

 WEST COAST
UNIVERSITY

TEXAS



West Coast University
and National Corporate
Housing present...



A Warm Texas Welcome!

And welcome West Coast University in Richardson

We're excited to show you what continuing your nursing journey in one of Texas's fastest-growing healthcare hubs could look like.

From the moment you say "yes," you'll be supported every step of the way by WCU's student services team and our relocation partner, National Corporate Housing (NCH). NCH will take the stress out of moving—helping you with housing, transportation, and logistics—while WCU makes sure you feel at home on campus and connected to the community (yes, even down to the best taco spots).

This guide is your roadmap for:

- Why Richardson is a great blend of educational opportunities and student comfort
- Volunteer and clinical opportunities in local hospitals and medical centers
- Budget-friendly tips for housing, flights, and fun
- How to get around with or without a car

Whether you're nervous, excited, or both, we've got you! You're stepping into a community that's ready to welcome you with open arms.



Why Richardson?

Study in one of Texas's fastest growing healthcare hubs. Enjoy a beautiful, spacious campus, personalized attention, and career connections.

Clinical experience

Richardson and the greater Dallas area offer access to a wide range of healthcare settings—from major hospitals to community clinics—giving nursing students opportunity for real-world exposure, diverse experience, and strong foundations for their clinical training.

The Richardson way of life

Experience suburban charm with quick access to fun and entertainment.

Finding your own little bit of Texas

Consider affordable housing options in student-friendly areas to fit your lifestyle and budget.

Campus location

Just north of the Dallas Metroplex, our campus offers a welcoming vibe and a prime location.

Texas-sized fun on a student budget

Weekend BBQ joints, live music, hiking trails, and Dallas entertainment are all just a short drive away.

Budget-savvy in the Lone Star State

Enjoy a generally lower cost of living and a relaxed pace of life with plenty of breathing room.

Transportation that works for you

There's DART rail access, Uber, Lyft, and car-friendly options to wherever you need to go.

DFW and DAL Airports

Get easy access for visiting family and friends across the US and the globe.

Community and connection

Get involved with campus nursing student groups or volunteer at local hospitals or non-profit organizations. There are numerous ways to stay connected and receive support.

Your relocation support and game plan

From housing and utilities to managing school logistics—we've got you covered every step of the way. And with relocation help just a call away, settling in is smooth and easy.





Richardson provides...

- Easy access to public transportation, dining, grocery stores, and fitness centers
- A mix of modern developments and historic neighborhoods with character and charm
- Year-round events, outdoor concerts, food truck festivals, community nights, and more
- Compared to major metro areas like Los Angeles, Richardson offers lower rent and shorter commute. Plus, a family-friendly and walkable environment
- Your relocation support team will work with you to match your budget, preferences, and commute time to local neighborhoods
- Richardson boasts over 40 parks and more than 6 miles of trails along the Spring Creek Nature Preserve
- Public art installations, native gardens, and quiet tree-lined streets make it a refreshing place to unwind
- It's not unusual to see students picnicking between study sessions at Huffhines Park or biking along Duck Creek Trail after class
- You're just 30 minutes or less to Dallas, Plano, Addison, and Garland

In Richardson career growth meets campus comfort

Healthcare and Innovation Hub

Richardson sits within the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, one of the fastest-growing regions for healthcare expansion and technology innovation in Texas

It's home to dozens of hospitals, including specialty facilities in pediatrics, cardiac care, women's health, and more

There are independent networking opportunities with local clinics, hospitals, healthcare associations, and more

Texas ranks among the top states for registered nurse employment, according to the [US Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

Real-World Clinical Experience

Access hands-on training in modern, technologically advanced simulation labs on campus

Simulation labs are equipped for a variety of scenarios, including Medical and surgical units, Pediatrics, Maternity/OB and Mental Health

The opportunity to rotate through local acute care, long-term care, and outpatient environments

The opportunity to partner with local health organizations for community health outreach and flu clinics

The Richardson way of life

What's it like to live in this welcoming, tech-savvy city?

Laid-back weekends, international flavors, green spaces, and an easy-going student culture. Just minutes from Addison, Plano, and Downtown Dallas, you'll find a city that feels both exciting and easy to call home.

Richardson might surprise you! It's smart, convenient, family-friendly, and full of low-key charm. With major employers, top-notch public services, and a walkable core, it's a place where things work, people are friendly, and your days can be both productive and peaceful.



