

# Getting Started in Student Housing

A webinar by *-=turbotenant* 

#### **Meet the Speakers:**

#### Krista Reuther

- Residential rental researcher
- Produced ~50 hours of industry education



#### **Karlston Nasser**

- 82-door landlord
- Wrote his thesis on student housing investment



#### **Amber Kelley**

 Currently renting to four students and a family of former student housing tenants

## Today, you'll discover:

The dependability of student housing

How to analyze student housing markets

2.

Attractive property attributes for student housing

3.



# Student Housing Basics



# What is student housing for independent investors?

Property that students can choose as an alternative to

on-campus housing (or the only option if on-campus isn't available)

- Proximity to campus is king
- Generally affordable
- More likely to host groups of tenants vs. individual tenants
- Offer students more privacy and independence than on-campus housing



#### Who are student tenants?

- ~39% of all 18-24 year olds enrolled in a postsecondary program
  - Only 22% live on campus
- ~3 million grad students were enrolled in 2023
  - Typically live off campus
- 8.6 million students struggle to find suitable housing close to their university



### **Student Housing Statistics**

- Average cost of student's room and board: \$9,800 per academic year at public universities
  - \$11,100 per academic year at private schools
- Compared to living alone, off-campus students pay 15% less in rent annually with one roommate
- Undergraduate enrollment grew 2.5% in spring 2024
  - Graduate enrollment: +3%



#### **Spring Total Enrollment by Sector**





# What was the total of all student housing transactions in 2022?



## Why student housing?

- Universities typically only offer on-campus housing to undergraduates
  - But the top 175 universities could only house
    21.5% of their undergraduates on campus
- Number of college students is projected to reach 19.25 million this year
- Per <u>Berkadia</u>, average price per student housing unit: \$251,000
- Student housing rent: 6% higher YoY ('22-'23)
  - Average monthly rent per bed: \$895



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#### **Student Housing Annual Rent Growth**



#### **The Downsides of Student Housing**



First-time tenants require more patience

New colleges don't often pop up

Institutional investors want in

#### **The Benefits of Student Housing**







Student tenants seek affordability Landlords can charge by the bed Students will always need housing -=t



# Analyzing Student Housing Markets



# How comfortable are you analyzing rental markets?



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## **Market Analysis Recommendations**

- Start locally if possible
- Consider:
  - The college(s) nearby
  - When the market reaches 100% occupancy and pre-leasing velocity
  - The local cap rate
  - Rent growth over enrollment size
  - Vacancy rates
  - Average rent in the area
  - The number of beds completed/under construction
  - Available property types

**Did you know** that the average student housing cap rate is 6%, according to **Berkadia**?

#### Yardi's Top 10 Universities by Preleasing %

University	Off-Campus Student Housing		Preleasing		Rent Per Bed	
	Beds Completed	Beds Under Construciton	Feb-24	Y-o-Y	Feb-24	Y-o-Y
Purdue University	9,380	2,080	91.7%	-1.6%	\$920	12.2%
University of Kentucky	6,852	435	90.4%	13.0%	\$826	1 <mark>1.9</mark> %
University of Tennessee	8,220	3,961	89.0%	-9.3%	\$1,135	20.6%
University of Arkansas	10,236	0	87.9%	-5.9%	\$878	11.0%
Virginia Tech	9,331	0	87.4%	4.8%	\$943	3.4%
University of Missouri	14,534	0	84.8%	20.5%	\$698	0.3%
North Carolina State	9,501	0	81.3%	0.4%	\$1,000	12.6%
Clemson University	10,748	601	79.0%	-10.5%	\$1,009	19.4%
University of Arizona	8,068	596	78.5%	0.0%	\$1,145	9.5%
University of Central Florida	15,891	1,849	78.4%	-4.2%	\$1,066	13.2%

## Consider the College(s)

COO of institutional investor <u>Campus Apartments</u> recommends investing near universities with:

- At least 20,000 students and a strong athletic program
- A thriving international student program
- Undergraduate, graduate, and PhD offerings



#### **The Importance of Location**

- Best way to net student tenants is to have a property as close as possible to campus
- Rentals within a half mile of campus have the highest national price per bed at \$131,244
  - 0.6-1 mile price per bed: \$107,164
  - 1.1-2 miles: \$81,008
  - Greater than 2 miles \$74,089



## Single-Family vs. Multifamily Properties

#### Single-family pros:

- Attract tenants looking for more privacy
  - Pay a premium for front/back yards, dedicated parking, and no shared walls with strangers
- Doesn't compete head-to-head with institutional investors
- Typically easier to remodel/add

more rooms

 Could generate another \$500-\$800/mo in additional rental income with an extra bedroom

#### Single-family cons:

- Could become the party house
  - Not always a bad thing if you're prepared
- Requires crystal-clear expectations regarding upkeep, lawn care, etc.

#### Single-Family vs. Multifamily Properties, pt. 2

#### Multifamily pros:

- Typically include more common areas
  - Having gathering spots fosters sense of community
- Can house more tenants
- Only one yard/utility setup to worry about

#### Multifamily cons:

- Noise complaints could become common, especially if there are non-student tenants
- More expensive and less available than single-family homes on average
- Historically appreciated less than single-family



#### What do students want from housing?

According to <u>JP Morgan</u>:

- **Privacy:** tenants want to have their own space, even with roommates
- **Proximity to campus:** the closer, the better!
- **Responsive provider:** newer renters want to know they'll be taken care of
- Wi-Fi: fast, reliable internet is a must
- In-unit laundry: a must for single-family



**Not sure how many tenants you can host?** First, check your local occupancy laws. If compliant, lean on the idea of three tenants or fewer per bathroom.

#### **Most-Requested Student Housing Amenities**





# Become a Student Housing Provider

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#### **Investment Analysis Tools**

- <u>Rental Property Calculator</u>
  - In-depth breakdown of potential ROI, monthly vacancy loss, cap rate, and more
- <u>Rental Yield Calculator</u>
  - Understand at a glance your potential gross and net rental yields
- National Center for Education Statistics
  - Denotes the types of degrees offered, the student population, if there's campus housing available, enrollment rates, and more
- <u>Rent Estimate Report</u>
  - Learn the range of rent charged in your property's area to stay competitively priced



## **Manage Student Housing Easily**

We support every phase of the self-management cycle, from marketing your vacancy to screening tenants to collecting rent to streamlining maintenance requests and beyond!

Housing providers specifically love our:

- **E-signature process:** spend less time chasing down multiple tenant signatures
- Rent tracking: stress less about who owes what with our easy-to-use Payments dashboard
- **Tenant messaging:** reach out to just one, a few, or all of your tenants to streamline communication



#### **Get Into the Details With TurboTenant**

Our new **<u>Student Housing course</u>** offers on-demand, 100% online instruction that teaches you how to:

- Find property that aligns with your goals
- Market to find the best tenants
- Increase your bottom line
- Manage student tenants
- plus more

with real-world case studies from Karlston and Amber!

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