

# **Report on Graduate Student Housing**

A Summary of the GSC's July Survey on Graduate  
Student Housing

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## **70 graduate students (over 23%) have not found housing for Fall 2021.**

Out of the graduate students that have not been able to find housing:

**64% (45/70)** are 1st year graduate students.

**41% (29/70)** are international students.

**27% (19/70)** are both 1st year students and international students.

Furthermore, out of all respondents to our July survey:

**46% (140/304)** are 1st year graduate students.

**32% (98/304)** are International students.

## Graduate Student Testimonials

We asked graduate students: **“Have you been able to find housing before the start of the fall term.”** A few of their responses are copied below.

“Barely. I was able to obtain temporary housing, but under suboptimal conditions.”

“Currently housed - tried to move and couldn't.”

“Defending soon, but couldn't find interim housing, have to move to a new city due to lack of affordable short term options close (within 45min) to campus.”

“I almost wasn't able to. My lease ends in 8 days and I was only able to find a space yesterday.”

“I am a 6th year, staying in my apt from last year. If I moved I would be screwed”

“I have but my lab mate is completely screwed”

“This is not my first term, but when I arrived it was a BIG deal to get paid and pay down my rent. We were very broke for MONTHS.”

“Yes, but I am overpaying for it and it was nearly impossible to find.”

## Factors Affecting Housing Decisions

We asked graduate students: “**What factor(s) significantly impact your housing decisions.**” A breakdown of their responses is below.

Price of rent.	<b>91% (277/304)</b>
Proximity to campus, including lack of transportation.	<b>83% (251/304)</b>
Timing of security deposit and first Dartmouth paycheck.	<b>22% (68/304)</b>
Severe lack of availability (e.g., housing for one person, housing for partners, housing for students with children, housing for multiple roommates).	<b>5% (15/304):</b>
Unsafe conditions/lack of housing quality.	<b>3% (9/304)</b>
No options for pets.	<b>2% (5/304)</b>
Unable to find roommates/see apartments in person before signing a lease.	<b>1% (3/304)</b>

## **Additional Graduate Student Testimonials**

We asked graduate students: **“Please share any other information regarding your current housing situation.”**

All of their responses are copied below.

### **Regarding being unable to find local housing for the Fall term**

“My husband and I want to buy a house since our mortgage will likely be cheaper than rent, but we are desperately trying to find something short term or month to month and we (and our realtor in New Hampshire) been hunting all summer. It’s just really hard since we’ve never been to New Hampshire.”

“It’s nearly impossible to find housing near the campus or even something near public transportation. I cannot drive and won’t have a car. As an international student, it is really hard if I am required to be on campus for the fall term. Plus, I only have one term left and I really wish the fall term would still make hybrid instruction available and the graduate courses can be online.”

“Cost is too high and I may need to drop the program. I would deeply regret this.”

“Living in faculty housing temporarily.”

“Living greater than 50 miles away from campus.”

"I can't find out the any 1b1b or 2b2b on Zillow or Dartmouth real estate. But my current apartment is expiring on July 31 and I'm moving from New York to Hanover and I'm really anxious to find the right house. I can accept any price!"

"No place to live after August 15th."

"No one want to lease only for the fall term. No short term leases are available."

"I have had 2 housing situations fall through, both involving a roommate found through a Dartlist post I had made. The first roommate decided they no longer wanted a roommate and dropped communication with me. The second roommate was an employee of the DHMC who found a nice apartment for us to share at Altaria, but it was subsidized for DHMC employees. The apartment let us apply, saying it was acceptable for me to join the lease as my roommate's resident as my roommate is an employee. However, shortly after applying and paying all the app fees (about \$350 each, non-refundable), the apartment decided I needed hospital board approval to stay in the subsidized housing. After 2 weeks of no communication, the board finally decided it was unfair for me to be in the subsidized housing, citing the housing crisis. My roommate then decided to move on, and we ceased communication. I now am forced to reopen my search for housing. I also have a small dog, and finding accommodations that allow pets has been a challenge. I am from Texas, so it would be difficult for me to visit and search for housing so soon before the term starts."

"Cannot secure an available apartment to live."

"There are no available options close to the campus. It is extremely difficult."

"I wish to find a studio or 1b1b apartment within 20 mins drive to the campus."

“I currently live in Natick, MA in an apt I have been renting for the past 2 years. My lease officially expired in June, but my landlord allowed me to rent on a week by week basis for now until I find housing for Dartmouth.”

## **All other responses**

“Lucky enough to have lived in the same place since shortly after starting the MALS program.”

“The rent is EXORBITANTLY high! I spend MORE THAN HALF of my stipend on rent!”

“I rent with another student, which has more options than trying to rent alone.”

“Got scammed the first time. Out of state incoming graduate so not able to physically look at places. Difficult time getting real estate agents to answer me.”

“I moved to Thetford from San Francisco (ie, supposedly the most expensive rental market in the country) and I pay more for housing in Vermont than I did in SF. When I was moving here everyone was like, it'll be so nice to live in a cheaper place, but my cost of living went up quite a bit. My rent is the same as it was in SF (my heat is included here whereas we didn't have heat in SF) but I have to have a car here because I live 12 miles north of campus (no buses). I ride my bike most of the time, but living so far from any form of public transit makes the car non-negotiable. There aren't any shops nearby so I have to either pay sky high prices for staples at convenience store type markets, or make the hour round trip drive to Hannafords. I figured, maybe it's time to buy a place, but even one bedroom condos are crazy expensive to buy, and with a grad student stipend (I'm not married),



qualifying for a mortgage is next to impossible, even with significant savings from working in tech for a long time. I could buy a place with cash, but that seems like an irresponsible financial move and I shouldn't be forced to risk my own financial future in that way."

"Takes a lot of effort with almost zero help from Dartmouth to find housing around here. Especially new students just moving here have no idea what the housing market is like. The options that Dartmouth provides (North Park, One S. Main Street, etc) are simply unaffordable and spots are far too limited."

"I am sharing a two bedroom apartment with three people just to afford the price of rent. Also as an international student, a drivers license is difficult to obtain when the only eligible office is in Concord. We are forced to find housing in Hanover, or find someone who is willing to drive us to campus or other places such as stores, pharmacies, Dartmouth coach, hospitals, DMV, social security office, etc."

"I have family in New London, NH, so we chose to stay with them and I commute to campus."

"About 1.2 miles from downtown Hanover towards West Lebanon. Real estate from Jolin Kish. Fully furnished."

"I currently live in Sagem but before this I lived in Hartland, VT and commuted because it was the only place I could find."

"Dartmouth's housing condition is really very bad and it was very hard and hectic to find a place."

"Still looking for housing."

"In addition to their being a complete lack of housing for incoming graduate students without transportation, there also is NO AVAILABLE MONTH TO MONTH housing for students planning on graduating mid term. The only

options are Sachem's absolutely insane rental agreement (on top of excessively high rent) or hoping to pay \$2600/month at Timberwood -- which is full.”

“The houses available are high on rent and has no amenities available. It does not even have the basic furnitures required to sustain.”

“I can't afford housing. Half my rent goes to paying my rent.”

“Had to move far away because Hanover is impossibly expensive in rent and cheap grocery stores are too far away.”

“Rent in Upper Valley is massively inflated for sub-optimal and poor quality housing. In the absence of individually having sufficient friends, one isn't able to rent an entire house. I had to randomly select the 1st option that was available to me, and resign to agreeing to live under circumstances that are questionable in most scenarios. I made the decision to sign a lease since the house is in Hanover, and is relatively proximal to campus and DHMC, but that may not be the situation when my lease ends on Dec 31st of this year, and I have to find housing that is MUCH farther away.”

“I found my current apartment in 2017, and have been looking for a new one since then as it is too small for both my partner and I. Finding any decent affordable housing has become increasingly difficult each year, so we haven't been able to move.”

“I am living in the same apartment I lived in last year, which is close to both main campus and DHMC and has affordable rent. However, from what I have heard from other people, this combination of factors is relatively rare, and I was lucky to secure this housing situation last year.”

“It's really hard to find a reasonable rent for Fall term.”

“I ended up buying a house because having a mortgage was actually cheaper than renting! But I did have to use all my savings as down payment which was a negative.”

“My wife and I were forced to stay in a toxic environment for the first half of my MALS degree due to an inability to obtain graduate student housing. We tried probably a dozen times to talk to the graduate student housing people, to plea our cases and even literally beg. We were about to drop out of the program either temporarily or permanently if this could not be addressed, but luckily were able to get a place of our own at the very last minute. This is a SERIOUS concern that needs to be handled by the university. Dartmouth is better than this.”

“I bought a house two years ago. Now, that would be almost impossible because of the inflation in housing prices. I feel very comfortable with my living situation, but I have seen many students experiencing challenges. I have been asked to sell my home by three realtors in the past several months. Many landlords are selling properties and evicting tenants because of the market. This is a serious problem.”

“1200.00 for a bed on a bunkbed, is outrageous. Dartmouth, you need to see how students truly live.”

“The rent in the area is becoming extremely unaffordable. More than half of my stipend goes to rent alone and I am always worried about money.”

“I was very lucky that my husband and his in-laws were able to finance a downpayment to buy a home here in the upper valley. We lived in Dartmouth graduate housing, the cheapest available in Hanover, and the cost for us was originally \$900 per month and within two years was \$1400 per month. At the time he was a Complete Sci MS student and paying for his tuition while I was receiving a stipend. Our income was partially supported by his loans and rent exceeded more than half of my stipend. By purchasing a home, we were able to reduce and stabilize our monthly expenses, but it is a privilege not available to most graduate students.”

“Hanover housing rents have increased dramatically over the past 4 years.”