What students love about Richardson

Access & Affordability

- Friendly, community-focused vibe where you'll feel at home away
- Reliable transit and walkable streets in most neighborhoods
- Affordable options for housing, dining, and fun
- Easy access to Dallas (20–30 mins) by car or DART rail
- A local culture that values education, service, and innovation
- Short road-trips to major Texas cities: Houston, San Antonio, Austin, and more

Great Places Nearby

- CityLine: A modern hub with shopping, dining, Whole Foods, and work-friendly coffee shops
- Addison: Just minutes away its known for brunch spots, nightlife, and food festivals
- Plano Legacy West & The Shops at Willow Bend: Retail therapy and great restaurants
- Downtown Dallas: For museums, sporting events, and concerts—without needing to live in the hustle
- Buc-ee's (Denton/Ennis) a Texas road trip essential: Snacks, quirky gifts, and the cleanest restrooms in the state. Plus, a gas station that has to be seen to be believed

Events & Community Life

Richardson and its surrounding towns offer year-round events:

- Cottonwood Art Festival: One of Texas's top fine art shows
- Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival: Live music, food, and markets
- Food Truck Fridays, outdoor movie nights, and seasonal markets
- Farmers' markets in Plano and Richardson featuring local vendors and food trucks
- State Fair of Texas for food, rides, and a "Big Tex" in Dallas Fair Park
- Dallas Cowboys & Texas Rangers: Pro sports about 30-45 mins away

Recharge & Reconnect

- Explore Spring Creek Nature Area and Huffhines Park for walking, biking, or just relaxing
- Stop by 7th Day or Staycation for a study spot and a snack
- La La Land: Café with a purpose, perfect for a study session
- Communion Neighborhood Cooperative: Part coffee shop, part coworking space
- Alamo Drafthouse Cinema: Watch indie flicks and blockbuster hits with dinner service
- The CORE District: Shopping, food halls, and weekend crowds are just 15 minutes away

Finding your own little bit of Texas

National Corporate Housing recommends these locations to consider:



CityLine

- If you prioritize public transit, easy access to restaurants, shops, and events, CityLine offers an energetic, urban vibe
- It's a newer, walkable mixed-use neighborhood built around a DART light rail station and centered on a "live-work-play" design
- Green spaces include a 1.3-acre CityLine Plaza and a 3.5-acre park featuring trails, a play area, an amphitheater, and amenities designed to connect to Richardson's extensive hike-and-bike trail network
- Housing is almost entirely comprised of apartments built since 2000. Transit access is excellent via the CityLine/Bush DART station, with additional Silver Line commuter rail service coming soon



Heights Park

- If you're seeking a calmer, more residential setting with space, community, and lower rental or home costs, Heights Park delivers offers established neighborhoods and green space
- Heights Park is a well-established, suburban neighborhood just a few miles from CityLine. It features homes, yards, mature trees, and parks
- A top-ranked neighborhood in Richardson for families, young professionals, and retirees
- Locals describe it as quiet yet neighborly—well-lit sidewalks, a strong sense of community, and amenities like the Heights Family Aquatic Center are nearby

Finding your own little bit of Texas

National Corporate Housing recommends these locations to consider:



Downtown Plano

- Downtown Plano has evolved into a vibrant, historic district centered around the DART light rail station, with apartments, condos, and townhomes—within a quarter mile of green brick streets lined with shops, restaurants, arts venues, and museums. It's served by DART Red Line, making Dallas easily reachable in just 20 minutes from WCU
- Only a few blocks from Haggard Park, the Interurban Railway Museum and local theaters, you'll be steps away from live performances, art shows, green space, and community events
- Dining runs the gamut from boutique cafés and breweries to ethnic eateries and comfort food spots clustered along Main Street



Addison

- Addison is a lively town nestled just north of Dallas. While smaller, its daytime population swells from locals and commuters drawn to nearly 200 restaurants, giving it a bustling urban-suburban feel
- Most housing in Addison is rental units—apartments and townhomes
- The Addison Transit Center provides DART bus service and will soon be part of the Silver Line commuter rail (expected by 2026), enabling rail access to Dallas and nearby areas
- Addison's vibrancy, restaurants, events, and modern apartments create an engaging setting for student life

Finding your own little bit of Texas

National Corporate Housing recommends these locations to consider:



