Housing

Considerations
You would be wise to allow a week or so to find housing before your program begins. Many apartments within walking distance of campus cater to students and adults without children, and are rented far in advance by students. Many more housing options are available further away from campus. Parking in the campus area is very limited, but the public transportation system in Madison is very good and there are many bicycle routes throughout the city.

University Housing (primarily for students, but occasionally available for scholars):
If you would like to live in University housing, or family & dependent housing write to University Housing, Slichter Hall, 625 Babcock Drive, Madison, WI 53706, for an application form. Or, visit their website at http://www.housing.wisc.edu/ for more information. Also, short-term housing may be available with University Housing as well.

Private Housing
If you plan to live in privately owned apartments, you may want to visit the Campus Information and Visitor’s Center’s website for a listing of local apartments for rent as well as answers to frequently asked questions about the housing situation in Madison. http://housing.civc.wisc.edu/.

Some apartments are available with furniture; others are rented unfurnished. Be careful to check whether or not the rent includes heat and/or utilities. You will probably be required to pay one month’s rent in advance and another month’s rent as a damage deposit. To finalize the renting process, you will be required to sign a lease. A lease is a contract, which outlines all the terms and conditions you as a renter are responsible for. Be sure you understand what your lease says, you are legally responsible to observe all the terms of the lease once you have signed your name to it. If you are unclear about any aspect of the terminology in the lease, ask someone else to view it before signing. Lastly, do not sign a lease until you have seen the apartment in person.

Temporary Housing
Temporary housing (1-3 days) for new international scholars is offered, when available, by “Madison Friends of International Students” (MFIS) and Madison area volunteers. If you contact MFIS please include your name, address, arrival date, and gender. Their office is located in the International Student Services (ISS) Office on campus at 217 Red Gym. Contact MFIS, Inc., preferably at least 6 weeks in advance, at 217 Red Gym, 716 Langdon Dr., Madison, WI 53706; phone: 608-263-4010; fax: 608-262-2838; e-mail: mfis@regym.wisc.edu; website: http://iss.wisc.edu.

The office is staffed by volunteers between 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon, Monday through Friday. When the office is not staffed, volunteers continue to check e-mail and voice mail and they’ll get back to you as soon as possible.

Visit the Madison Visitor’s Bureau website for a listing of local hotel and motel accommodations at www.visitmadison.com/ Or contact the CIVC for other options including hotels/motels and short course dorms. For information on short course dorms call (608) 262-2270.

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Revised on 09/2009