

The following thorough cost and living-style comparison was created by residents who lived at the I-House, moved out, and then moved back in to I-House. We hope it will be helpful to prospective residents of I-House considering off-campus versus I-House living.

SJSU International House

v.

Features:

- 72 residents
- *35 bedrooms
- Community bathroom
- 4 floors; 3 sets of stairs
- Entertainment room
 - big screen TV supplied
 - couch supplied
- Laundry room
 - Quarter operated laundry appliance
- Backyard
 - hammock, tables, chairs, shade, BBQ
- Community living
- Student Council
- Student kitchen
 - refrigerator
 - freezer
 - oven
 - microwave
 - sink
 - electric stove top
 - cookware supplied
 - silverware supplied
- Distance
 - 3 blocks from campus
- Area
 - quiet residential

Rent:

- 2 semesters @ \$3100/sem.
 - \$6200
 - Aug-Dec/Jan-May

Board:

- DC/Platinum: 2 semesters @ \$2159/sem.
 - \$4318

Utility:

- PG & E
 - included within rent
 - Aug-Dec/Jan-May

Wireless Internet:

- Comcast
 - covered by management

Cable:

- Direct TV
 - included within rent

Student Council

- 2 semesters @ \$40/sem.
 - \$80

Newspaper:

- Wall Street, NY and SJ
 - covered by management

Water/Garbage:

- covered by management

TOTAL fiscal COST: \$ 10,598

**Grant-in-Aid:*

- Earn \$650-\$2800 price reduction/year
- 3-8 hr work/week/sem.
- Total fiscal Cost: \$9948 - \$7798
- Total fiscal savings: \$572 - \$2722

Features:

- 4 residents
- 4 bedrooms
- One full private bathroom
- 2 floors; 1 set of stairs
- Entertainment room
 - supply TV
 - supply seating
- Laundry room
 - self-serve laundry room
- Backyard
 - couch, shade
- Independent living
- Independent council
- Full private kitchen
 - refrigerator
 - freezer
 - oven
 - microwave
 - sink
 - gas stove top
 - supply cookware
 - supply silverware
- Distance
 - 1 block from campus
- Area
 - noisy residential

Rent:

- 12 months @ \$700/month
 - \$8400
 - July 1st – June 31st

Board:

- Safeway/Costco; \$140/month
 - \$1400

Utility:

- PG & E; 12 months @ ~\$30/month
 - \$360
 - July 1st – May 31st

Wireless Internet:

- Comcast; 12 months @ ~\$15/month
 - \$180

Cable:

- Comcast; 12 months @ \$15/month
 - \$180

Student Council:

- none
 - none

Newspaper:

- none
 - Not included

Water/Garbage:

- land-lords cost

TOTAL fiscal COST: \$10,520

"Hi Leann,

Yes, I checked the breakdown and comparison made by a resident on our website. For the meal plan, I think it's a good deal. I agree with the statement on the website saying that residents don't have to worry about shopping, cooking, and cleaning. This relates to time saving, which is important for students. This is a good deal for us who can't cook or don't want to cook for whatever reasons. We can spend that time for studying and having fun.

I just saw the updated DC operating hours on its website. Basically, if we have a platinum meal plan, with \$16 a day, we'll get a buffet deal for 18.5 hours from M to Th, 15.5 hours on F, and 12 hours on the weekend. We can also eat in the House for breakfast and dinner. Again, this associates to time saving.

For the room fee, I heard many alumni were surprised when they knew that they had to pay for using the laundry and drying machine. I guess we should mention about this on the website (about \$8 a month). Also, I know many international students want to work while they stay in the US. With the work limitation of their F-1 or J-1 visa, working in the I-House is a good deal. If you let the residents work for 8 hours a week, they can earn about \$256 a month. After all, it's still a good deal: about \$880 - \$256 = +/- \$625 a month.

The payment options are more convenient now: It can be in a monthly basis, the deposit is cheaper than most places, and we can pay by credit cards or checks (most places only receive checks). Also, we can't pay late in other places, while in the I-House, we can always talk to you if we have financial problems and will pay late. This is another positive aspect living in the I-House. We are treated as a family member, not a stranger.

It is nice discussing with you about the I-House. I look forward to staying in touch. Have a great day."

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