West Richardson

- West Richardson offers modest home prices and rentals in established, walkable neighborhoods with yards and mature trees
- While not directly on light rail, it's just a short drive or transit ride away from DART stations at Galatyn Park and CityLine/Bush
- Locals describe it as “the cutest” with neighbors greeting you on morning walks, joggers, parents with strollers, and dog walkers
- The area is typically car-dependent, but benefits from its proximity to major corridors like US 75, offering easy access to Dallas

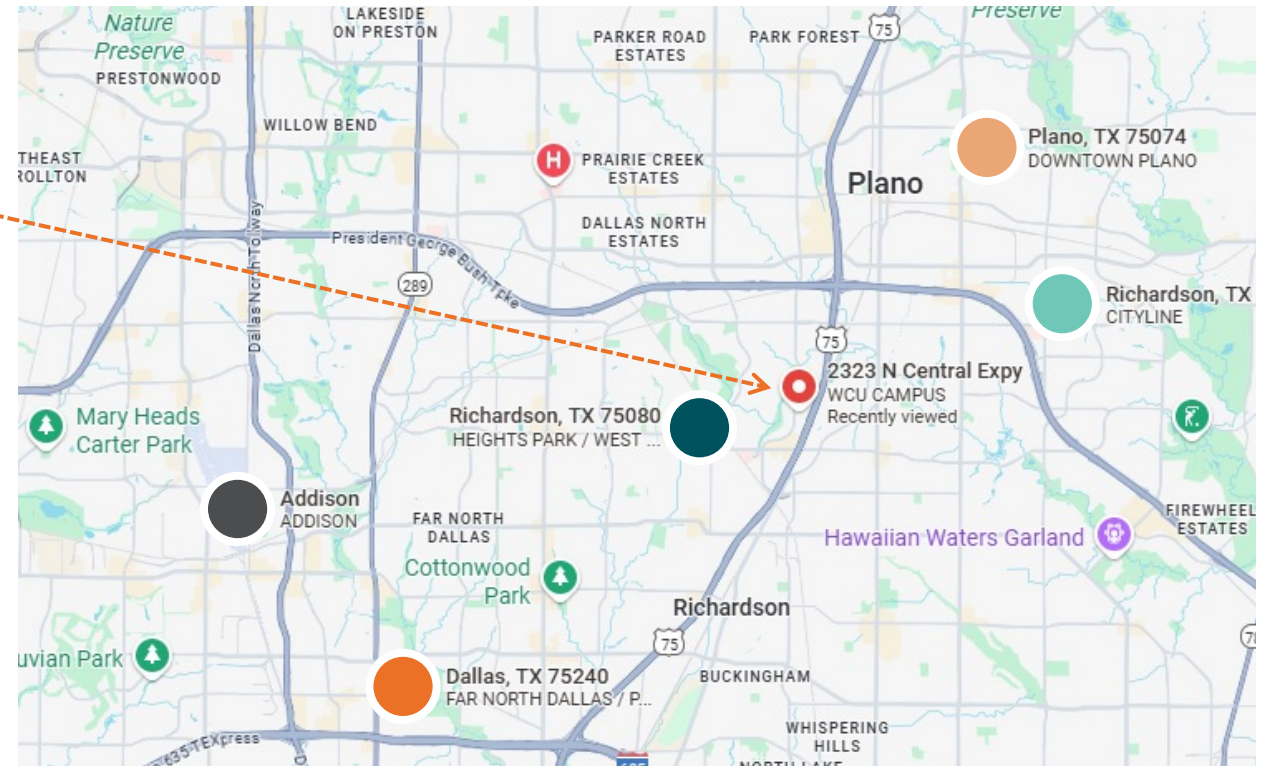
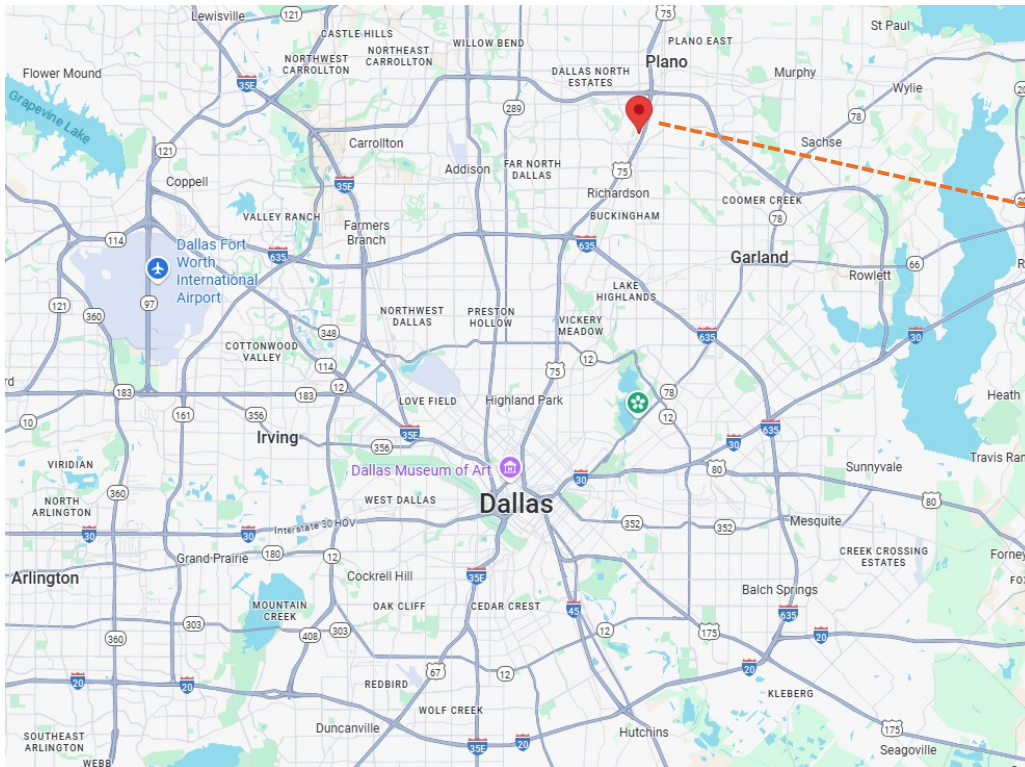