“Finding housing has been consistently difficult throughout my graduate school experience. Dartmouth needs to do more to help grad students find reasonable, affordable housing if they wish to remain a competitive school for top-tier grad students. I have had multiple difficult conversations with perspective grad students, who were very wary about coming to Dartmouth strictly because of the housing/transportation limitation.”

“I currently live in/own a house with my partner.”

“My rent just costs 50% of my stipend.”

“I have been looking for housing very actively for well over a month now. Finding anything affordable without a half drive each way to campus has been a real pain. It seems like there is a bubble around Hanover and Lebanon in which everything is more expensive and harder to get.”

“I live in Sachem Village.”

“I am fortunate to have a partner to share rent with but even so we live about 15 minutes away from Dartmouth in Vermont and need cars to commute. To have one third of my stipend income be rent would be about \$890 per month. This is possible living in a two bedroom apartment sharing costs with my partner but is much more difficult for a one bedroom apartment. Next year my partner will no longer be living in the Upper Valley so I am worried about finding a one bedroom apartment for less than \$1000.”

“Rolling over lease from previous year.”

“My rent is currently affordable, but if it goes up I will be forced to look for another living situation. That's a pretty daunting task given the current housing market.”

“I found my housing for Fall 2021 in Winter. It is pretty early. My friends tried finding housing in Spring and had a tough time.”

“I am one of the lucky few that found reasonable housing many years ago from a generous landlord. I've been maintaining that lease ever since, but again I have been extremely lucky in finding this place and having a landlord that hasn't started ramping up the price of rent to match the current market in Lebanon. At one point in the last year or so I considered moving, but couldn't find any place available with rent that I could afford”

“I am currently a Resident Fellow, so I live in the dorms on campus, but lived in Sachem for first several months of being at Dartmouth.”

“I've lived in the Upper Valley for 6 years and was therefore able to look for housing before peak demand, and even then, I was only able to find something because I knew an older student who was moving.”

“I was lucky to find good housing this year. We actually ended up finding an option that was never even posted online because we reached out directly to a renter recommended to me by a friend. Our other options were meager even though we started looking SUPER early around when people would be leaving the area. We initially wanted Sachem housing but even though both me and my husband checked the postings every day we could never seem to get to it fast enough and all the affordable units were snatched up before we had a chance. Definitely a hard situation right now. I even know some people who quit jobs and moved (good jobs they really liked) because they couldn't find affordable housing and got discouraged.”

“I don't have a car and I need to be able to get to lab at all hours, meaning I need to be as close to campus as possible. Rent is impossibly high and you can't find anywhere without it being immediately taken.”

“It's very hard to find reasonable housing in Hanover.”

“Rented same place for 3 years, but when we did we were one of several groups who viewed the apartment at the same time. It seems things have gotten even worse lately.”

“Defending in September, but my lease ends the end of July. Was unable to find short term, affordable, housing for August-September within 45min of campus. Finally decided to rent in Boston, where I don't start my job until October.”

“I am a second year student. I currently have housing, but it is INCREDIBLY expensive. I live with my S.O. and our cat, we pay \$2k/mo for our apartment because it was the ONLY option before our lease was up that would also accept a pet, unless we were to rent a very small studio. Its also not along the bus line meaning we also had to purchase a car. Housing options are extremely limited, and frankly I would not be able to afford housing, student loans, a car payment, and other essentials without my S.O. We wanted to live in a location similar to Sachem Village, but the housing there is limited too. We would love if there was an expansion so we could live in a community of people our age, closer to campus, and more affordable.”

“It is very expensive to live in this area. Finding good housing options within the budget of our stipends is extremely difficult. I personally am unable to live off my stipend alone and use other forms of income and savings.”

“I have housing but it is quite far from the campus.”

“I live 20-30min away from campus because that is where I could find housing. I applied for my apartment the day I saw it posted online without touring it, because that is how competitive the market is for renters. This was only possible because I have a car and had family support to pay my rent until my stipend started. I paid rent for a month before moving to the upper valley just to reserve housing. I am acutely aware that this scenario is impossible for many, possibly most, of our graduate students who are limited by finances, distance, and access to transportation.”

“Had to find housing in June of this year, pretty difficult as there weren't that many options. When I first arrived in Fall 2017 it wasn't too difficult, I had to take a single studio that was fairly expensive. Once I met other graduate students I moved into a house for my second year which was way more affordable.”

“I have been fortunate enough to secure an affordable housing option last year, for which I resigned a lease. However, I have seen the struggle from others and it's ridiculous. I had to fill one room in my shared house (4 bedrooms), and received over 100 emails in a couple of weeks... it's been 4 months since I originally posted the ad and I still get emails from desperate students. This just shows how terrible the housing crisis is.”

“Ended up buying a condo because my mortgage was substantially cheaper than rent in the area. That was only an option, though, because I am fortunate enough to have a co-signer. It isn't an option for many of my peers. The first two months of my time at Dartmouth, before I received my stipend, I had to borrow money to make ends meet. My housing expenses are still about 60-70% of my stipend each month so when I had health expenses, I again had to borrow money.”

“It's very expensive but was very limited in choice and had to get this place.”

“I have housing luckily, but the options in the upper valley are minimal, if any, expensive, incredibly tough to get, and things are only getting worse. Honestly, it is a great source of stress. I can not imagine how terrible this must be for incoming students, and especially for incoming international students. There is supposedly "first year housing" and other housing offered by the graduate housing office, but spending half your monthly salary on a single bedroom in a shared apartment is not fair and stifles work/life balance. Additionally this adds to the economic burden faced by graduate students who likely come in with a mountain of student loan debt. Graduate school is stressful enough as it is, and the housing situation and resulting economic stress only amplifies that stress.”

“The housing options that are provided by Dartmouth are not priced appropriately with the graduate stipend. I am needing to get help from family and it shouldn't be that way.

Parking situation at Dartmouth campus also makes it really hard for someone to commute to main campus from anywhere. It is really funny that graduate students are going to need to pay for Dewy parking when it is uncovered, and far away from most graduate buildings when staff can park right near campus.”

“We were able to find housing because we started early and contacted specific apartment complexes to put us on a wait list. The only reason we got one is because we were contacted prior to the opening being listed.”

“The rent of my room has been the same since 2016, but there are some severe structural issues in the house. We pay for water, sewer, electricity and gas. Our house is only supposed to get mowed six times in the summer and the driveway is cleared only six times in the winter. While a lot of residents of Hanover can afford "green" alternatives for fuel, trash disposal, sanitation and construction, it isn't an option for us as graduate students who pay rent and utilities.”

“Rent is very expensive more than half the paycheck.”

“I have been living outside the Upper Valley for the past year during remote work. It's been very challenging to secure housing without being present in the Upper Valley, the available rentals are very competitive and preference is given to those who can show up in-person.”

“A small amount of management companies seem to own a disproportionate amount of building in the area, eg. Ledgeworks. It appears as so they controlling the rent market in a predatory way for certain neighborhoods - making a hard situation even worse.”



“My lease started in July and to get this apartment I had to contact the landlord about the property about 4 hours after the post, see the apartment the next business day, and run home and send in my rent application ASAP because there were people looking at it right after me. I looked at 3 places before I got this apartment and each time I took a day to fill out the application and someone submitted before me even though I was one of the first people to look at it.”

“I had extreme difficulty finding a housing arrangement for the 2021-2022 year. I began searching in January, initially looking for 1-2 bedroom houses. I searched constantly, often checking listings 10-15 times a day. Landlords would often not respond due to overwhelming interest in the listings, even when I contacted minutes after the listing was posted. I eventually found a lease for a 4 bedroom apartment, which is only barely affordable and 5+ miles off campus. It's a burden to have to commute to campus every day, and not all of my roommates have cars and will instead commute to campus by bike (the apartment is not on a bus line). Finding any housing in the Upper Valley is nearly prohibitively difficult, and finding affordable housing is out of the question. This is an untenable situation.”

“Living a little farther than I would like to, paying a higher price too!”

“We have 3 people in a 2 bedroom duplex in order for all of us to comfortably afford rent.”

“I was lucky to find North Park housing, but the process was nonetheless very stressful, especially given the lack of close alternatives and the selectivity of North Park housing.”

“I have a place already, just looking to move.”

“I'm not an international student but have an international phone number which some landlords have not accepted.”

“I was able to get a 4-bedroom shared apartment at North Park but the lease is from 7/15/2021 to 6/30/2022. The QBS Master's program starts on 8/16 and I have to pay an extra month's rent and look for housing again in next year since the QBS Master's program is 15 months long. I have looked around for other housing close to campus (within walking distance to campus or bus line) and they are all very expensive. I was lucky to get into North Park.”

“15 min drive from campus 1bdr, without phone service for miles around.”

“I do not currently have housing in the upper valley because it is ridiculously unaffordable. Truly, I cannot afford it with my dismal stipend. If Dartmouth really wants to help, build AFFORDABLE GRADUATE STUDENT HOUSING (\$1000/mo MAX for a studio). Or actual build another undergrad dorm and instead of PAYING UNDERGRADS TO MOVE OFF CAMPUS AND FURTHER DRIVE UP THE HOUSING MARKET! Also, Dartmouth is largest private landowner in the state, provide subsidized housing for grad students. It's ridiculous.”

“The lack of pet friendly housing is a barrier, especially for people with emotional support pets, which often aren't honored by landlords.”

“Housing has been difficult. It seems as soon as I do a viewing via FaceTime the apartment gone. Other apartment options are not affordable and being as I have to live off of a stipend while having other bills such as car note, car insurance, etc. it's not feasible to pay 1600+ for rent.”

“Upper valley lacks options for affordable housing options at current stipend levels. Proposed/future graduate housing offers insufficient living space for graduate students and much too high of a cost (>50% monthly stipend). Some community options are available but most are hard to come by.”

