

# welcomelD

a handbook for students, by students

**IIT Institute of Design**

[id.iit.edu/newstudents](http://id.iit.edu/newstudents)

Credit: Rachel Huvard

# Welcome to the Institute of Design

You've made a great decision in attending IIT Institute of Design (ID) a school at the forefront of a new way of thinking about user-centered design and how design can influence business and social policy. ID is a small, intensive program with outstanding professors who are leaders in the design community. The student body is tightly knit, providing a healthy social balance to the academic rigors of the program.

## How to use this document

Students at ID created this guide for you because we know how daunting it can be to move to a new area and go back to school. You probably have a lot of questions. Use this document and the links contained within as a starting point for preparing. This document is passed on from year to year, and it evolves with the student body, ID, and the City of Chicago.

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# Sound Advice

You will quickly realize that we do things a little differently at ID. Here are a few pieces of advice to help get you started.

### **Ask someone**

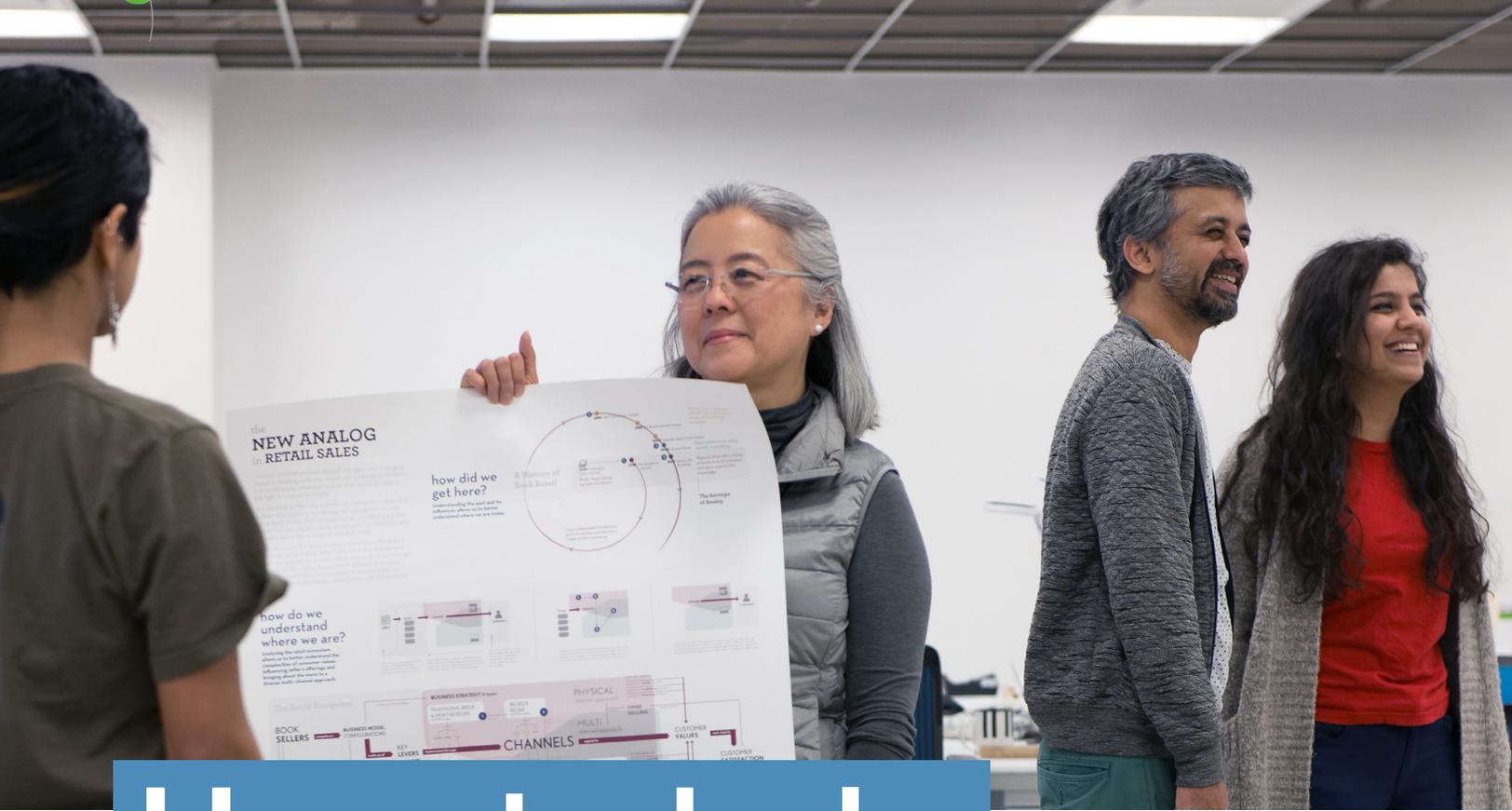
No one that can answer your questions better than your classmates. Ask questions, share answers, and you will be rewarded with a richer ID experience.

Don't be shy. Everyone around you has been in a similar position, and we are a friendly bunch (even if we look really busy).

### **Immerse yourself**

Be prepared to immerse yourself completely at ID. Many students say that this is the most intense and rewarding academic experience they have had.

Before the immersion begins, be sure to take full advantage of your summer. Spend quality time with your friends and family. If you want to prep for school, start learning new software or do some design reading.



# Here to help

The admissions team is with you all the way.  
You can always reach out to us at any time with questions.



