

Housing Resources for RMSP

Tips for Finding Housing for your RMSP Education

When a student signs up for *Summer Intensive* or *Professional Intensive* at RMSP, one of the first questions they tend to ask is, “Where do I live?” Good question! Since RMSP is located in a historic building in downtown Missoula, we do not have on-campus dorms. However, we always do our best to offer recommendations to our students by posting potential rentals on our private class forums and answering student housing questions as best we can. Each student is responsible for locating their own accommodations in or around the Missoula area, but housing in Missoula is generally easy to find. In our 30+ years offering long-term programs, we have never had a student not find housing!

FYI: Due to the demands of our programs, students will rarely be “home,” because they will be busy! Students should look for a place that is comfortable and safe, which most neighborhoods in Missoula are, but they should also realize that they’ll likely only be eating, sleeping, and spending weekends at their homes. Keep this in mind and adjust expectations at the outset of the housing search, and this will likely save money. (UPDATE: With COVID-19 limiting “hangout” hours at school, it’s possible our 2020-2021 students will spend more time at home this year.)

For **Summer Intensive**, RMSP primarily recommends students investigate staying at the The Sawyer Student Living complex, just about one mile from the school. The Sawyer offers “SI” students a special 6-week (all utilities included) rate for a fully furnished room in their apartment building. [Click here for details.](#)

A similar option is the ROAM Student Living complex approximately three blocks from RMSP. We have no such pre-arranged deal there, but they have offered short-term subleases to our SI students in the past. Contact their leasing office or [click here for details.](#)

We also recommend that students check various website ads posted with [Craigslist](#) (under the “Sublets & Temporary” category), [Airbnb](#), and [VRBO](#) for listings of available housing opportunities. On Craigslist, we suggest students post an ad under the “Housing Wanted” category detailing who they are and what type of living space they seek. This lets potential landlords find them and has proved fruitful for previous students.

For these shorter Summer Intensive stays, we suggest students try to negotiate with the owners of Airbnbs or VRBOs. Often these owners will provide a much better price for a 6-week stay as opposed to their advertised nightly rates. It doesn’t hurt to ask!

For **Professional Intensive** students, the options of [ROAM Student Living](#) and [The Sawyer](#) are ideal. Just be aware that most of their apartments are multi-bedroom units, which means one or more roommates. These complexes are generally quite safe and very close to the school, which is convenient for our students. Both options offer one-year leases only, with the option of subletting out the lease for the remaining time left after school has ended in May, if a student chooses to leave immediately following the “PI” program.

[Craigslist](#) is the other best option for searching for housing for the 9-month duration of PI. Ads for August/September lease options usually start appearing online during the summer months.

In addition to the above, RMSP commonly receives various housing leads from the community. People who know about our school and like to rent to RMSP students tend to let us know about their spaces for rent. As we get closer to the start of each program, we will share these various housing ads for our registered students to investigate.

If you have any questions throughout this process or are having any trouble choosing a place to live, give us a call or email Bob McGowan at bobm@rmisp.com.