“I was surprised to find that rent in the upper valley is scarcely lower than Portland OR where I'm coming from, which would have made living on my stipend without many roommates nearly impossible financially (i strongly prefer living alone for mental health reasons).

I seriously considered attending some less-preferred graduate programs with better housing markets where I could have lived more comfortably and independently on my stipend. Fortunately I was able to take the undignified step of going back to my parents as a late 20s adult and borrowing money to purchase a townhouse, which we opted to do instead of burning \$60-75k in rent over the next 5 years, and even then finding a place was a matter of sheer luck and physically visiting the upper valley to look in person rather than being stuck in the online rat race. Having a car also helps, and without those privileges I'd be in an infinitely worse and more stressful position."

"Though I am not a full time student, housing was a huge factor that came up this year. Currently, this is my first year in the MALS program. Before we knew that the 2021 summer term was going to be remote, I had to begin thinking about housing, otherwise I was going to have to commute roughly 1 1/2 to 2 hours. The process of trying to find an apartment, pricing, etc was way too overwhelming, so having an extra year to figure things out is a gift."

"I was able to buy a condo in West Lebanon because a mortgage is less expensive than rentals in the area."

"I live with my family."

"I am fortunate to have housing and the means to pay for it - I am not the person you should be helping. I will be fine. But, if you want my experiences: I'm moving from the Sagem area out to West Lebanon proper because (1) my current rental isn't very nice, so I wanted to look for a new place; (2) when it became apparent to me that the housing situation was going to be bad (\$5,000 lottery announcement), my current room was already leased out for the next year; and (3) moving farther away from the College allowed me to keep my rent the same as it was pre-pandemic. I will still be on the AT bus line, but I will realistically have to buy a car in the long term because the bus does not run at nights and on weekends and I am no longer at walking/biking distance to the College. The car is an added expense, but at least I will own the car (compared to renting housing)."

“I found a place that was decent priced and has bus service Monday- Friday but my options for weekends to get to campus are limited.”

“Sachem village is amazing! Melissa does a great job managing it, and the sense of community is really nice.”

“I signed a lease in April that starts in August without ever seeing the property or meeting my roommates. I am living in Lebanon and am unsure where I will park when I commute to campus.”

“I am in housing that I cannot afford on my stipend alone. I do not have financial support from family or a partner.”

“I have a place to live, but I know coming in last year that it is extremely hard to find a decent place to live with reasonable rent. The rent in the upper valley is insanely expensive and extremely cost prohibitive. Our stipends do not cover how much is needed each month to pay for rent and food.”

“I live in the North Park Apartments.”

“There is no laundry nor do we have a car but we took it because it was the only place within walking distance (20-25 min) though high rent price.”

“Housing is extremely expensive and i was able to find a place to stay but it is in White River and costs over 1500 a month and required over 3000 in deposits prior to moving in not counting the first months rent.”

“It seems that there is water damage to my apartment in Sachem Village which has led to mold spots and a strong musty smell. I hope this can be remedied as the rent is high for the unit (very outdated appliances, doors, linoleum flooring).”

“Finding housing was incredible difficult because most options are much too expensive. The only options with rent that can be reasonably supported by

the student stipend are through Dartmouth grad housing and Sachem Village, but both are extremely competitive and virtually impossible to secure.”

“My current lease ends next May, and my current roommate is moving out, so I have to find a new place to rent.”

“Purchased condominium.”

“Temporary”

“There were not many affordable options for graduate student housing. When options did become available, they were reserved immediately. This unrealistic for incoming students who are working or still attending school and cannot sit on the computer all day looking for housing.”

“Housing for DHMC residency is close enough to Dartmouth campus.”

“I applied to North Park but didn't win the lottery. Then I spent about 1.5 month trying to find an apartment and finally settled for a room sublet in Lebanon, 30 min away from campus by bus plus foot. I have never experienced such difficulty finding a rent.”

“Dartmouth housing.”

“As an incoming international student, it was very difficult for me to find housing in Hanover, West Lebanon, and Lebanon from outside of the U.S. other than Sachem or North Park. International students who are unfamiliar with American houses and contacted by e-mail seemed to be considered as a lower priority as tenants due to the lack of supply and high demand in the local real estate market. So, in the end, I managed to get a Sachem unit, which is on a first-come, first-served basis. However, this was also very difficult to catch because there was a time difference between countries, the supply of Sachem units was not large annually, and the availability was unpredictable.”

“I was lucky in that I found a spot last year that is carrying over. Rent went up 200/month though.”

“I would move to a better place but due to the recent spike in rent cost, I am forced to renew my current lease.”

“I do not know if I will be in Hanover in the fall or if I plan to skip a term due to my full-time position in another state. Not attempting to find housing (yet) is associated with the difficulties that I have heard from other students who attempted, and failed, to find affordable and convenient housing.”

“While I found housing for my family, it was incredibly difficult to find anything, regardless of price, and a very time consuming process. I began searching in April and only found something in June.”

“I had to move to Enfield to find something decent regarding price/space.”

“Pet friendly.”

“It was difficult to find a close-to-campus and inexpensive accommodation although I started looking early.”

“I am a homeowner fortunately but the College needs to offer significantly more housing for students or be involved more heavily in residential planning and zoning in the upper valley to facilitate accommodation.”

“I do not have a car so I needed to be on campus.”

“It's been more difficult than I would have imagined--one needs to compromise on various levels, and I get the sense that landlords take advantage of the scarcity and the perceived privilege of Dartmouth students by pressuring tenants in various ways, also didn't get much input or guidance from staff--given that we're emerging from a pandemic, moving to Upper

Valley is a new experience, and some of us haven't been in school for awhile, process felt a bit isolating.”

“My situation is probably different than many graduate students. My significant other and I own a house together in the Upper Valley. Even ~2yr ago when we looked for houses to purchase, we saw 10-15 houses and put offers in on 4-5 before closing. That was 2yr ago. I know the market has only gotten more competitive. We also managed to lower our monthly expenses by purchasing as the cost of rent was more than our mortgage, property taxes, and insurance. The market in this area is insane.”

“I have found housing at Sachem Village but I cannot check in until September.”

“I don't have a car so I have to live next to campus, but the rent is very expensive (\$1,125 + utilities).”

“It's really expensive.”

“About 4 miles far away from campus.”

“It was EXTREMELY difficult to find housing this year and I know many of my classmates were/are in the same boat. The housing situation during the pandemic was the major reason for unforeseen academic setbacks I personally experienced last year. Extremely disappointed with Dartmouth's indifference towards student's basic needs and would not have chosen to come here if I had known.”

“It was extremely difficult but I did manage to find housing.”

“I'm trying to come back to campus after medical leave and can't find anything in my price range. I've applied to a bunch of places, and only one even wrote back to me - I drove up to see the place in person (it was a renovated barn that was tiny and grimy, had no dishwasher, and you literally had to burn fire wood for heat in the winter, and cost about \$1600 for rent +

utilities every month) and there were about 60 people who came to see it in person. It's been insane trying to find any housing at all.

Also, I think one thing that's important to note is - there's lots and lots of low income housing in the White River Junction area, but it's all run by an organization called Twin Pines, which won't rent to grad students - because we aren't employees and so we technically have "no income" / aren't "low income". If Dartmouth paid its grad students as employees, they could fix a lot of the housing problems because we'd all qualify for low income housing."

"More than 50% of my take-home pay goes towards rent."

"Too expensive."

"Still I tried to find some housing close to the bus line if not campus but the result was not good. Still I couldn't get any. Anything I find and agree upon seems to be already taken by some other student."

"We had to sign a really early lease (2 months prior to my program starting). It was the only thing I could find."

"We had to haggle with landlord and were in competition with many other applicants for our apartment. If I was not moving with a partner that had stable income at a much higher income level, I would've struggled extremely because there were so few options for what I could afford on the stipend without accruing debt."

"1 bedroom apartment in Lebanon, rent is \$1000/month utilities not covered, no roommates to share rent."

"I bought a home when I moved to the upper valley instead of renting because the price of rent was so high."

"It is a shared accommodation, not a private room which is kind of disappointing."



“It’s very expensive but I couldn’t find anything cheaper, and I am lucky that I saved up enough to cover rent for the year.”

“I don’t know anybody and the difficulty of repeatedly finding leases and repeatedly trying to find housing groups is almost impossible.”

“It was a brutal search, but ultimately I was able to get a place in Sachem.”

“I was very fortunate to get a spot in North Park Graduate Housing, and I feel even more so after hearing horror-stories from other graduate students on slack and in facebook groups who are scrambling due to lack of availability in the area.”

“It took my flatmates and me around 2 months to find housing in Hanover. Despite beginning our housing search in late April, 2 weeks after paying the deposit for the program, we did not find houses closeby to campus. Houses that are easily >30mins away from campus also include high rents and security deposit. As international students on a budget, this was pretty alarming. A few other college towns that we are aware of include rents starting from \$300 for an unfurnished house whereas in Hanover, we pay a minimum of \$900. It would be very helpful if the college can help the students out with more housing around the campus with affordable rent. Thank you.”

“Living farther away than I’d like and paying a lot.”

“I was able to find housing after a long struggle looking for it. I basically signed sight unseen due to the proximity to campus. The price is higher than I was hoping to pay but I was worried i wouldn’t be able to find anything else after searching for so long with no luck.”

“I won a space in North Park housing.”

“Housing options were very expensive and limited. Eventually had to quickly jump on one on a list sent out by the international student committee.”

“It was incredibly challenging to find housing and there were no options within walking distance of campus, which will be tricky because I do not have a car.”

“We had to buy a house 30 miles away from Hanover because we could not find rental properties appropriate for a married couple anywhere near campus or in other nearby suburban areas. This has increased our financial burden both in the mortgage and in transportation costs.”

“It's been absolutely impossible to find housing especially since everything seems to have either been taken or for some reason is now for sale.”