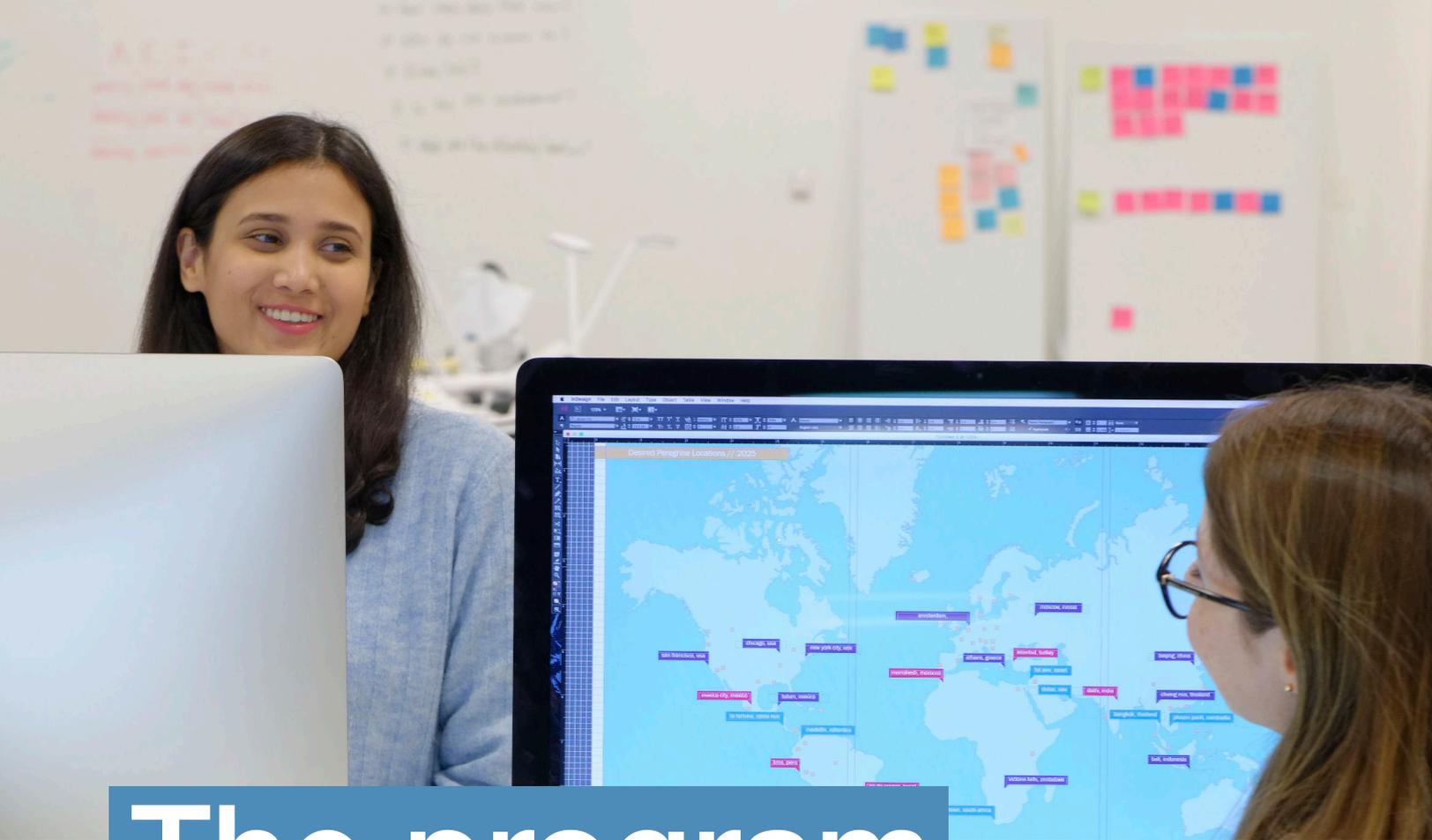
Rachel Dean  
Director, Graduate Admission and Student Engagement  
rdean@id.iit.edu

- Reach out to Rachel regarding:
- Housing
  - Health insurance
  - Advisor information
  - Deposit
  - UPass
  - Visas



Krista Roble  
Enrollment Advisor  
kroble@id.iit.edu

- Reach out to Krista regarding:
- Financial aid
  - Fellowships and scholarships
  - Connecting to the ID community
  - Career services



# The program

## Orientation

Orientation is an excellent opportunity to glean information and meet other students, faculty, and administration.

Main orientation is a week-long event that introduces ID methods and their origins, advising and registration, and all other administrative details. It's also a chance to meet faculty and hear about upcoming courses and workshops.

It is critical in getting you set up for the first week of class.

# What to expect

A day in the life of an ID student can be demanding and stressful, but it's always rewarding. You live and breathe class projects week after week, fill your head with design knowledge, and engage with your classmates. Below is an overview of foundation year and first year, from the student perspective.

## Foundation

From the Foundation students

“The typical week consists of three days of studio, one and a half days off, and half a day for Intro to Design. Don't be fooled by 'time off,' though. In between studio classes, you are busy with class projects. Every hour of your week is accounted for.”

“Every week you produce something new for each of your studio classes. This could result in a bunch of photos, a logo design, a foam core model of a product design, several ideation sketches... .. a 30-second film or animation, or an eight-page brochure. You learn all the methods behind the design, the process goes from analysis to synthesis to ideation, and the techniques to create these things by computer and by hand.”

“Foundation provides you with all the design knowledge you'll need for the main program. You get to know the school, the students, the classes, faculty, and staff all before you are inundated with the even more intense workload of the main program.”

“An exhilarating and exhausting introduction to the world of design.”

“Foundation year has a lot of support available in the form of seniors, faculty, and staff. Do not hesitate to reach out and ask questions.”

## First year

From the MDes students

“First year of MDes/MDM is intense. You will immediately be immersed in a highly collaborative environment where you'll have to produce work with other students. A big part of your education comes from figuring out on your own how to work well with others, usually with no hierarchy! Make sure to keep an open mind, invite in the ideas of others, say “yes and” as much as you can, and stay humble and respectful while also getting your ideas and contributions heard. Work harder than you ever have before, treat your teammates like respected co-workers as if your life depends on it, and you will go far at ID.”

“Teamwork makes the dreamwork! Think about what you want to get out of the courses you will be taking at ID and how you might work within a student-group setting.”

“It's going to be super fast, the semester ends before you even noticed. Learn from your classmates, ask questions, make things happen. Have fun.”

# Materials + Printing

## Materials

You will need materials to prototype and make things. **Wait until you get to school to purchase things**— you'll get a complete list from your professors.

Here are some of the popular places that students go for supplies:

### Amazon

Students can sign up for free Amazon Prime for free 2 business day shipping.

[amazon.com/student](https://amazon.com/student)

### Blick Art Materials

The largest art supply store near school. Sign up for their membership card and get discounts.

*42 South State, 312-920-0300*

[dickblick.com](https://dickblick.com)

### American Science and Surplus

Sells a mix of industrial and educational items

*5316 N. Milwaukee Avenue, (773) 763-0313*

### ReBuilding Exchange

Building materials store

*1740 W Webster Ave, (773) 252-2234*

### Ace Hardware

Tools and supplies for projects.

