



# AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

---

W A S H I N G T O N , D C

Office of the Dean of Students

April 20, 2026

Dear AU Student:

As you wrap up final projects and papers and begin final exams, consider taking a break to think about how you will clean out your living space and be a good neighbor as you transition away from the community surrounding AU at the end of this academic year. It's time to make arrangements for your move to the next place you will call home! Here's a checklist to help make that easier:

- Contact the post office to have mail forwarded. Visit <http://www.usps.com> for forms and instructions for changing your address.
- Make a trip to a local grocery store or contact local moving companies to get boxes and packing materials.
- Buy plenty of extra-large trash bags and stock up on cleaning supplies.
- Coordinate with roommates to remove discarded furniture and other belongings. Take items to a [Goodwill](#) drop-off location or contact the [Salvation Army](#) to pick-up and haul away re-useable items.
- Don't leave discarded items by the curb, in your yard, or on your porch. Doing so creates hazards for your neighbors, problems for your landlord, and a negative impression of students who rent your house in the future!
- Contact DC [311](#) to arrange for a bulk trash collection if you have more waste than will fit in your bins or larger items like furniture. If required in your lease, be sure to schedule a walk-through of your home or apartment with your landlord or building manager, and determine where to leave keys, etc. when your place is empty.
- Discuss with your landlord and your roommates payment of final rent and return of your security deposit.
- Make arrangements to transfer or turn off of utilities, cable, and internet service.

- Create a job-sharing list with roommates to identify responsibilities and timelines for completing tasks so no one is the last tenant left behind with everything on their plate.
- If you are going to sublet your place, be sure your landlord and neighbors have contact information for summer tenants. (Don't sublet unless permitted to do so in your lease!)

Finally, parties to celebrate the end of classes and graduation always mark the end of the spring semester. Stay safe throughout these events to be sure your year ends on a positive note for you and for your friends. Please be considerate of AU neighbors – let them know if you are going to host family and friends, keep the noise down, and clean up any garbage!

I hope you have much success on finals and send you best wishes for a terrific summer!

Sincerely,

**Dr. Justin T. Bernstine**  
*Deputy Dean of Students*



**Division of Student Affairs**