“KCC Rentals \$3400 for 4 bedrooms. Will have to get a car to get to campus.”

“I couldn't find anything less than ~\$1800/month. Finally, an affordable option became available about a week ago.”

“Managed to find an apartment within transit distance with multiple roommates, but rent is still ~half of my stipend before utilities, etc.”

“I am paying \$1000 per month for a room in an old house that is a 20 minute drive away from campus. And my walk from the parking lot to my office is going to be an additional 20 minutes... think I'm really going to enjoy the “small college town” vibes and how “close” everything is. The infrastructure around the upper valley sucks, in terms of both housing and transportation.”

“I will live on campus.”

“No idea how I will afford rent this year and I am really quite worried. Housing is extremely expensive (by international standards) near Hanover.”

“I am a 5th year Dual Degree Student who had to find housing off campus. I am sharing rent for a house with three other students in their BE year.”

“I have been seeking for three months and finally I rented one in West Lebanon. It's so hard for international students because we don't have US credit report. We have to pay extra deposit, e.g. 6 months rentals in advance, as a credit proof. It is also hard about payment because we don't have US cards and accounts. We spend more time on communication because of jet lag. The housing is always preemted by others. As time goes by, the available rentals are farther and more costly. My rent is as expensive as the studios around school, but I have to spend extra money buying a car because it is 5 miles from my house to school.”

“I currently pay over half my stipend in rent.”

“Dual degree Thayer/Tuck student, luckily living in a house with friends met at Tuck last year.”

“My partner (also a graduate student at Dartmouth) and I have a nice place that has reasonable rent and a short drive from campus. We are very lucky.”

“I decided to purchase a home instead of renting.”

“I don't have a car so needed to find housing in Hanover. My current rent is very high in comparison to the graduate student stipend. I had to sign the lease since it was the last apartment available.”

“The search for a room close to Thayer School this Fall has been terribly stressful, especially for international students such as myself. I reached out to countless renters and the response was always that the room was not available anymore. I was even okay with a place that's a manageable 15-minute walk to Thayer. I've scoured through Airbnb, Zillow, Apartments.com apart from the usual Dartlist and DRE websites every few hours every day for more than a month. But, regardless of my budget, I couldn't find an available listing. I couldn't manage to live in Etna or

elsewhere farther from Thayer because I don't plan to get a car. The only other option was the South Main Street lottery, which meant sharing a kitchen with 15 people and a bathroom with at least 5 guys and girls. It sounded totally unreasonable at best, and a Petri dish of diseases at worst. Particularly during COVID-19. And the rent for a shared room did not make up for these disadvantages at all. Plus, it wasn't even a guaranteed availability.

I finally managed to find a place on Wheelock St. with 2 others from my program. The rent is way beyond my budget, and my family is still reeling in shock from the rent for this shared, unfurnished apartment. It's a 3 bedroom/ 1 bathroom flat for \$880 without heat/electricity/WiFi per room. We couldn't even get a virtual tour because the place is under reconstruction. But we had to sign this lease because it's the only place I found after what felt like an endless search.

The hunt for housing has been a total nightmare. It's highly unfortunate that what was to be an extended period of joy and excitement of attending a highly coveted program at a prestigious university has been severely dampened by the stress of finding accommodation and from the soaring, unbelievable living expenses. I really hope that Dartmouth College steps in and sorts out the real estate monopoly and mess soon."

"Securing housing was rather difficult but I was admitted into my program of choice later than most so I was expecting this."

"My apartment is 10 minutes walking distance from campus. I will be sharing it with 2 others for around \$850 (everything included)."

"Currently paying high rent just to live close by and easily reach my lab and unable to move or save to get a car because of high rent. The difficulties of housing and transportation combined is an unfair disadvantage for international students that affects student success in the program."

"Nothing has come up that is in Hanover and I am cautious to get a full year lease away from Hanover because I only need it for the fall and don't want to

be in a year lease that would be hard to fill with submitters (because its not in Hanover).”

“House off campus with three other roommates in Lebanon.”

“The price of rent has been increasing and my stipend was barely enough to last month-to-month already. I have projected my finances and the stipend will soon not be enough to cover my living expenses. I am worried I will need to start taking out loans to make ends meet (which poses its own problem as, unless the college updates their estimated cost of living to reflect the circumstances, all of the "school-certified costs" are thought to be covered, so we are ineligible for federal graduate student loans, and student loans through other reputable means, so I would have to resort to some type of personal loan or other high-interest/predatory loan). Though I do have housing, I have been looking for cheaper options as my current situation (though better than no housing) is not sustainable. This is proving very difficult so far though. I already live ~30 minutes from campus (as that was what was affordable and available) so I'm not sure how many other options, if any, there are really.”

# **Short-Term and Long-Term Housing Suggestions**

We asked graduate students: **“is there anything you would specifically like to see Dartmouth do to help its students with housing now and in the long-term?”** All of their responses are copied below separated into sections (although many responses could belong to multiple sections).

## **Short-term solutions**

“The remote classes for fall term would be so helpful!!”

“Please make graduate classes remotely accessible for the fall term.”

“For the Fall term, at minimum, require all graduate classes to be remotely accessible (i.e., hybrid instruction).”

“I think it would be best if Fall classes are structured to be remote/hybrid accessible for students. As a second-year student, I am also expected to TA courses for incoming first years and due to housing constraints, it will be difficult for me to TA in person. Therefore, if classes are remote, it will provide an opportunity to TA remotely via Zoom as well as via breakout rooms. This also entails structures like RPs (weekly/monthly presentations from graduate students) to also be structured to be set remotely.”

“They can allow two unrelated people to share a single room , that will help the students to manage rent and also adjust until they can find another place.”

“Would it be possible to offer hybrid classes - some students remote and others in person- during the fall term - maybe into the future? It seems that would alleviate a lot of the pressure. There appears to be an ongoing housing crisis and the rents are just too high for graduate students to come to Hanover. Now that the pandemic has given us a solution and the skills to execute remote learning, so much cost, stress, and impact on the environment could be alleviated with a bit of creative thinking around an ongoing hybrid approach. I can only imagine that the continuation of some remote elements would expand the pool of prospective students.”

“Right now Dartmouth needs to increase stipend by a couple hundred dollars so that graduate students can \*barely\* afford to meet the criminally inflated rent in the Upper Valley at present. The housing crisis is BOUND to continue, as landlords/ladies will manipulate increased rent from an already inflated baseline when its time to renew in 6 months or a year. Dartmouth ought to EXPEDITE the \$84 million housing complex near DHMC, so students could feasibly start moving in BEFORE Aug 2022. The provision to atleast have a remote element for classes proves to be insufficient, since TAs are expected to be in class, in-person, AND research meetings are rapidly moving toward in-person form. As a junior researcher, one does not feel comfortable stipulating remote activities, when faculty and senior staff themselves show up in-person. I may very seriously consider transferring to a different PhD program if Dartmouth isn't able to accommodate students that they have charmed and recruited.”

“Short-term: prioritize Dartmouth owned housing for lower-income graduate students and international students. Long-term: build more affordable housing”

“Allow hybrid for fall.”

“If remote learning remains, I will continue taking courses in the fall.”

“Some help to obtain short term housing close to campus while we can search for a more permanent situation while in the area.”

“Maybe to help incoming first year grad students to connect with each other on a separate platform?”

## **Building suggestions**

“Build more graduate student housing that is within walking distance to campus.”

“An exclusive graduate student hostel with rent less than \$1000/month could ease things. Location could be anywhere within 2miles of Hanover with AT shuttle service. Maybe a multi-storied building capacity of 50-100 students would be sufficient.

Increasing stipend to around \$3000 would help students afford some options closer to Hanover.”

“Build housing, lower grad rents to be more in line with grad pay, have better landlord outreach and assistance for students when abusive land lords do sketchy things.”

“Maybe Expand campuses reach with housing”

“Long term, Dartmouth should secure specific graduate student housing at an affordable cost that can accommodate many more students than it currently does. Perhaps construct new buildings or buy existing places around Hanover and DHMC. Short term, what Dartmouth can at least do is contract a few local real estate agents which Dartmouth students can access for free in order to navigate the local housing market.”



“Build housing, lower grad rents to be more in line with grad pay, have better landlord outreach and assistance for students when abusive land lords do sketchy things.”

“Add more housing choices with affordable price and acceptable distance to the campus.”

“Provide adequate and appropriately priced housing with flexible lease options for graduate students-- AND ONLY GRADUATE students.”

“Increase income to housing ratio through stipends in the short term and building affordable housing in the long term (not the current grad housing that's being built- this is not affordable on current stipends).”

“Have some apartment complexes. Pay us more. Abolish the hold of Jolin Kish and Dartmouth on the housing in this area!”

“Somehow finding a way to make more housing options available for graduate students at a price that is easier to manage relative to our stipend.”

“Creating a specific Graduate Student Apartment Complex with rent that is less than 50% of our stipend. Or at the least a specific International Graduate student Apartment complex/Dormitory. Even if its just for first years, it would be a huge help already. Many international students are forced to rent at outrageous prices for crappy apartments because they are not present in campus to proper scout the area.”

“Provide more housing communities for grad students that are affordable with our stipend.”

“Having some Dartmouth ensured housing would be ideal. The new housing complex that is being constructed apparently is open to people who are not Dartmouth students, and it is expensive. It would also be a good idea to send

out surveys on what students are paying monthly per rent to see if the stipend is keeping up with increasing housing costs.”

“Graduate dorms.”

“Build affordable housing near to campus, improve bus services to places like Lebanon where affordable housing is available (especially on weekends and after 6 pm).”

“More grad housing, please!”

“We need more spaces like North Park. Sachem is way too expensive, and it's far for students without a car.”

“Make sure there are grad student housing options available.”