*Gordon's Ace Hardware 775 S State St, 312-527-4200*

*Joe Harris Paint and True Value 3301 S Wallace St,*

*773-268-0001*

### Office Depot

*352 West Grand, 312-670-8200*

### Staples

*111 North Wabash, 312-641-1213*

*1130 S Canal, 312-588-0924*

### ID Shop and Past Students!

## Printing

You will need to print posters, booklets, and brochures. Here are some tried and trusted places from ID students:

### IIT Institute of Design

ID has printing services for medium to large format prints. Large volume print jobs are usually better sent to external print shops.

### FedEx Office

FedEx is the closest print shop to school. If possible, it's best to send them materials overnight and pick them up in the morning.

*17 W 35th St Suite A, 773-924-0586*

### ABC Imaging

Located in the South Loop. Good option for quick binding.

*161 West Harrison, Suite C101, 312-253-0040*

### Blurb

For photo books, magazines, trade books, etc.

[blurb.com](https://blurb.com)

### Concorde Printing & Copying

Another option downtown.

*2 Prudential Plaza, 180 N Stetson Ave (130 E. Randolph), Lobby Level CL-10, 312-552-3006*

### Deluxe Print and Design

Print shop located in Armour Square.

*2816 S Wentworth Ave #1, 312-225-0061*

### Lazare Printing

Efficient, professional boutique print shop located in Lincoln Park.

*709 West Wrightwood, 773-871-2500*

### M13 Graphics

Commercial printers providing a variety of services for products including business cards, stickers, brochures, and posters.

*237 W 26th St, 312-929-3376*

# Equipment

Technology is changing constantly, so plan to spend as little money as possible on it before you get to school. Just bring yourself, pen, and paper to take notes.

## Computers

Most students have laptops and ID is almost completely Apple/Mac. But it's not a problem if you want to use a PC, since most of the software you will need is available on both platforms. The only drawback is that it might be more difficult to find someone who can help troubleshoot any PC specific problems.

You will be eligible for student pricing at the Apple Online Store, among other places. Your student ID is needed to prove that you are a student, so you may have to wait until your ID card is issued during orientation week to receive your discount. Sometimes a letter of acceptance and a photo ID will suffice though, so call the store to check the policy.

As far as technical specifications, the Macbook Pro highly recommended over the Macbook Air, with the following configuration:

- 8GB RAM minimum
- 256GB SSD or greater of internal storage
- i5 Intel processor minimum
- 1TB or greater external drive (USB3 or Firewire)
- 2 button mouse with scroll wheel (not Apple Magic Mouse) for use with Adobe CC and Rhino
- Backpack/bag that has protective padding on the sides and bottom
- An extra charger to leave at home or desk is nice.

Wacom has a great series of tablets for drawing, but wait until you get to school to try them out and ask questions of fellow students.

## Digital camera

The other major purchase you'll likely incur is a digital camera. Introduction to Photography, a required course for all foundation students, uses point-and-shoots or dSLRs, which usually run \$300–\$500. Even if you are not in foundation, a quality digital camera is a good investment for ID because you will use it for courses such as user research, product design, and documentary photography. If you do not have a camera, **wait until orientation week** when you meet with the photography professor before you purchase one. If you already have a dSLR from Nikon, Canon, or Sony you should be just fine, but check with your photography professor to make sure that the specifications of your camera will meet the needs of the class.

## Software

As with hardware purchases, software can be bought with a student discount once you have a valid IIT identification card. **We recommend waiting until you get here to purchase software.** Most software has a 30-day trial period that can get you through the first month of school.

Software requirements for each class differ by semester. You can get a head start by acquiring and learning some of these programs before school starts:

- **Adobe Creative Cloud**  
[adobe.com/products/creativecloud.html](https://adobe.com/products/creativecloud.html)
- **Apple Keynote & Pages**  
Comes installed on new Macs, or can be purchased through the App Store.
- **Rhinoceros**  
Free for Mac, \$195 for Windows [rhino3d.com](https://rhino3d.com)
- **Cloud Backup Software**  
Backblaze for Mac is \$5 a month and great.  
[backblaze.com](https://backblaze.com)
- **Audio Transcription Service**

# Think design

## Professional design groups

IDSA (Industrial Design Society of America) holds networking events, student workshops and national conferences [idsa.org](http://idsa.org), [idsachicago.org](http://idsachicago.org)

SDN (Service Design Network) is making a push for broader use of service design in local organizations.

AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Arts) is a great resource for all things 2D. [aiga.org](http://aiga.org), [aigachicago.org](http://aigachicago.org)

STA (Society of Typographic Arts) emphasizes all things typography and sometimes graphic design [sta-chicago.org](http://sta-chicago.org)

IxDA Chicago (Interaction Design Association) hosts monthly events focused on UX design [ixdachicago.org](http://ixdachicago.org)

Archeworks is another local design program, also has interesting lectures and exhibitions [archeworks.org](http://archeworks.org)

## Books on design

Toothpicks and Logos written by ID professor John Heskett, is a good book to get you started in design.

The Art of Innovation by Tom Kelley, is a closer look into IDEO's design methods and practices.

10 Types of Innovation by ID board member Larry Keeley

101 Design Methods by Vijay Kumar

Change by Design by Tim Brown

Design Secrets: Products: 50 Real-Life Product Design Projects by IDSA;

Bauhaus by Frank Whitford is a good look at the history of ID and its roots

The Design of Everyday Things by Donald Norman

The Evolution of Useful Things by Henry Petroski

Rapid Viz by Hanks and Belliston is a great book to learn sketching

Grid Systems in Graphic Design by Josef Muller Brockman.

If there is a topic you are particularly interested in, ask your professors—they are always happy to give suggestions.