Far North Dallas / Plano Border

- It includes several neighborhoods, such as Preston Highlands, Prestonwood, Northwood Hills, and Bent Tree on the Dallas side, transitioning into Plano's Plano Park and adjacent master-planned suburbs
- There are primarily single-family homes, with some apartments and newer subdivisions closer to Plano
- It has a vibrant suburban feel with shopping centers, parks, and diverse dining around Preston Center, and Legacy West
- It's bus-based mainly in the interior (light rail stops are at edges), but Plano GoLink shuttles serve the zone and connect to rail hubs

WCU campus location

These maps show that the WCU campus is just minutes from dynamic urban hubs like CityLine and Downtown Plano and nestled between the quiet charm of Heights Park and West Richardson. You're also within a short drive to the lively restaurant and entertainment scene of Addison and the suburban convenience of the Far North Dallas/Plano border.



● ● ● ● ● See locations on the next slide

A comparison of popular locations*

	Location	Primary Housing	Average 1 BR Rent	Transit Access	Walkability	Distance to Campus	Lifestyle	Appeal
●	CityLine	Apartments	\$1,950	DART	High	3 miles 10 min. drive	Urban, lively, mixed-use	Great for transit access
●	Heights Park	Homes	\$1,900	Car-dependent	Moderate	4 miles 10 min. drive	Quiet, residential, family-friendly	Quiet, spacious surroundings
●	West Richardson	Homes	\$1,700	Short drive to DART	Low–Moderate	2 miles 5 min. drive	Established, community vibe	Great value and local feel
●	Far North Dallas / Plano Border	Homes & Apartments	\$1,685	Bus, GoLink, and Rail	Moderate	10 miles 20 min. drive	Suburban with amenities	Affordable with easy access
●	Downtown Plano	Apartments & Townhomes	\$1,498	On-site DART	High	7 miles 15 min. by transit	Historic and cultural	Transit, social life, and history
●	Addison	Apartments & Townhomes	\$1,476	Silver Line	Moderate	5 miles 15 min. by transit	Energetic and event-filled	Affordable and lively

*Information provided by National Corporate Housing

Symbols representing locations on map on prior page.

NOTE: Although Dart stations are near campus, they're not walkable due to freeway locations. A short Uber ride is required.