“Build more housing close to campus for graduate students or maintain weekend shuttles in the Upper Valley area so students without cars can find housing further from campus and still have the means to commute to and from campus.”

“Provide more (in quantity) housing options that are also affordable (less than half the stipend!).”

“More and better grad housing!”

“I truly wish Dartmouth had more housing communities like Sachem for graduate students. Even if housing were not to include amenities like washer/dryer, but had a community building with a laundromat, communal study area etc. Because of the housing crisis in the Upper Valley graduate students often have less physical space to gather, unless it's on campus or you need to travel through multiple surrounding towns. Furthermore, the housing that students are able to secure are often of very low quality and high rent because landlords can do that when housing is at such high demands. Lastly, if the housing situation cannot be resolved in the near

future, I think given the housing costs average \$1,300 for a one bedroom and \$1900 for a two bedroom in towns surrounding Hanover, supplementing the stipend would be amazing. At current rental prices more than half of the student stipend is spent on housing, when average rental costs should be 1/3 of an individuals income. Rental prices are equivalent to prices in Boston, with far fewer amenities and often doesn't include utilities.”

“Yes, there is a lot you need to do. Grad students need more affordable housing options within walking / bike distance. Obviously the UV has a huge low-income housing problem, and this extends to grad students. Basically, since we lost North Park to the undergrads ---which is not surprising, given then UGs are STRONGLY prioritized by this institution, and they typically also have lesser ability to travel to and from campus (but ask international students how they feel about their travel situation!)---another Sachem is necessary. Grad students are spending upwards of 30-40% of their stipend on housing, and often that is not even within walking distance, where prices are even higher. We just really have our hands tied. Either we live far away and still spend 30-40%, or spend even \*more\* to live in proximity of Hanover so that those of us without vehicles can actually live and work. It's really bad, and Sachem is one of the only truly reasonable options for a significant portion of students (especially internationals). So, more affordable housing in relatively close proximity to campus would be a huge help. Alternatively, a higher stipend could help alleviate this issue. I recognize Dartmouth has limited resources and power, but many graduate students are put in very unfavorable, difficult situations by the housing market in this area, and if Dartmouth can help in some way, either monetarily or by expanding areas like Sachem, then it would be a massive relief to the grad students.”

“They need to build more housing first off, but make it affordable! Either that or pay us more in the form of a housing stipend that changes every year to keep up with rising rent so we can afford rent, similarly to how they're bribing the undergrads with 5K to get out of the dorms (and making the housing crisis worse).

I know I'm preaching to the choir, but it's ridiculous and insulting how our take home pay is about 2100 a month and the Dartmouth housing options are

priced between \$800 - \$1400 for ONE BEDROOM and usually sharing living space. It's ridiculous they expect us to fork up 50% of our income on having a roof over our head. I have a friend that goes to Tufts and her yearly stipend is \$37,500 compared to ours \$31,580. Her rent for a bedroom in a 3 bedroom apartment in Fenway is \$716 a month. That is in BOSTON where you don't even need a car with the T, not middle of nowhere NH."

"To build a village or dorms for housing."

"Dartmouth should build more affordable housing in the Upper Valley, and create a weekend shuttle service from these locations to campus. Graduate students that work in experimental labs cannot avoid coming in on weekends, and Dartmouth needs to understand that. Also, graduate students that are new to the country cannot be expected to own a car in their first few years here. So a shuttle from housing locations to affordable grocery stores would be helpful. The grocery options in Hanover are very expensive, more so if you factor in the cost of living in Hanover."

"I encourage Dartmouth to 1: build affordable housing in the Hanover area (\$1200+ is not affordable!) and 2: raise the graduate stipend to accommodate the extreme price of housing and associated living costs in the Upper Valley. I expect to spend around 45% of my monthly income on rent and utilities, where financial institutes recommend allocating 30% for rent. This leaves little left over for buying groceries, gas, etc., and next to nothing for other "fun" expenses. Dartmouth knows (but maybe doesn't understand) how little grad students make, and the incredible cost of living in the Upper Valley. It's time for the school to recognize the unreasonable burden that graduate students experience while attending school here."

"Walkable housing for grad students of all years, weekend and late night bus."

"Provide affordable housing near the campus. Currently rental around here are too expensive and/or too far. Renting and living in upper valley because of it is nightmare and makes me regret choosing dartmouth in the first place."

“I do not currently have housing in the upper valley because it is ridiculously unaffordable. Truly, I cannot afford it with my dismal stipend. If Dartmouth really wants to help, build AFFORDABLE GRADUATE STUDENT HOUSING (\$1000/mo MAX for a studio). Or actual build another undergrad dorm and instead of PAYING UNDERGRADS TO MOVE OFF CAMPUS AND FURTHER DRIVE UP THE HOUSING MARKET! Also, Dartmouth is largest private landowner in the state, provide subsidized housing for grad students. It's ridiculous.”

“Build more AFFORDABLE housing complexes.”

“Yes please allow or provide hosting close to campus if not. Then please provide a shuttle service for longer hrs and during weekends as well.”

“Build more affordable options for incoming students in particular.”

“Have more options, especially more affordable options.”

“(1) Graduate stipends should increase to account for the increased cost of living in the Upper Valley. The College is, in part, at fault for the current housing market because it has known for years that it does not have enough dorm space to house its undergraduates - and some of the existing dorms are in dire need of renovation. (2) I would like to see Dartmouth build or buy more graduate housing because I think they run their properties better than other local landlords. (3) I am not sure if your deferment proposal will work because I imagine that some programs have introductory course sequences that start in the fall term. Also, since leases are generally 1 year, I am not sure how much new housing will be available by winter or spring.”

“Invest in more high quality dartmouth subsidized housing”

“Grow graduate-specific housing options on or near campus.”

“There should be a lot more housing options built by Dartmouth or at least provided.”

“1. Provide more housing options with lower rent. The rent in Hanover/Lebanon is very high (comparable to Boston, around \$1600-\$1800 for a 1 bedroom apartment and many places do not include any utilities in rent, which means an extra ~\$100) and the student stipend is too low to support the rent in the area. A few options with lower rent are available outside of Hanover/Lebanon (15-20 miles outside), but they require students to have a car. Either way (closer to campus but higher rent vs. lower rent farther away from campus but a car required), the overall cost is very high and not sustainable.

2. If providing more housing options with lower rent is difficult, then increase the student stipend so that students can support themselves net of rent.”

“Having plenty Dartmouth graduate student specific housing with reasonable rent!”

“More opportunities for school run housing near campus.”

“ecologically sustainable housing- from what I have heard expansion has threatened naturally occurring animal corridors threatening animal populations of the region (and increased bear displacement).”

“I think it is urgent to build an additional dorm for graduate students. The number of beds needed can be judged from how many graduates students applied for the North Park Housing in the previous years. Also, upper-class graduate students may also prefer staying at school's dorm for more than the current 1-year limit.”

“For the future, Dartmouth needs to build more housing for both undergraduates and graduates, both off and on campus. The housing needs to be more affordable, especially North Park. For international and cross-country students, there needs to be an assigned real estate agent or someone trusted who is in the area who can vouch for the student and evaluate properties since entering leases sight unseen is risky.”

"I think the housing provided by the Dartmouth such as Sachem should be greatly increased. It seems that the local real estate market is already saturated, and international students, who have disadvantage in finding housing, seem to be the hardest hit."

"Please release more available seats, thank you!"

"Build student dorms / apartment in and around Hanover."

"Need more affordable graduate student housing."

"Housing for first year graduate student should be GUARANTEED in a town like Hanover. Dartmouth is located in a very isolated area. It's the school's responsibility to ensure students have housing options so that students don't wait until they commit to the program to realize the administration is utterly unsupportive. The student suicides this year at Dartmouth showcase how the institution prioritizes interests (full tuition, same academic expectation, cancelled student activities without refunds, leaving students in social isolation) over student lives."

"Please provide more housing options for students."

"I get disabling migraines (so I can't stay with roommates unfortunately, since I need to control sounds / light / smells really strictly to avoid triggering them) and found out recently that Dartmouth has no disability accessible housing for grad students. I'm trying to ask our disability contact (who is just the Dean of the school - it turns we don't have anyone actually employed / educated to specifically help disabled grad students at Dartmouth) to help me find disability accessible housing anyway, but it's unclear that he would even have the resources to do that.

If you could advocate for any of this, I'd really like Dartmouth to get disability accessible housing for grad students - and actually employ at least one disability advocate / aid for the grad students. Dartmouth is wildly behind the times when it comes to disability issues."

“Yeah if Dartmouth can arrange for some good and affordable right or around campus, that would be great.”

“The Dartmouth provided housing for graduate students is both limited and prohibitively expensive based on the stipends provided to graduate students. I would love to see Dartmouth expand its capacity and lower their prices.”

“Yes please have more options, limited availability increases the rent and the cheap places are also not close by.”

“Build more housing that's close to campus.”

“Cost of living adjustments, local zoning reform, more housing construction.”

“Secure a number of units in the area equal to or greater than the number of Grad students you accept. If a school accepts a student, it should be certain that student can attend, which includes where they live.”

“More housing provided by the university that is within walking distance.”

“Allow students of all kinds to live in dorms. Maybe build more housing. Also just help more actively.”

“For long-term, it will be great if Dartmouth has its own accommodation enough to at least house 50% of grad students.”

“It's hard to follow basic safety rules if you live too far away to visit. It would be nice if there were a way for Dartmouth to verify listings for those who cannot easily get to the area. Other than that, more Dartmouth owned housing (on or off campus) would be very useful. Especially lower quality options that are more affordable.”