## Design web sites

- [core77.com](http://core77.com)
- [designobserver.com](http://designobserver.com)
- [fastcodesign.com](http://fastcodesign.com)
- [coroflot.com](http://coroflot.com)
- [pfsk.com](http://pfsk.com)
- [ted.com](http://ted.com)
- [underconsideration.com](http://underconsideration.com)
- [businessweek.com/innovate](http://businessweek.com/innovate)



# Chicago life

## Newspapers

**Chicago Reader** A free monthly guide to Chicago that can be found in many stores and restaurants. [chicagoreader.com](http://chicagoreader.com)

**Chicago Tribune.** A nationally recognized daily newspaper and Chicago staple for the past 150 years. [chicagotribune.com](http://chicagotribune.com)

**Chicago Sun-Times** The less sophisticated of Chicago's two major dailies. [suntimes.com](http://suntimes.com)

**Red Eye.** The Tribune's entertainment and sports-oriented daily supplement; designed for quick reading. [redeyechicago.com](http://redeyechicago.com)

**Windy City Times.** A gay and lesbian weekly. Even though the paper's offices are downtown, it covers the entire country. [wctimes.com](http://wctimes.com)

## Websites

**Chicago City Search** Overall city guide. [chicago.citysearch.com](http://chicago.citysearch.com)

**Chicagoist** News and events, restaurants and nightlife, happenings, and photography. [chicagoist.com](http://chicagoist.com)

**Choose Chicago** Chicago's tourism organization includes information about various leisure activities around the city. [choosechicago.com](http://choosechicago.com)

**Metromix** Chicago restaurants, bars, entertainment, clubs, and nightlife. [metromix.com](http://metromix.com)

**Timeout** Chicago's guide to theater, restaurants, bars, movies, shopping, fashion, events, activities, things to do, music, art, clubs, tours, dance & nightlife. [timeout.com/chicago](http://timeout.com/chicago)

**Yelp** Peer-aggregated reviews of retail, restaurants, salons, and other local businesses. [yelp.com](http://yelp.com)

**WBEZ** Chicago's public radio station, a good source for local news. [wbez.org](http://wbez.org)

# Apartment hunting

In Chicago, finding an apartment you like is not as difficult as it is in Manhattan or San Francisco; supply and demand seem to be fairly balanced. Nevertheless, there are many factors to consider in choosing a place to live.

## Mindset

Keep in mind that your lifestyle is going to change now that you are in graduate school, so your needs for space at home may change too. Many students choose to have roommates from school because they come with the “ID Seal of Approval” and understand the lifestyle and professional interests of a designer. It is also nice to have someone to travel home with after a late night at school, which can be challenging in some areas due to infrequent bus/train schedules. Use the Google Group and student bulletin board to introduce yourself and meet new potential roommates.

## Housing terms

**High-rise apartments** are large buildings that can go up to 80 stories, often with a desk staff to receive packages.

**Walk-ups and Brownstone flats** are free-standing buildings with 2-4 stories that do not have elevators

**Studio apartments** are small apartments, often above a shop, with the kitchen, bedroom, and living room all in one room.

**1, 2, 3 bedroom apartments** have a separate kitchen, bedroom, and living room spaces, usually with 1 (possibly 2) bathrooms.

## Cost of Living

To get a sense of how Chicago compares to where you live now, try this cost of living calculator:

Numbeo [numbeo.com/cost-of-living/](https://numbeo.com/cost-of-living/)

Be aware of some of the facts of Chicago apartment living—the older the building, the smaller the space (including closet space). In places like Ukrainian Village, Bucktown, or Wicker Park, you will most likely pay your own utilities for heating the apartment with gas or electric. With steam heated buildings, more common in neighborhoods like Andersonville and Rogers Park, the landlord usually pays.

To save money, consider finding a roommate—two-bedroom apartment is not much more expensive than a one-bedroom, and a three-bedroom apartment can often be shared for the price of a studio.

## Temporary Housing

Airbnb [airbnb.com](https://airbnb.com)

Arlington House hostel [arlingtonhouse.com](https://arlingtonhouse.com)

Hosteling International Chicago [hichicago.org](https://hichicago.org)

Gunsaulus Hall Guest House on the IIT campus:  
[312-567-5075](https://312-567-5075)

## Apartment Listings

Domu [domu.com](https://domu.com)

Padmapper [padmapper.com](https://padmapper.com)

Trulia [trulia.com](https://trulia.com)

Zillow [zillow.com](https://zillow.com)

Padmapper [padmapper.com](https://padmapper.com)

Hot Pads [hotpads.com](https://hotpads.com)

Craigslist <https://chicago.craigslist.org/>

## Apartment search firms

If you don't have time, brokers and real estate agents can help you narrow your choice. These services are free to you—the landlord pays the fees. Some of the better known firms include:

