



GeorgiaState  
University

COLLEGE OF  
ARTS & SCIENCES

OFFICE OF GRADUATE SERVICES

# GRADUATE STUDENT RELOCATION GUIDE



NEIGHBORHOODS

TRANSPORTATION & PARKING

FOOD & DRINK

ENTERTAINMENT & CULTURE

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STUDENT DISCOUNTS

# NEIGHBORHOODS

Moving to Atlanta can be overwhelming - but also exciting! There are many vibrant neighborhoods in the city. Here are some highlights from some of the most popular areas in the city.



## Downtown

The main Georgia State campus is located in downtown Atlanta.

Downtown is a vibrant, urban area made up of several smaller neighborhoods

such as Old Fourth Ward, Fairlie-Poplar, Sweet Auburn, and Castleberry Hill, among others. Living downtown means you can walk to most campus buildings and there are several nearby MARTA stations.

## Decatur

Decatur is a residential community known for its walkable streets, good food, and a central square that hosts many neighborhood festivals. Located underneath the square is a MARTA station.

## Midtown

For those wanting a slice of city life but don't want to live downtown, Midtown is the place to be.

Midtown is home to many of Atlanta's most famous arts and culture landmarks including the Fox Theatre and the High Museum. It's also easily accessible by Marta and adjacent to beautiful and historic Piedmont Park, Atlanta's largest park. Piedmont Park houses running trails, tennis courts, basketball courts, and even a dog park, making Midtown a great place for outdoor enthusiasts.



## East Atlanta Village

Located just a few miles east of campus, East Atlanta Village is a fun and funky community known for its active nightlife, quirky shops, and good food.

## Westside

The Westside is one of Atlanta's latest up-and-coming communities. This rapidly developing area is characterized by its mix of beautiful historic houses

and newly constructed apartment buildings. It's also a great place to see a show or grab a bite to eat.



### [Poncey-Highlands](#)

The younger, hipper neighbor of Virginia Highlands, Poncey Highlands is known for its eclectic mix of vintage shops, trendy restaurants, and coffee shops. Ponce City Market, located in the historic Sears, Roebuck & Co. building, is a mixed-use center with shopping, offices, apartments, and a popular food court that sits at the heart of the neighborhood. Poncey is also close to the Beltline and Freedom Park, making it a great neighborhood for walkers and runners.



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### [Cabbagetown / Grant Park / Reynoldstown](#)

Only a couple of miles from downtown, these neighborhoods are brimming with local flavor. Historic bungalows and an eclectic mix of restaurants, pubs, and coffee shops abound.



### [University Housing](#)

Most university housing is dedicated to undergraduate students but there are a limited number of apartments located on Edgewood Avenue that are available to graduate students. [Click here](#) for or more information about available university housing as well as the housing application process. And while there is no “official” off-campus housing at Georgia State, the Office of the Dean of Students has partnered with Places4Students, a company that helps students find off campus housing solutions. [Learn more here](#).



## OUTSIDE THE PERIMETER

It's no secret that Atlanta is a huge city. The greater metropolitan area covers several counties and straddles highway I-285, also known as "The Perimeter." Locals like to split the city into two main categories: Inside-the-Perimeter (ITP) and Outside-the-Perimeter (OTP). The neighborhoods described in this guide are all ITP, which means they are physically closer to the main campus and have a more urban feel. However, there are many advantages to living OTP as well. If you prefer a quieter neighborhood or a house with a large backyard, OTP may be the place for you. Public transportation can be limited, but the cost of living can also be considerably lower.

## ADDITIONAL HOUSING RESOURCES

### [Curbed Atlanta](#)

Information and news articles about Atlanta's neighborhoods and public transportation. Also some rental and sales listings.

### [For Prospective Off-Campus Dwellers: A Guide to Nearby Neighborhoods](#)

Guide to off-campus living published by Georgia Tech.

### [Walk Score](#)

Rates the walkability of Atlanta's various neighborhoods.

## TRANSPORTATION & PARKING

As in any major city, driving in Atlanta can be challenging. Battling traffic and finding a convenient parking space can be tricky tasks at times! Public transportation can be had through the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), which operates a rail system as well as numerous city buses. Campus is accessible through MARTA trains and buses as well as Georgia State's own campus bus system.



Discounts on monthly MARTA passes are available to students and campus buses are free to all students.

Parking is also available to students in a number of parking decks located around campus. Parking passes are available on a monthly and daily basis. Don't have a car? Uber, Lyft, and other ride-sharing services are readily available in Atlanta.