“Yeah. I would hope for Dartmouth to provide an adequate amount of feasible housing for all students. Feasible means affordable on a graduate student's



stipend level, as well as with real transportation options to campus. AT does not count as a real transportation option because it stops at 6pm every night (what grad student is going home before 6pm?) and it doesn't run on weekends (what grad student doesn't work weekends?). Dartmouth is building this new graduate student complex down in Lebanon, and I can only hope rent prices will be affordable and that Dartmouth will provide free (non-AT...) transportation to campus.

It's also worth noting that the current undergraduate housing crisis is very tangibly impacting the housing options for all students. Undergrads who are financial dependents might have significantly larger budgets for housing than grad students, so most reasonable housing options within walking distance to campus have undergone severe price inflation given the increased demand from students who have parents with very deep pockets... I toured a 1 bedroom apartment on west wheelock street that was renting for \$2000/month..."

"Provide more graduate housing and on campus housing for graduates, esp considering Dartmouth is in the middle of nowhere and as such limited affordable housing nearby."

"Find somewhere that guarantees housing and a means to reach campus."

"I think Dartmouth needs to provide more affordable housing options for graduate students. As more undergraduates move off campus, who likely have help paying their rent and who can live on campus if need be, there are fewer and fewer options for graduate students (who are not allowed to live on campus and who rely on paying for rent out of their stipends). A short term solution is limiting the number of undergraduates who are allowed to move off campus."

"Expand graduate student housing opportunities, for the area it is obscene what we are asked to pay. Other graduate programs in high cost of living areas (which I would count Hanover area as one of them, it is outrageous when compared to the rest of NH) address this by either heavily subsidizing

or increasing stipend amounts. In my opinion the older units for Sachem offer the only truly affordable housing option in the upper valley. I have long since lived there and thankfully I've been able to secure a renewal to a spot, but speaking with other incoming students it is clear that we are under a crisis. Even the newer units in Sachem are right at the edge of appropriate cost (>30% of stipend). Dartmouth should expand graduate student housing, and subsidize housing costs appropriate to stipend amounts, such that living in Dartmouth housing spaces should not exceed 30% of stipend."

"Dartmouth has to improve the overall housing situation. First, there is the obvious current crisis of individuals not being able to find housing. But aside from that, most private housing within the upper valley area is already high. Moreover, Dartmouth does not provide affordable housing to graduate students. Sachem and North Park are both extremely expensive relative to the graduate student stipend...and our stipend is rather competitive. It is well known that an individual's rent should be around 30% of their income. North Park rent exceeds \$1000/mo. At Sachem, rent can be lower than \$1000/mo if you split a 2br with another person, however rent is still rather high there and also increases substantially every year. If graduate students have a fixed income and are also not allowed to get secondary or alternative employment, then either the rent or the stipend should be adjusted to achieve that 30% mark. The stipend provided to graduate students is livable however with rent it can easily not be a livable wage. This impacts the students entire life and can lead to increased stress and things like food insecurity, which impacts both their productivity and education experience. When I moved here with my partner we lived at Sachem and had months where we struggled to put food on the table. We were extremely lucky because after our first year we were able to find a place that had reasonable rent and was also close to campus. Dartmouth needs 1) more housing for graduate students and 2) housing that is affordable for the graduate student stipend."

"Make more housing available to graduate students at a reasonable cost not at half of our stipends."

“Provide affordable housing for graduate students. \$1200+ rent is unreasonable to expect graduate students to pay.”

“Update and restore graduate housing units.”

“Update students with new available housing.”

“Stop giving contracts to private for-profit companies to build housing that's only priced for nurses and doctors. Build ACTUAL GRAD STUDENT HOUSING SUBSIDIZED BY DARTMOUTH. For all the budget talk, y'all have WAY more money than any incoming grad student does. Stop pussyfooting around the issue and build some housing that's LESS THAN \$800/MONTH. Y'ALL CAN DO IT, I BELIEVE IN YOU! Feel free to show this to all board members and administrators at every level, where ever this needs to go to get done, because this is totally ridiculous and unnecessary. GET IT DONE! NO MORE EXCUSES, BOARD OF TRUSTEES! Loosen those purse strings and actually help your students that bring in research money, talent, and cheap labor!”

## **Housing affordability solutions**

“Please reduce the rent!”

“Increase monthly stipend and award housing stipends.”

“If rent price control was possible, even if it means communal/dorm housing options, it would be helpful.”

“Housing is absolutely ridiculous in the UV. Not only are the houses scarce but rent is extremely high. The college has not made any efforts to help with this.”

“Provide subsidised affordable housing with minimum furniture and amenities.”

“Increase stipend.”

“Right now Dartmouth needs to increase stipend by a couple hundred dollars so that graduate students can \*barely\* afford to meet the criminally inflated rent in the Upper Valley at present. The housing crisis is BOUND to continue, as landlords/ladies will manipulate increased rent from an already inflated baseline when its time to renew in 6 months or a year. Dartmouth ought to EXPEDITE the \$84 million housing complex near DHMC, so students could feasibly start moving in BEFORE Aug 2022. The provision to at least have a remote element for classes proves to be insufficient, since TAs are expected to be in class, in-person, AND research meetings are rapidly moving toward in-person form. As a junior researcher, one does not feel comfortable stipulating remote activities, when faculty and senior staff themselves show up in-person. I may very seriously consider transferring to a different PhD program if Dartmouth isn't able to accommodate students that they have charmed and recruited.”

“Housing is incredibly expensive. It is not uncommon for rents to be over half of our monthly stipends alone. And they only keep rising each year.”

“Increase PhD student stipends to actually cover the cost of living in the upper valley.”

“Provide assistance in the search and subsidize housing, it's ridiculous the prices we are paying for the places we are getting.”

“The cost of housing in the Upper Valley is much higher than the stipend is generally able to sustain. A higher stipend would be better, or even local housing that is cost controlled so that you aren't spending more than half your stipend on housing.”

“Housing subsidies.”

“Lower the price of rent.”

“The cost of rent increasing is untenable unless our stipends are significantly increased to match the inflation of rent. Furthermore, I am disappointed that Dartmouth's solution is to build more housing that is too expensive for grad students in the first place and therefore will be filled with other members of the community; driving rents up even more. The cost of Dartmouth graduate housing should be pegged to the stipend and not be allowed to exceed more than 1/3 of stipend income. Education institutions should not be profiting as landlords but acting as benevolent stewards of the students' community.”

“Reduce pricing of Sachem/North Park to make them more affordable.”

“Provide more affordable housing opportunities for graduate students and/or provide a housing stipend until more affordable options are available.”

“Overall, the cost of housing in the Upper Valley is extremely high in comparison to the amount of money that we make on our stipends. I think that it would be helpful if there was some way to subsidize housing for grad students.”

“Increase Stipends.”

“Increase our stipends to account for rising cost of living in the local area and/or increase availability of housing that we can actually afford. Finding affordable housing has become extremely difficult in the area and near impossible for students with no connections to the area (e.g. international students). On top of that Dartmouth owned housing that the administration claims to be "affordable" is insultingly high in price relative to what we make as graduate students (e.g. North Park and that new apartment complex in the works).

Also what is this about Dartmouth paying undergraduates to live off campus...? The upper valley was already in a housing crisis! This will only

make it worse.

(<https://www.vnews.com/Dartmouth-College-housing-wait-list-returns-to-normal-size-41133798>).”

“I think affordable housing is perhaps one of the biggest barriers students face, as the rent is quite high at a lot of places. If Dartmouth could create more affordable, utility inclusive, options for students that are close to campus that would be so helpful. Living at Sachem with no car even was incredibly difficult, and I know there are many students who have faced transportation issues as well, being limited with public transport.”

“Given the rule of thumb that you shouldn't spend more than ~30% of your gross income on rent, maybe a 1-bedroom apartment in Sachem Village shouldn't cost >50% of the average Guarini stipend.”

“It is really important that students have housing that is both affordable and has good access to campus. The important thing to keep in mind with affordable is that this is relative to the stipend that students receive and the fact that many graduate students have additional financial burdens/lack of financial backing from family. If a student is paying over 50% of their income on housing and also has other financial burdens such as student debt, then their housing is not affordable for them even if it is considered "cheap" for the area. I would really like to see Dartmouth ensure that graduate students have affordable housing with respect to the stipend they receive OR see Dartmouth raise stipends to reflect the high cost of living in this region. I would also love to see Dartmouth continue to invest in housing that is close to both Hanover/Lebanon campus so students have some good, affordable options to choose from when looking for housing (particularly for international students who often do not have an independent means of transport). Lastly, I would like to perhaps see Dartmouth start a program for students from a low-income background that would support these students in their housing expenses (maybe even just initially until they have a couple paychecks accumulated to begin to throw at rent). It certainly reflects very poorly on us as an institution when students are living out of their cars or dropping out of programs because of high housing costs coupled by low

stipends and/or lack of financial support. We invest in our students in so many wonderful ways, I think it is certainly time that we invested more in the critical issue of housing.

Thank you so much for doing this survey and caring for your students! I thought all of your suggestions mentioned above in the intro were also really awesome! :)"

"Housing stipend or increased income. I'm paying 50% of my income to rent a place and I'm 25min from campus. This is in no way sustainable. On campus housing is above 1k/month, sharing with other students. Again, this is almost 50% of monthly income. It's suggested that rentals be no more than 30% of your monthly income--so why is Dartmouth charging almost double this?"

"Subsidized, on campus housing. The current > 1400 a month pricing in campus housing is ridiculous."

"I think that the stipend should reflect the high (and rising) housing prices in the area. Student housing options run by dartmouth should be more affordable (it is generally recommended that rent is no more than 30% of income, meaning about \$800/month on our stipend. Rent in sachem, the only current dartmouth-run option, is well over \$1000/month)."

"1. Raise grad student stipends 2. Limit the amount of undergraduates allowed to live off campus 3. Provide affordable housing options for graduate students 4. Work with advanced transit to extended the hours of bus service."