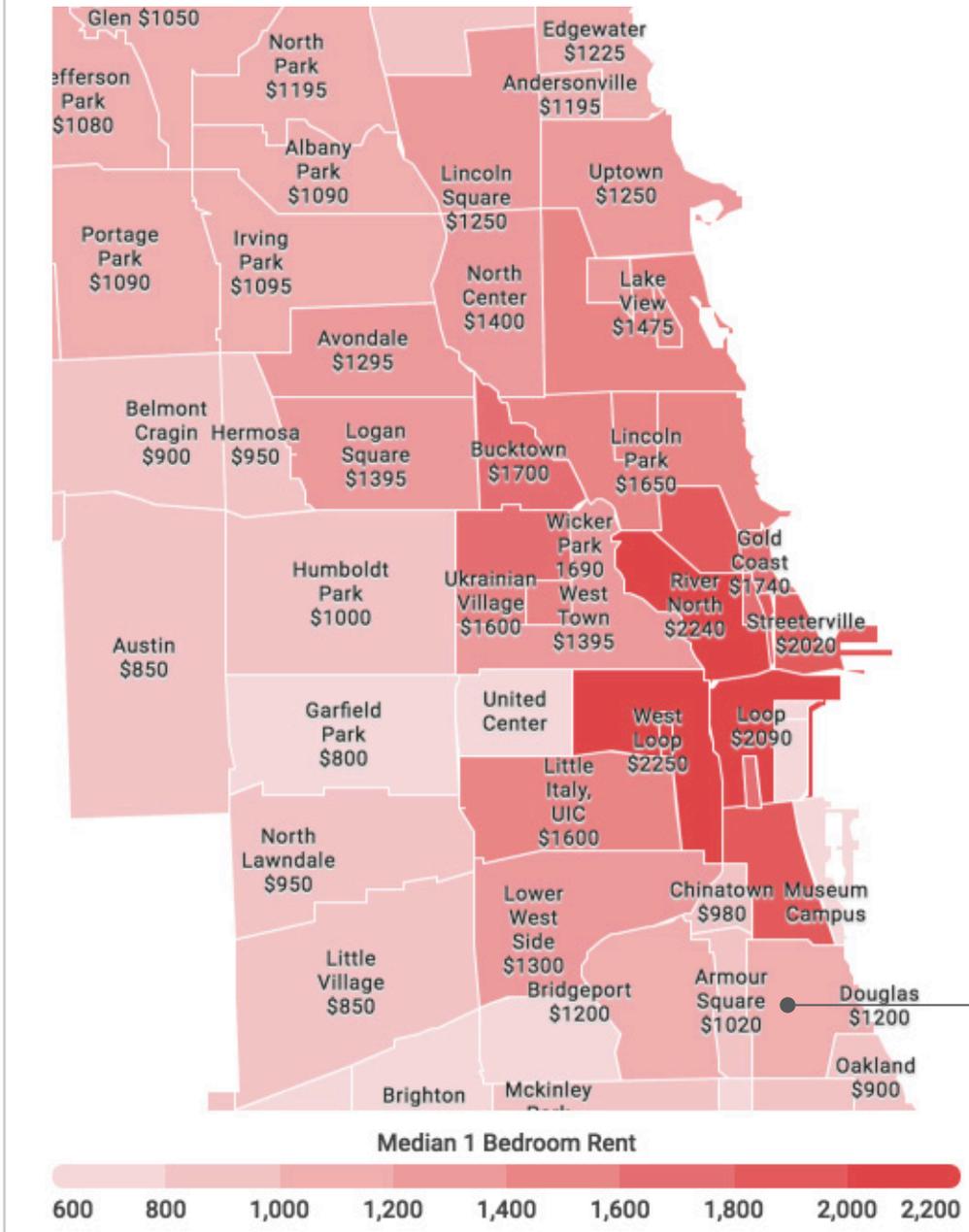
The Apartment People

[apartmentpeople.com](https://apartmentpeople.com)

Chicago Apartment Finders

[chicagoapartmentfinders.com](https://chicagoapartmentfinders.com)

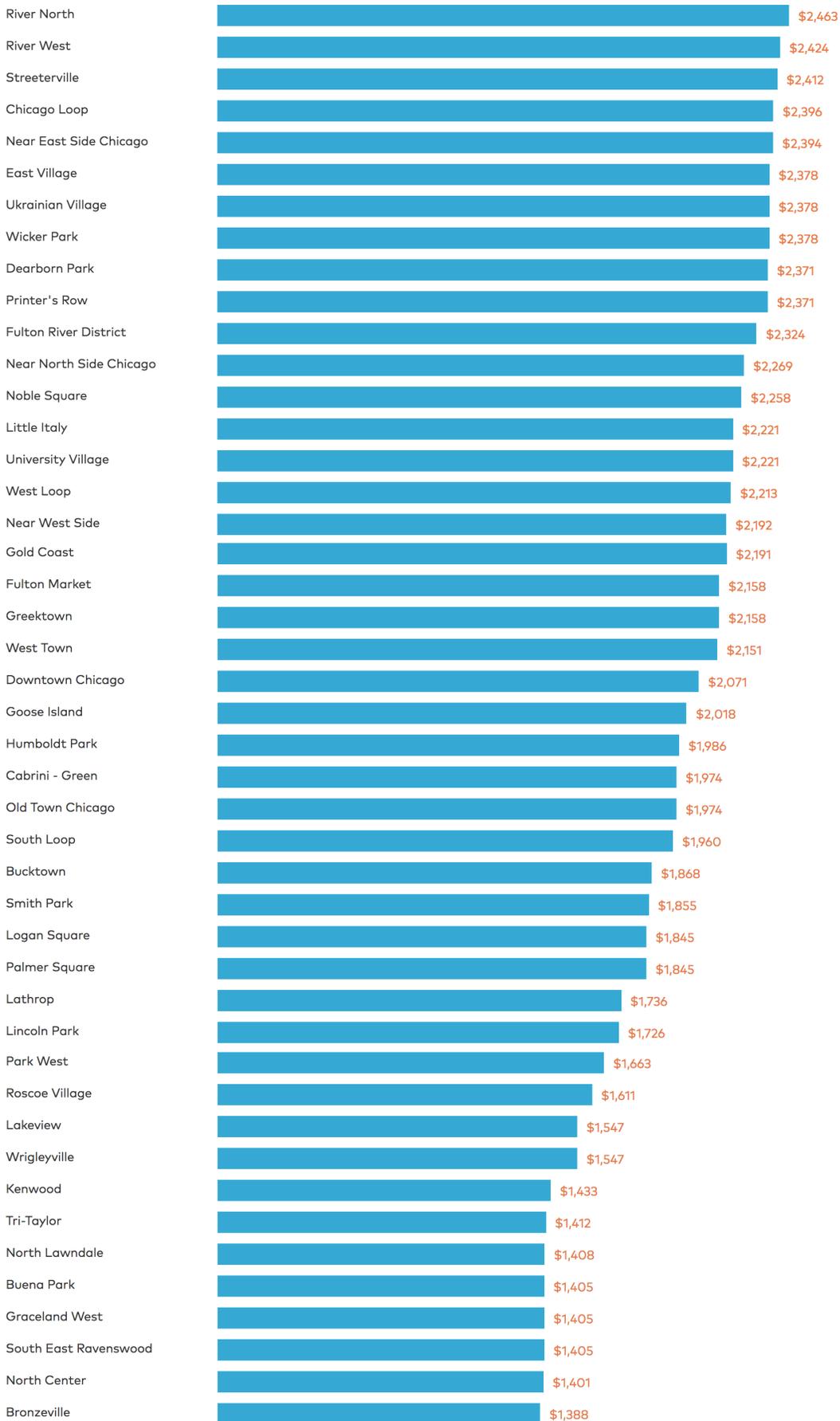
# MEDIAN 1-BEDROOM RENT



# 1 bedroom rent

On the following pages, there are maps of the city, with estimated rental rates, for various Chicago neighborhoods.

## Average Rent in Chicago, IL By Neighborhood - 1 bedroom



# Chicago neighborhoods

Chicago is divided into three major parts; the North Side, the West Side, and the South Side (the “East Side” is Lake Michigan). Each of the geographical divisions is a mosaic of neighborhoods divided by ethnicity and income that give Chicago its wondrous diversity and vitality.

