Welcome from G&EE

As a first step, we recommend learning about your new city and virtually exploring the many neighborhoods, amenities, and housing options. Finding a place to live is never easy, but we are here to help you with advice on finding a home that works for you.

**Making Decisions**

You’ve got the tools, now it’s time to decide where you want to live!

At this point, we also suggest that you think about your “must have” list. What features are you unable to live without? What’s nice to have, but not a requirement?

Neighborhoods

For example, do you want your home to be near campus or further away? Do you want to live in a quiet neighborhood or one that is busy and exciting? Is the type of community you want to be a deciding factor?

Of course, these are just a few considerations to help you. There are always tradeoffs!

Remember, your personal preferences are generally the deciding factors in choosing a home:

- What’s most important to you (or your family)
- Your budget
- Your personal preferences
- The distance from GW

For more information on travel requirements for non-immigrants, visit the U.S. Citizen, Non-U.S. Immigrants Air Travel page

**COVID-19 Requirements**

As of November 8, 2021, we require all students, faculty, and staff to be vaccinated. This requirement is in addition to our current indoor and outdoor mask requirement for fully vaccinated individuals.

For more information about GW’s COVID-19 Response, please visit the GW Coronavirus Response page

**Personal Preferences**

In addition to public transit, car, or bike are important factors in choosing a home. You must also consider how far you want to travel to your classes, as well as how much time you’re willing to spend commuting.

**Safety Considerations**

Safety is always a top priority. You must also take into consideration how safe the neighborhood in which you live is. You may wish to conduct a Google search of the neighborhood to find out what crimes, if any, have occurred in the past year.

Finally, when visiting a house or apartment to be sure you find an apartment that meets your needs, you should prepare a checklist of what you want and what you can/cannot live without.

**Checklist**

- Floors and square footage
- Safety features (e.g., secure entryways, rentals with security systems)
- Security measures (e.g., fire extinguishers, smoke detectors)
- Fitness center
- Parking
- Access: 24-hour service
- Library
- Public transport
- Distance from GW

At GW, we have a clear objective: a comprehensive, in-person living and learning environment. We understand that you may be moving to a new city and may be feeling overwhelmed. Sometimes talking to someone that’s been in your shoes can help ease stress too. If you need help, please direct them to me at sbglobal@gwu.edu

Elisa Becker

Associate for International Student Services in the University School of Business (GWSB)