"Affordable housing:"

"In the short term, it is clear that students cannot afford housing in our area. The most effective change would be to increase stipends or offer need-based additional financial assistance (similar to what was offered during the pandemic). The Dartmouth sponsored housing is also very expensive and not a good solution at this time. In the long term, Dartmouth sponsoring more on-campus housing for undergraduates would relieve some of the pressure

on the surrounding area. Dartmouth could also work to build more affordable graduate student housing. The new building that is charging over \$1,000/month for a shared room with bunkbeds is entirely ridiculous and not helpful to the students who are in need of housing support. There are new developments being built, but they are out of our price range. Students with cars have more options, but many international students do not have the money to purchase a car when they arrive. The most direct answer is to support graduate students better financially.”

“Please reduce price of Dartmouth housing and potentially having more units would be great.”

“Pay us a living wage.”

“Stop the for-profit mentality in the real estate office. In my time here North Park has increased at least \$200 per month, and you still get dorm room furnishings and next to no living space for 4 people.”

“Provide low-cost housing options.”

“Increase pay or make real affordable housing.”

“A housing stipend would be the best way to alleviate the burden of astronomical rent prices.”

“A housing stipend would be the best way to alleviate the burden of astronomical rent prices.”

“Dartmouth can help out this housing situation tremendously with relatively minimal effort. First and foremost, it can lower the cost of Dartmouth-owned housing. Paying half your monthly salary is unfair and oppressive. Secondly, although it is too late to do this for the upcoming academic year, it can reduce the amount of accepted undergrads to a level it knows they, and the surrounding community, can accommodate. Continually increasing the undergrad population without increasing housing offerings has led to this



situation with higher demand for housing leading to expensive and difficult-to-secure housing options for everybody. Thirdly, it needs to INCREASE HOUSING OPTIONS, both for undergrads and graduate students. I know myself and plenty of others prioritize price and proximity above all other factors and there are many graduate students who I'm sure would jump at the opportunity to live in cheap dormitory-style housing. Lastly, Dartmouth as a whole seems to neglect the fact that graduate students exist, and if they do realize we are here, there have been many instances in my time here that demonstrate they clearly do not care about the graduate students who relentlessly work to uphold Dartmouth's name in the academic realm.”

“Either increase graduate student stipends (income) or provide actually affordable housing.”

“Housing in the area is totally unaffordable even given the generous graduate stipend. More affordable housing that is close or on campus is necessary. Especially since many graduate students do not have a car and the upper valley bus system stops running at 5pm.”

“Supplement for rent as it is way too expensive and apartment complex for grad students and later transportation by the bus system.”

“Affordable housing is a huge issue for incoming students.”

“Increase stipends to offset rising rent prices.”

“Housing stipend.”

“Cheaper subsidized housing for graduate students!”

“Make rent more affordable!”

“Raise stipend, expand sachem village or have some other sort of graduate student housing”

“Low cost college housing for graduate students.”

“Subsidize off campus living arrangements, augment stipend payments, provide additional housing stipend to help offset costs, provide affordable (35-40% monthly stipend) apartment style housing options, limit admissions and student body growth to prevent massive housing shortages.”

“In the short term, a housing stipend seems like a minimum possible solution. This could be flexibly and creatively applied somehow. Perhaps calculating a basic cost of living amount excluding housing and having that paid out at a constant rate to everyone, then a portion of the stipend is flexible and earmarked for housing cost alone. Students could be allowed to prioritize finding -anywhere at all to live- then Dartmouth pays those housing costs flexibly up to some reasonable limit. Finding -anywhere at all- is a matter of luck, so this might be a more equitable approach, rather than one person getting lucky and finding a place to rent at \$900 a month and having extra spending money as a result, and another person getting stuck somewhere more expensive and struggling more on all fronts. People can freely choose a type of housing that works for them which results in less stress, and everyone has the same effective take home pay for food and recreation which keeps things equitable. I realize this might be misaligned in terms of economic incentives or whatever but this is currently a broken market anyway.

Long term, more housing needs to be constructed, and it needs to be constructed modestly in order to be actually affordable. Grad students don't need some faux appearance of luxury like is common with the new developments here in Portland and other major cities that add little to life quality but increase costs substantially (A new "low income" housing complex near me is this faux luxury bs and costs \$1100 a month for a studio) More housing capacity isn't going to alleviate the problem if it's scarcely more affordable than what exists. Grad students need plain, dignified housing and a lot of it. I know the college has an image to maintain and project and nice-appearing housing is part of that image, but for actual students who will be living in it, I believe affordability would trump everything else, and that

students would be more satisfied with more modest housing that allows them to feel financially comfortable rather than having the all-pervading stress that comes with knowing what a huge portion of their income is being drained by rent.

There is no need like at my undergraduate institution for a new dorm to be so gaudy as to cost \$180,000 per student housed. That money could buy a respectable single family home in many states, yet here it's for students to get a 8x15ft box to sleep in. Dartmouth has ~\$1 million of endowment for every student and should be able to figure out a healthy balance for this type of project.”

“More affordable housing options near campus.”

“It would be awesome if Dartmouth paid for graduate student parking passes.”

“The graduate student stipend is simply not enough given the prices of housing. Dartmouth should provide more **\*\*affordable\*\*** grad student housing. The prices in North Park and Sachem are more than 50% of the stipend and that is not sustainable. I am currently affiliated with Brown and they just bought an apartment building downtown in order to provide affordable housing to grad and medical students.”

“Provide EQUITABLE housing stipends to ALL graduate students to alleviate the current financial burden of living in the Upper Valley. I felt the best option given my situation was to buy a home and live out of savings once I become a student. Any stipend should consider students in this situation and not simply charge lower rents for those who have Dartmouth owned housing.”

“Subsidized housing.”

“Increase our stipends or provide a housing stipend for all graduate students. This housing issue doesn't just affect incoming graduate students. Making

students defer or do virtual classes puts them at a huge disadvantage compared to students who were able to find housing, especially for the graduate students who have to do lab rotations.”

“Give a stipend to alleviate move in costs and deposits and invest more in graduate student housing such as dorms and apartments for students so that lottery’s and such are not being relied on so much”

“There should be more options for graduate students in general, but these options should also be more affordable. The average price of Dartmouth graduate student housing was higher than the cost of living approximation for financial aid. A housing stipend for graduate students would assist with this.”

“Either increase stipends to match the rise in rent costs or provide Dartmouth-sponsored housing with cheaper rent.”

“Affordability and accessibility could be greatly improved.”

“Reduce the rents?”

“Now: provide subsidies for rent, coaches from other towns to campus even on weekend. Long-term: more housing options near the campus.”

“Actually provide affordable housing/ living stipends which cover a real salary commensurate with our education levels and the high COL of the upper valley.”

“Affordable gradate student hosing that is <30% of our pay. It is unreasonable for Dartmouth realstate to charge gradate students 40%+ of their stipend for housing.”

“yes, subsidies or just figure it out. Grad students are the backbone of research, provide places for us to live and offer them at a livable wage. Offer some units to grad students FIRST.”

“A housing stipend seems to be the most logical if new affordable apartment complexes are not constructed.”

“Affordable housing and transportation.”

“Subsidized graduate student housing.”

“I think options 2 and 3 are feasible both in the short term, perhaps starting this year, and in the long term as well. For me personally having a stipend would have helped tremendously in opening up more living options, especially in terms of being able to find a place closer to campus that maybe would not require a car since it was more expensive than living farther away.”

“Increase stipend since housing here is extremely expensive.”

“Increase stipend support, help with moving costs, or add housing stipend.”

“Increase stipend to cover expensive rent.”

“Waiving costs for campus housing, or providing housing or transportation stipends for those who live off campus would be great!”

“Help cover the cost”

“More options, more affordable.”

“Increased stipends for housing, esp considering how much rent is increasing/will increase over the next years. Long term planning for more high density student housing”

“Create more options. Provide housing stipend to all graduate programs as it is very expensive.”

“Increase the graduate student stipend. Improve the public transit system to make more towns accessible. Also, getting Dartmouth Safety and Security office to help students get home would be nice. My lab is in DHCM and if I miss the last bus back to Hanover the Dartmouth Safety and Security office have refused multiple times to give me a ride home in the middle of the night.”

“The financial stress of securing/ having secured accommodation, especially on us incoming international graduate students, is severe. It has taken an emotional toll as well. Please consider arranging for housing stipends immediately apart from the school's financial aid for grads who have, after months of house-hunting, found or are yet to find a room. Many of us have signed year-long leases and paid hefty security deposits for places that we have not even seen apart from in a couple of photos.

Meanwhile, the college can work with the concerned authorities on relaxing the zoning regulations that stipulate the number of people residing in a unit. This can facilitate room-sharing for those as yet without accommodation. The best solution would be to construct more affordable housing options that are clean, safe, hygienic places close to the graduate schools or at least to the bus line for the students.”

“I have acquired an off campus housing but the process of finding housing was a total nightmare! Firstly, The college should help alleviate the financial stress of students. Housing prices at Hanover are unbelievable. Paying the tuition fee and housing is costing way more than anybody has anticipated. And the worst part is that even if someone is willing to pay that much, chances are that they still won't find anything! This was really unexpected from Dartmouth and this is not what the students had signed up for.”

“Increase the graduate stipend, build more graduate student apartments, get more graduate student parking for all the people who live away from campus and drive in.”

## **Administrative solutions**

“An acknowledgement that this is a really expensive place to live would be nice. I've lived in major cities that are known to have expensive rents for the last 15 years, and this is the most I've ever had to pay. I know that places like Stanford have adjusted their stipends to reflect expensive housing prices, yet, in my experience, the Bay Area is cheaper than the Upper Valley, so maybe Dartmouth should take that into account.