## North

### Wrigleyville/Lakeview \$\$

PRO: Wrigleyville, so named for its most famous landmark, Wrigley Field at the corner of Addison and Clark, is the neighborhood of choice for many recent college grads because of its proximity to the lake, its relative affordability, and its lively social scene.

CON: Parking can be a problem closer to the lake and when the Cubs play day games. The large number of sports bars and restaurants means that the area tends to be noisy on nights and weekends throughout the year.

“L” transportation: Red and Brown Lines

### Old Town \$\$\$

PRO: Old Town is the closest neighborhood to the Loop and North Michigan that actually has a neighborhood feel to it. Home to single professionals and young marrieds.

CON: While attractive and convenient to the best things the city has to offer, housing here is not cheap.

“L” transportation: Red and Brown Lines

### Uptown/Sheridan Park \$\$

PRO: Uptown is a neighborhood with many historical and architectural landmarks. Get a drink at and enjoy some jazz at the Green Mill, sip coffee at one of the many contemporary cafes lining the streets, or laze on nearby Montrose beach.

CON: Travel time starts getting a little longer, particularly from the new ID campus.

“L” transportation: Red Line

### Lincoln Park \$\$\$

PRO: Lincoln Park is the heart of Chicago’s North Side. The neighborhood has almost everything you could want. Housing ranges from high rises to two- and three-flat brownstones to cottages. It’s the preferred address for many Chicagoans.

CON: Unfortunately, there are few, if any, real estate bargains left in Lincoln Park after more than 30 years of gentrification. Parking is also tricky.

“L” transportation: Red and Brown Lines

### DePaul/Lincoln Park West \$\$

PRO: DePaul University is the anchor for this multi-faceted neighborhood just to the west of Lincoln Park proper. The area immediately adjacent to the university is young, which makes for a lively nightlife. There’s great shopping along Clybourn and tons restaurants and bars along Lincoln Ave.

CON: There are still some areas that are a bit grimy and somewhat industrial. Parking is hard unless you pay for a permit.

“L” transportation: Red and Brown Lines

## South

### South Loop \$\$\$

PRO: The South Loop has been developing steadily since the early 1980s and continues to enjoy a construction boom. If you want to be close to the Loop, few locations are more convenient or architecturally attractive.

CON: Being so close to downtown, South Loop is not cheap.

“L” transportation: Red, Green, and Orange Lines

### **Bridgeport \$\$**

PRO: White Sox fans will love being so close to Guaranteed Rate Field, home to the White Sox. Bridgeport is brimming with vibrant art spaces and diverse food options. Getting from this neighborhood to ID's new campus is a breeze.

CON: Cubs fans may feel out of place, particularly during baseball season.

"L" transportation: Red and Blue Lines

### **Bronzeville \$\$**

PRO: This neighborhood is of great historical significance, a landmark of the Great Migration, and was once home to jazz musician Louis Armstrong. Modern day Bronzeville is a place of stunning architecture and public art.

CON: Some parts of the neighborhood can get a little edgy after dark.

"L" transportation: Green and Red Lines

### **Chinatown \$\$**

PRO: This vibrant neighborhood is awash with culture, specialty shops and authentic cuisine. Chinatown has affordable housing, great shopping, award winning restaurants and striking public art.

CON: Limited parks and recreation areas.

"L" transportation: Green and Red Lines

## **West**

### **Logan Square \$\$**

PRO: Logan Square has lower rents than its easterly neighbors, and it's conveniently located for commuters. At street level, there are excellent thrift stores, fruit markets, and restaurants along Milwaukee Ave.

CON: The commute starts to be a bit long.

"L" transportation: Blue Line

### **Wicker Park and Bucktown \$\$\$**

PRO: "The hippest neighborhoods in Chicago," as proclaimed by several magazines, is full of gorgeous architecture, shops, restaurants, and bars. It strikes a nice balance of neighborhood living and hip nightlife. It's also an easy commute downtown.

CON: You significantly increase your chances of being called a hipster.

"L" Transportation: Blue Line

### **Ukrainian Village/West Town \$\$\$**

PRO: Unlike other ethnic enclaves in Chicago, the Ukrainian stamp remains on the neighborhood with its onion-domed churches and signs in the Cyrillic alphabet. West Town, formerly the center of Chicago's meat and produce markets, has an old-school Chicago feel. Both draw artists and students seeking bargains.

CON: Unfortunately, many areas in Ukrainian Village are far from "L" stops, so be sure to keep this in mind when you're searching for a place.

"L" Transportation: Blue Line

## **Additional neighborhoods**

### **NORTH**

Streeterville \$\$\$

Gold Coast \$\$\$\$

North Center \$\$

Ravenswood \$\$

Lincoln Square \$\$

Edgewater \$\$

Andersonville \$\$

East and West Rogers Park \$

### **WEST**

Albany Park \$\$

Taylor St. / University of Illinois–Chicago \$\$

Pilsen \$\$

### **SOUTH**

The Gap \$

Hyde Park \$\$

For more detailed info on neighborhoods, check out [explorechicago.org/city/](http://explorechicago.org/city/).





# Student recommended

Chicago has a rich culinary tradition, and exploring it is one of the best ways to get to know different neighborhoods. Here is a sampling of different offerings to get you started.

## Food

**Revolution Brewing (Logan Square)**  
Busy local brewery with great food and atmosphere. \$\$  
2323 North Milwaukee, 773-227-2739  
[revbrew.com](http://revbrew.com)

**Handlebar (Wicker Park)**  
Cheap and good vegetarian and vegan fare with a good beer selection. \$\$\$  
2311 West North Avenue, 773-384-9546  
[handlebarchicago.com](http://handlebarchicago.com)

**Big Star (Wicker Park)**  
Tacos and whiskey rock bar. Savory, affordable, great vibe. \$\$  
1531 N Damen Ave, 773-235-4039  
[bigstarchicago.com](http://bigstarchicago.com)

**Piece Brewery and Pizzeria (Wicker Park)**  
Pizza and tasty craft beer. \$\$  
1927 W North Ave, 773-772-4422  
[piecechicago.com](http://piecechicago.com)

**Iguana Cafe (River West)**  
European coffee house. Crepes, sandwiches, and pasta. \$\$  
517 N Halsted St, 312-432-0663  
[iguanacafe.com](http://iguanacafe.com)