# TRANSPORT TIPS

[GSU Transportation](#) Umbrella view of transit options in and around campus

[GSU Parking](#) Info on Georgia State parking decks and passes

[MARTA](#) Complete MARTA train info as well as a helpful trip-planning tool

[Atlanta Streetcar](#) Info on the downtown streetcar

[Relay Bike Share](#) Shared bike service available around downtown

## FOOD & DRINK

Eat, drink, and be merry! There's no shortage of eateries in Atlanta. This large and diverse city has a food scene to match and no matter where you choose to live and hang out, you won't be disappointed.

### COFFEE

[Ebrik Coffee Room](#)

Starbucks (two!)

Dunkin' Donuts

### QUICK & EASY

[Student Center Food Courts](#)

Willy's

Waffle House

### CLOSE TO CAMPUS

Buenos Dias Cafe

Mango's Caribbean Grill

Broad Street: Mexican,  
Vietnamese, Asian-Fusion,  
Mediterranean, & more!



### BUFORD HIGHWAY

Looking for some good authentic, ethnic eats? Not afraid to venture from campus? Try Buford Highway! This corridor runs through Chamblee and Doraville, home to various immigrant communities from around the globe, all of whom bring their own

unique culture - and food - to Atlanta. The Buford Highway food scene has inspired several online food blogs and restaurant guides. Check out [yelp.com](#) and [welovebuhi.com](#) for recommendations.



# ENTERTAINMENT & CULTURE

Atlanta is a vibrant city brimming with entertainment options and cultural activities. Some of the more popular locations close to the Georgia State campus include:

- [Tabernacle Theater](#)
- [SkyView Atlanta Wheel](#)
- [Georgia Aquarium](#) & [Zoo Atlanta](#)
- [Fox Theater](#)
- [Rialto Center for the Arts](#)
- [Alliance Theater](#)
- [Beltline Recreation Trail](#)
- [High Museum of Art](#)
- [World of Coca Cola](#)
- [Auburn Avenue Research Library](#)
- [Atlantic Station Shopping](#)
- [Centennial Olympic Park](#) & [Piedmont Park](#)
- [Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park](#)
- [Cinefest](#) - free movies for GSU students!



And many, many, MANY more!

Check out [Creative Loafing](#) and the [Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) for more ideas of things to do in the city.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Moving to a new city and beginning graduate school all at once can be quite the challenge. But there are lots of resources at Georgia State (and beyond) to support students with the transition. Here are a few:

### [Mint](#)

Online tool for helping to manage your budget during grad school.

### [Panther Pantry](#)

Students experiencing food insecurity and/or financial constraints can visit the Pantry once a week and pick up free groceries.

## [Counseling & Testing Center](#)

The Center provides a wide range of counseling, testing, psychiatric and holistic health services to support students.

## [International Student & Scholar Services](#)

Support for international students including immigration advising and compliance.

## [Child Development Program](#)

Information about childcare services on campus.

## [Safety & Security](#)

Police department information and all things safety and security on and around the Georgia State Campus.

## [Student Center](#)

The Student Center houses numerous office and programs that enhance academic success and foster involvement in the university community, including Black Student Achievement, Civic Engagement, the Multicultural Center, Religious Life, and more.



## [College of Arts & Sciences Office of Graduate Services](#)

The Office of Graduate Services serves as an advocate for graduate students to help you transition into and succeed at academic life. We offer workshops on a variety of topics including financial literacy, mindfulness and stress reduction, overcoming impostor syndrome, understanding FERPA guidelines, and managing difficult conversations in the classroom. Our advisors provide you with tools designed to help fully prepare you for a successful life.



# STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Student discounts are available at many places throughout the city. Here are a few we know of, but be sure to ask wherever you go! Click on the links for more information:

- [Discount MARTA passes](#)
- [Free or discounted events for GSU students](#)
- [Spotlight Programs board](#)
- [Best Student Discounts Around Atlanta](#)
- [Where to Get the Best College Student Discounts in Atlanta](#)
- [21 Dope Discounts You Can Get With Your Student ID](#)
- [Student Discounts in Georgia](#)
- [Student Discounts Guide: The Ultimate List of Stores](#)

Also, Midtown Arts Cinema and Regal Cinemas offer discounted movie tickets and many local restaurants offer student discounts: Highland Bakery, Rising Roll, Dunkin' Donuts, and more. Make sure to always ask fellow students and locals for more recommendations!

