed, \$2800 - 2 bed rent

Commute to school/transportation: About 50 minutes -1.5 hours driving. About 1-1.5 hours on public transportation (metra to bus or train).

Pros of living here/Things to do: Residential neighborhood with lots of families and schools.

Good option if considering a suburban alternative to Chicago.

Other comments: Many students recommend to take the train in from the farther suburbs if possible to do home work on the train! Typical for families to live her. Quieter suburb.

MELROSE PARK/WEST COOK

Location in the City: Western Suburb

Rent: Typical to be a homeowner

Commute to school/transportation: 30-40 minute drive. About 1-1.5 hours on public transportation (can take buses to trains)

Pros of living here/Things to do: Residential suburb with parks and family life (zoo, outlet malls, nice walking spaces).

Other comments: Typical for families to live here. Quieter suburb.

LOMBARD

Location in the City: Western Suburb

Rent: Typical to be a homeowner.

Commute to school/transportation: About 1 hour - 1.5 hours driving. Could also take the Metra to Ogilvie station, then take a bus or Pink line to campus.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Residential suburb with parks and family life

Other comments: Many students recommend to take the train in from the farther suburbs if possible to do home work on the train!

LINCOLNWOOD

Location in the City: North shore suburb.

Rent: Typical to be a homeowner. Rented property ranges from \$1300 - \$2800 from a 1-2 bedroom.

Commute to school/transportation: Driving is recommended with the commute time ranging from 40-60 minutes. Can also drive to the Skokie Yellow Line, then connect Red to Green (but this would account for about a 90 minute commute with transfers). It takes about 50 minutes to get downtown. Very close to the I-94 expressway.

Pros of living here/Things to do: Surrounded by other residential neighborhoods with holiday activities, convenient parks and restaurants, and outdoor spaces (Skokie, Park Ridge, Niles, Evanston)

Other comments: Typically homeowners/families live in the North shore suburbs. The commute does take up a bit longer than being in the city. Diverse suburb (and most surrounding ones are diverse as well)

WHEATON

Rent: 1br - \$1500, 2br - \$2100

Commute to school/transportation: 45 minute drive to campus. About an hour and a half on the metra and CTA. No permit/paid parking in this suburb, but some paid parking by the Metra.

Updated 4.1.24

Pros of living here/Things to do: Different options of restaurants, parks, shops, walking paths, movies, and a great library.

Other comments: Mix of students and family life, mix of renters and homeowners, but mostly homeowners. Good option if looking to live in the Western suburbs for work or family.

IDEAS FOR RENTING

- Zillow, Apartments.com, Trulia, Hotpads, other online listings
- Go through a realtor
- Reach out to others on Facebook (including the newly admitted OT student page)
- Ask the class above you for living recommendations