**San Soo Gab San (Lincoln Square)**  
Korean BBQ, open 24 hours, serves all Korean dishes as well as sushi from the Japanese restaurant next door. \$\$  
5247 North Western, 773-334-1589  
[ssgsbbq.com](http://ssgsbbq.com)

**Sultan's Market (Wicker Park, Lincoln Park)**  
Best falafel in town. \$  
2057 West North Avenue, 773-235-3072  
2521 N Clark Street, 312-638-9151  
[chicagofalafel.com](http://chicagofalafel.com)

**La Pasadita (Wicker Park)**  
Awesome tacos, open late night. \$  
1141 North Ashland, 773-278-2130  
[pasadita.com](http://pasadita.com)

### Ramen Wasabi (Logan Square)

Japanese street fare, with full bar. \$\$  
2101 N Milwaukee Ave, 773-227-8180  
[wasabichicago.com](http://wasabichicago.com)

### Lonesome Rose (Logan Square)

Mexican restaurant in a warehouse style setting. \$\$  
2101 N California Ave, 773-770-3414  
[lonesomeroose.com](http://lonesomeroose.com)

### Parson's Chicken & Fish (Logan Square)

Fried chicken & fish, salads, sandwiches, sushi, cocktails. \$\$  
2952 W Armitage Ave, 773-384-3333  
[parsonschickenandfish.com](http://parsonschickenandfish.com)

### Gorilla Sushibar (Uptown)

Great sushi restaurant, super affordable. \$  
4617 N Clark St, 773-728-3333  
[gorillasushibar.com](http://gorillasushibar.com)

### Lula Cafe (Logan Square)

Brunch spot with vegetarian friendly menu. \$\$  
2537 N Kedzie Ave, 773-489-9554  
[lulacafe.com](http://lulacafe.com)

### Harold's Fried Chicken (Bronzeville)

There are a few of these restaurants dotted around Chicago, but the closest to ID is only a 15 minute walk. Don't forget to try the fried chicken! \$\$  
124 E 35th St, 312-877-5350

### Gio's Cafe and Deli (Bridgeport)

Stylish bar serving cocktails and bites, with an entrance hidden in plain sight. \$\$  
2724 S Lowe Ave, 312-225-6368  
[gioscafe.com](http://gioscafe.com)

### Three Happiness Restaurant (Chinatown)

A stone's throw from Cermak-Chinatown Red Line stations, this eatery serves traditional Cantonese dishes at student friendly prices. \$  
209 W Cermak Rd, 312-842-1964

## Drink

### Map Room (Bucktown)

More beer than you can shake a stick at. Pool table too. \$\$  
1949 North Hoyne Ave, 773-252-7636  
[maproom.com](http://maproom.com)

### Green Mill (Uptown)

A Chicago-must experience. Well appointed with a great list of tequilas. \$\$\$  
1471 North Milwaukee, 773-235-5577  
[greenmilljazz.com](http://greenmilljazz.com)

### Reno Chicago (Logan Square)

Loft space serving wood-fired pizza, pastries and alcohol. \$\$  
2607 N Milwaukee Ave, 773-697-4234  
[renochicago.com](http://renochicago.com)

### Longman & Eagle (Logan Square)

Hipster hang out zone serving whiskey and craft cocktails. \$\$  
2657 N Kedzie Ave, 773-276-7110  
[longmanandeagle.com](http://longmanandeagle.com)

### Websters Wine Bar (Logan Square)

Cosy spot with a very long wine list. \$\$  
2601 N Milwaukee Ave, 773-292-9463  
[websterwinebar.com](http://websterwinebar.com)

### The Violet Hour (Wicker Park)

Stylish bar serving cocktails and bites, with an entrance hidden in plain sight. \$\$\$  
1520 N Damen Ave, 773-252-1500  
[theviolethour.com](http://theviolethour.com)

### Maria's Packaged Goods and Community Bar (Bridgeport)

A hidden gem, this eclectic local bar has a rotating menu of craft beers. Recently played host to ID's Halloween party!. \$\$  
960 W 31st St, 773-890-0588  
[community-bar.com](http://community-bar.com)

### Fat Fish Bar & Grill (Armour Square)

Located minutes from the ID campus, this sports bar is a great place for beers and sandwiches. Relax with a drink and friends in their backyard beer garden. \$  
234 W 31st St, 312-842-9200

## Groceries

### Stanley's Fruits and Vegetables

Always fresh, always cheap. \$  
1558 North Elston, 773-276-8050

### Chicago French Market

A variety of small food vendors, produce, pasta, meat, sweets, and coffee. \$\$  
131 North Clinton, 312-575-0306

### Mariano's

Grocery stores in several locations throughout the city. \$\$  
40 South Halsted, 312-243-7657

### Aldi

Grocery stores in several locations throughout the city. Very affordable. \$  
1836 N Clybourn Ave, 855-955-2534

### **Pete's Fresh Market**

Grocery stores in several locations throughout the city. Another very affordable chain. \$

2333 W Madison St, 312-888-4600

### **Whole Foods**

Eco minded grocery stores selling natural and organic goods, located throughout the city. \$\$\$

1 N Halsted St, 312-207-8400

### **Trader Joe's**

Grocery chain located throughout the city. Famous for their cookies. \$\$

44 E Ontario St, 312 951-6369

### **H Mart**

Asian American supermarket chain with a few locations in Chicago. Groceries and food court. \$\$\$

711 W Jackson Blvd, 312 966-4666

### **Cermak Fresh Market**

Grocery stores in several locations throughout the city. Has a variety of international food, especially Polish and Greek. \$\$

3033 S Halsted St, 312-460-3460

### **Jewel-Osco**

Grocery stores in several locations throughout the city. The closest to the ID's new campus is on 34th street. \$\$

443 E 34th St, (312) 842-0667

## **Places to study**

### **Harold Washington Library**

CPL's main library is a postmodern architectural wonder located in the South Loop. Things to see here when you're taking a break include the Maker's Lab and Winter Garden.

400 South State, 312 747-4300, [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org)

### **Intelligentsia**

Famous for its coffee, but go early on weekends because the place packs it in. \$

Various locations, [intelligentsiacoffee.com](http://intelligentsiacoffee.com)

### **Argo Tea**

Tea, coffee, snacks, and free wifi. \$\$

Various locations, [argotea.com](http://argotea.com)

### **Chicago Public Libraries**

Downtown main branch has lots of quiet study space and free wifi.