I'm sure median rents are higher in the Bay Area than the Upper Valley, but grad students don't live in median rent apartments; they live in bottom rent apartments. Big expensive cities have a lot of low rent apartments available while they are almost non-existent in the Upper Valley.”

“Keep housing availability in mind when accepting new students.”

“Help students find more apartments.”

“Dartmouth NEEDS to address this problem more seriously. Were it not for a last minute, super lucky, apartment opening up my wife and I would have probably had to leave Dartmouth for the foreseeable future and/or dropped out of the program. There are others I have spoken to in the same or similar situation.

I believe that Dartmouth's graduate student housing program needs to significantly increase in size, as there simply are not nearly enough off-campus/non-university housing options available and the grad student housing is near impossible to actually obtain due to the insane demand. The current system for obtaining student housing also needs to be rethought. Simply being the first to click reserve on a listing has been automated somehow by unscrupulous students (but really: who can blame them?) and as such even within the FIRST MINUTE most listings are already reserved. This sort of thing is ridiculous and indicates that another, more fair method needs to be implemented.”

“More contact with landlords in the area so the university can help incoming students get in contact with them.”

“Assess available housing in the area and perhaps help prepare students for scarcity of housing when enrolling.”

“I would like to see Dartmouth 1) survey average rent costs for houses/apartments in the area (within a 5 mile radius of campus) and take that into account when determining the yearly stipend or 2) offer subsidized housing to graduate students and postdocs. It is currently extremely difficult to find roommates, so it would also help to have more set-ups like North Park available (for students at any stage in their graduate career, not just first years) where individuals sign a lease for a room in a unit and Dartmouth pairs them with a roommate. In the present situation, Dartmouth is very hands off in terms of graduate student/postdoc housing and it is extremely stressful and burdensome.”

“I think it would be helpful to have a school hosted graduate student roommate matching program or discussion board so incoming students can group up to find roommates to acquire more affordable housing. In my own interest, I plan to rent my home after I graduate and would prefer to rent to Dartmouth grad students. If there was a way to post vacancies to target Dartmouth grads would be helpful for me as well.

Transportation is a big issue too. A car is nearly a requirement to live outside of Hanover where rent is substantially cheaper. Without a car, you're dependent on the bus system here which is great, except for evening hours and especially for those commuting from Lebanon. There may not be enough riders to afford additional hours, but there is a substantial amount of students (at least science students) that have experiments or TA responsibilities that keep them on campus (hospital or main) later than when the bus is available. Uber is not a reliable option in the upper valley. Therefore a type of SafeRides or other type of organization that would allow students without cars to be transported from campus after hours would be extremely helpful.”



“Better planning for future so students can have affordable options, better communication with incoming student about their options and the timeline of finding housing in the Upper Valley.”

“Maybe a survey could be sent at the start/end of every year for people to indicate if they'd be willing to have a roommate/house incoming students who can't find a place to stay. Not sure if that actually helps anything or if that's already a thing, but then there would at least be some place they can go until they find housing and emails don't have to be sent out to find people (if enough volunteer). Otherwise, if Dartmouth has control over any properties, maybe one room per residence could be unoccupied/not available for occupancy so there's a physical space for incoming students (or something along those lines to give a physical space that isn't super costly to leave vacant if no-one moves in)? Then those new tenants can find something somewhere else if they want to move. These might be terrible ideas but maybe there's something helpful in there or can stimulate some thought.”

“Connecting incoming graduate students across different departments could be useful, my incoming cohort for the EEES program was 3 students including me so that made it more difficult to find other graduate students. I feel like if I knew more graduate students in other departments it would have been easier to coordinate and lock down a house.”

“I would like to see more properties available via the real estate office or have some real estate agents or hell even students willing to be hired at a reasonable rate to assist in the search. For people who have literally never been to the area before have no idea what to look for.”

“Work with the New Hampshire state government as well as the Vermont state government to address the housing situation not just for students, but for staff with families, community members of the two states who frequent the area, visitors/families of hospital patients, and thru-hikers who give Main Street Hanover it's character and it's personality. The problem will not be solved by subcontracting real estate agents and private builders, so

Dartmouth should follow the lead of federal and state judiciary and housing departments in this arena.”

“I wish Dartmouth can provide a 15-month housing option for all incoming QBS Master's students. It would be great if North Park would allow a 15-month lease for QBS Master's students. Now I have to worry about finding housing next June.”

“Help us find adequate housing.”

“Put pressure on Hanover to allow more multi-unit construction there - there is very little apartment-style housing available there that I know of and the houses are way out of a grad student's price range.”

“Offer a virtual orientation earlier on (before the summer foundations course) regarding housing, finances, schedules, etc.”

“Higher stipends, involvement/lobbying local zoning/planning/policy, rent control in hanover, new construction of housing, improvements in administration of dartmouth real estate office.”

“I think Dartmouth can provide more houses near Dartmouth opened in Real Estate Website. I found many houses close to Dartmouth were only available for faculty. Graduate students should also be able to apply for those houses. Sometimes the houses in upper valley have been rented out but they still show in the website. I spent a lot of time in contacting and confirming the availability. Hope Dartmouth can help update the status of the houses in upper valley. Thank you!”

“In the long-term it would be helpful to communicate about finding accommodations very early on in the process and emphasize the difficulty it takes to find accommodations.”

“For the QBS program provide guaranteed housing for the 3 months that extend beyond normal 1 year leases because it’s hard to find month by month leases for that fall term at the end of the program.”

“Maybe facilitate finding house mates. Personally it would have been really nice to have access to at least some of the benefits employees/profs get for finding and buying housing.”

“Help us!! I don't know what the best avenues are to go lease hunting in the upper valley and this year especially it seems like undergraduates are taking many leases.”

“Now: establish a better database with local apartment availabilities  
Long term: construct more residence halls for undergraduates to free up local apartments for graduate students.”

“Cooperate with some property agent and set some 'Dartmouth student only' apartments. Only for Dartmouth students, support international payments, give priority to international students.”

“Dartmouth tries to help out, but it is tough with limited housing supply in the area. Maybe send reminders to students earlier in the year when it would be best to try to begin searching for housing.”

“1. provide more guidance for incoming students on where/how to find housing. 2. Provide more direct help to incoming students i.e. have someone personally reach out to students who are having a tough time finding housing.”

## **Transportation solutions**

“Offer shuttles in the evenings and on weekends. Offer shuttles to social security office AND the DMV. Provide housing credits for those living in Hanover. Provide more housing facilities. Advocate for affordable rent.”

“Improve public transport by going into late hours, weekends with increased frequency and further range and coverage of nearby towns.

Allow space in the undergraduate housing to host graduate students as well.

Provide subsidy for students in off campus housing.

Have an arrangement with local inns to temporarily host graduate students until they find a suitable place of residency.”

“Dartmouth grad students constantly feel as though they are "second-rate" students compared to undergrads. This feeling extends to the lack of reasonable, affordable housing for grad students near campus. More housing is needed, and the college should pay more attention to grad students. Also, Advanced Transit is a good resource, but it is absolutely not possible to live more than walking distance away from campus and survive without a car of your own. The AT's hours are not long enough for grad students who often have to work long hours, and they do not run on weekends. The lack of housing forces students to live further away from campus, where they have to get their own car (which can be a huge issue for international students), and then—to add insult to injury—they are forced to pay a large fee (especially on a grad students limited stipend) to pay for a parking pass when there are no other options. If a student does not have a license and do not have the time and/or money required to get one, they are forced to pay extremely high rents to live in poor quality housing options in town.”

“It would make things a bit easier for students if Dartmouth spent some of its money on the advance transit or a dartmouth transport system. For example, the school can create an extended hours transit at least up to 9pm during weekdays and a few hours on the weekend as we often need to work longer in the lab. This would also make it easier for students to live in areas further from Hanover, and find better housing options. I bet many students wouldn't mind paying a small fee for these extra bus service hours.”

“It makes current and new graduate students feel disregarded (& not welcomed) to not have continuous housing options on campus. North park is only for the first year. I have never seen a graduate school program do that to graduate students. We feel like we are just extras on campus and everything revolves around making the undergraduate experience good. Other programs also have well subsidized (reasonably priced) housing options for graduate students.

Also, if the main graduate housing (sachem) is located ~10min drive from the main campus, there needs to be more shuttles and transportation options other than the orange line which only comes every hour, only runs until ~5pm, doesn't even come all the way into the village (in the winter, the walk to the bus station is very icy and dangerous!) and doesn't even run on the weekend.

In sum, main concerns are 1) transportation/commute (either public transit or better parking) and 2) pricing.”

“Provide sufficient Dartmouth housing and more importantly, the bus (at least for peak times) should also have additional stops around those student housing areas (Sachem -- students have to walk 15+ minutes to get to stop).”

“Form of transportation from Lebanon and surrounding areas to campus on the weekends would be a life saver.”

“There need to be more local places for students to live or better transportation to and from campus. The competition for a place to live extends beyond just Dartmouth. The Upper Valley as a whole doesn't seem to have adequate and affordable housing especially those with lower income like graduate students. Parking should also be free! Encourage people to commute by not charging almost \$200/yr to commute. I think a stipend for housing makes a lot of sense. If graduate students cannot save up any money before graduation, how can they expect to survive the 4-6mo it can take to find a job. It's setting people up to be at the poverty line.”

“Options for public transportation to rural areas (make use of existing park & ride areas?).”

“Parking near campus is difficult and expensive, anything to help with parking would be helpful, I'm worried about driving to campus for classes and I do not really live within walking distance.”

“- Start a shuttle service on the weekends to get to the two campuses; it may take pressure off to live close by with expensive rent if people can easily access labs.

- Provide housing that takes into account international student stipends which are taxed higher than citizens/residents and often have no savings for security deposits or emergencies within rental unit (in addition to a costly relocation).”