312-744-1139, [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org)

### **Bridgeport Coffeehouse**

A quaint cafe in the Bridgeport neighborhood to grab a cup of fair-trade coffee, a quick bite to eat, and hit the books. \$

3101 S Morgan St, (773) 247-9950, [bridgeportcoffee.net](http://bridgeportcoffee.net)

### **Jackalope Coffee & Tea House**

Another colorful gem in Bridgeport serving coffee, light snacks, and a quirky atmosphere to inspire your creativity. \$

755 W 32nd St, 312-888-3468

### **Newberry Library**

Free and open to the public, the Newberry is a great place for some quiet study time away from school. Be sure to catch one of their frequently hosted seminars, exhibitions and performances.

60 W Walton St, 312-943-9090

## **Stuff to do around town**

### **Free Museum Passes**

Sign up for a Chicago Public Library Card and you can check out museum passes by the week. You can save a lot, especially if friends or family are in town.

### **Ravinia**

Present your student ID and you can often get into the classical concerts free of charge during the summer. [ravinia.org](http://ravinia.org)

### **Guaranteed Rate Field**

Enjoy a Chicago hotdog while watching a baseball game at the home of the White Sox. The park is minutes from the IIT campus.

333 W 35th St

### **Ice Skating in Millennium Park and Maggie Daley Park (till March 10)**

Skate under the twinkling lights of the Chicago skyline. Beginners don't fret! There are free skating lessons too. Admission is free and skates are available to rent.

201 E Randolph St

### **Discounted Movie Passes**

The student activities desk in the IIT McCormick Tribune Campus Center sells movie passes for AMC/Loews Theaters for \$5.50 or \$6 each—considerable savings. The \$5.50 ones are good Monday to Thursday and include a free small popcorn; the \$6 ones are good any time as permitted by the theater.

IIT Main Campus, 3300 South Federal

### **Nearly Free Plays**

If you want to see a lot of plays, sign up to volunteer for the Saints, which offers free admission to theaters all over the city in exchange for serving as an usher. There is a small fee to join, but this is a really nice group if you are into drama. Or visit the Hot Tix booth downtown or online for half-priced tickets.

[saintschicago.org](http://saintschicago.org), [hottix.org](http://hottix.org)

# Bronzeville Neighborhood Guide

## Quick eats

- Ain't She Sweet Cafe**  
2920 S.26 E 43rd St,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Sandwich & dessert shop*
- Southtown Sub**  
240 E 35th St,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Chicago/Pakistani sandwiches*
- Maggie Gyros & Chicken**  
349 E 47th St,  
Chicago, IL 60653
- Uncle J's BBQ**  
502 E 47th St,  
Chicago, IL 60615  
*Caribbean style BBQ*
- Some Like It Black Creative Arts Bar**  
810 E 43rd St,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Organic restaurant*
- The Cajun Connoisseur**  
4317 S Cottage Grove Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Cajun cuisine*
- J J Fish & Chicken**  
201 E 43rd St,  
Chicago, IL 60653
- Checkers**  
5451 S Wentworth Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60609  
*Burgers, fries & shakes*
- Shore's Xpress**  
3851 S Michigan Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Fast food classics*
- Colossal Crab & Miller Pizza Chicago**  
17 W 35th St,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Hand tossed pizzas*
- Pier 31**  
3101 S Lake Shore Dr,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Lake-front food & cocktails*
- Nicky's Gyros**  
4240 S Wentworth Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60609  
*Gyros and comfort food*
- Union Submarine Shop**  
110 E 51st St,  
Chicago, IL 60615  
*Chicken wings & gyros*
- Simply Soup Salad & Sandwiches**  
635 E 47th St,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Fast and fresh food*
- Culver's**  
3355 S Martin Luther King Dr,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*ButterBurgers & Frozen Custard*
- Faroo's**  
200 W 31st St,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Beer, burgers, subs*
- Dim Dim dimsum and bakery**  
2820 S Wentworth Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Dim sum & baked goods*

## Dining

- Pearl's Place**  
3901 S Michigan Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Southern soul food*
- Honey 1 BBQ**  
746 E 43rd St,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Smoked BBQ classics*
- Yassa African Restaurant**  
3511 S King Dr  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Senegalese cuisine*
- Truth Italian Restaurant**  
56 E Pershing Rd,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Italian cuisine & cocktails*
- Chicago's Home of Chicken and Waffles**  
3947 S King Dr,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Classic comfort food*
- Peach's Restaurant**  
4652 S King Dr,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Southern breakfast & lunch*
- Ricobene's**  
252 W 26th St,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Steak sandwiches & pizza*
- Connie's Pizza**  
2373 S Archer Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Deep dish pizza*
- Nana Organic**  
3267 S Halsted St,  
Chicago, IL 60608  
*American & Mexican fare*

## Bars

- Tac's Cocktail Lounge**  
5114 S Prairie Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60615  
*Neighborhood bar*
- Odyssey II**  
211 E Garfield Blvd,  
Chicago, IL 60637  
*Cocktail bar, open late*
- Velvet Lounge**  
67 E Cermak Rd,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Cocktail lounge & club*
- The Renaissance Bronzeville**  
4641 S King Dr,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Low key, casual dancing spot*
- Juke Joynt**  
515 E 47th St,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*In the blues and jazz district*
- Good Times Sports Bar**  
200 E 35th St,  
Chicago, IL 60616
- Turtle's Bar & Grill**  
238 W 33rd St,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Burgers, beer, sports, jukebox*

## Grocery stores

- Mariano's Fresh Market**  
3857 S Martin Luther King Dr,  
Chicago, IL 60653
- Jewel-Osco**  
443 E 34th St,  
Chicago, IL 60616
- Walmart Neighborhood Market**  
4720 S Cottage Grove Ave,  
Chicago, IL 60615

## Coffee

- Starbucks**  
3506 S State St,  
Chicago, IL 60609
- Sip & Savor**  
9528 E 43rd St,  
Chicago, IL 60653  
*Fair trade coffee spot in a cozy atmosphere*
- Dunkin' Donuts**  
3481 S Martin Luther King Dr,  
Chicago, IL 60616
- Awake with Pearl Coffee Cafe**  
11 W 26th St,  
Chicago, IL 60616  
*Breakfast & lunch cafe*