What's a quick walk or ride from campus

Food & Coffee

- **District:** A nearby retail and dining hub with more than 70 restaurants, cafés, and shops—ideal for short lunch or coffee breaks
- **First Watch:** Casual brunch and study-friendly vibes
- **Torchy's Tacos:** Student favorite for Tex-Mex
- **Twisted Root Burger Co.:** Fun burgers and shakes with outdoor seating
- **Starbucks and Dunkin':** Less than 5 minutes away
- **La La Land:** Popular with locals for lattes and laptop time studying
- **Well-rated dining spots within 1 mile of :** Partenope Ristorante, Ten50 Barbecue, Afrah Mediterranean, Las Lomas, Selda Gyro Doner, Gilgamesh, and Bombay Republic

Outdoors

- **Cottonwood Park:** Walking trails, pond views, and relaxing study breaks
- **Canyon Creek Park:** Sports courts, picnic areas, and jogging paths
- **Prairie Creek Park:** Nature preserve featuring wooded trails, a waterfall, footbridges, and picnic areas
- **Galatyn Park Woodland Preserve & Trail:** Offers natural trails, bird watching, and open green space right next to the DART Galatyn Park transit hub

Essentials

- **Target:** Home goods, snacks, and student must-haves
- **Tom Thumb:** Grocery, deli, bakery, and pharmacy
- **Sprouts:** Organic and specialty groceries
- **CVS & Walgreens:** Everyday items and pharmacy

Budget-savvy in the Lone Star State

How far will your budget stretch in Texas?

GROCERIES	Anaheim, CA	Dallas, TX	Difference
Milk (1 gallon)	\$4.33	\$3.56	-17.8 %
Loaf of Fresh White Bread (1 lb.)	\$3.64	\$3.35	-8.1 %
Rice (white), (1 lb.)	\$2.11	\$2.16	+2.5 %
Eggs (regular) (12)	\$5.82	\$4.46	-23.4 %
Local Cheese (1 lb.)	\$5.54	\$5.93	+7.0 %
Chicken Fillets (1 lb.)	\$5.00	\$6.04	+20.7 %
Beef Round (1 lb.)	\$6.58	\$7.95	+20.7 %
Apples (1 lb.)	\$2.23	\$2.26	+1.2 %
Banana (1 lb.)	\$0.87	\$0.68	-22.0 %
Oranges (1 lb.)	\$1.84	\$1.92	+4.0 %
Tomato (1 lb.)	\$2.53	\$1.76	-30.5 %
Potato (1 lb.)	\$1.51	\$1.03	-32.1 %
Onion (1 lb.)	\$1.32	\$1.43	+8.7 %
Lettuce (1 head)	\$2.06	\$1.87	-9.2 %

[Source](#)

Budget-savvy in the Lone Star State

How far will your budget stretch in Texas?

RESTAURANTS	Anaheim, CA	Dallas, TX	Difference
Meal, Inexpensive Restaurant	\$20.00	\$20.00	0.0 %
Meal for 2 People, Mid-range Restaurant, 3 Courses	\$77.50	\$80.00	+3.2 %
McDonalds (or Equivalent Combo Meal)	\$15.00	\$12.00	-20.0 %
Domestic Beer (1 pint draught)	\$7.00	\$6.50	-7.1 %
Imported Beer (12 oz small bottle)	\$8.00	\$7.00	-12.5 %
Cappuccino (regular)	\$5.00	\$5.58	+11.5 %
Coke/Pepsi (12 oz small bottle)	\$2.71	\$2.72	+0.4 %
RENT			
Apartment (1 bedroom) in City Center	\$2,200	\$1,655	-24.8 %
Apartment (1 bedroom) Outside of Center	\$2,000	\$1,502	-24.9 %
Apartment (3 bedrooms) in City Center	\$3,400	\$3,484	+2.5 %
Apartment (3 bedrooms) Outside of Center	\$3,300	\$2,639	-20.0 %
SPORTS & LEISURE			
Fitness Club, Monthly Fee for 1 Adult	\$79.67	\$41.69	-47.7 %
Tennis Court Rent (1 Hour on Weekend)	\$10.00	\$18.25	+82.5 %
Cinema, International Release, 1 Seat	\$15.10	\$13.38	-11.4 %

Source

Transportation that works for you

Rideshare and ride options

Uber, Lyft, and local taxi services fully cover Richardson

Student tips:

- Uber Pool or Lyft Shared for cheaper fares
- Apps like Waze Carpool or RideShare2Vote for event-based ride options
- Some apartment communities will also offer shuttle service to DART stations

Prefer to bike?

Richardson is a bike-friendly city with designated lanes and park-side trails

- Duck Creek Trail and Spring Creek Trail connect neighborhoods with nature
- Bike racks are on DART buses and trains: [Here's how to use them](#)
- Rent electric bikes and scooters via [Bird](#) or [Lime](#) in nearby areas

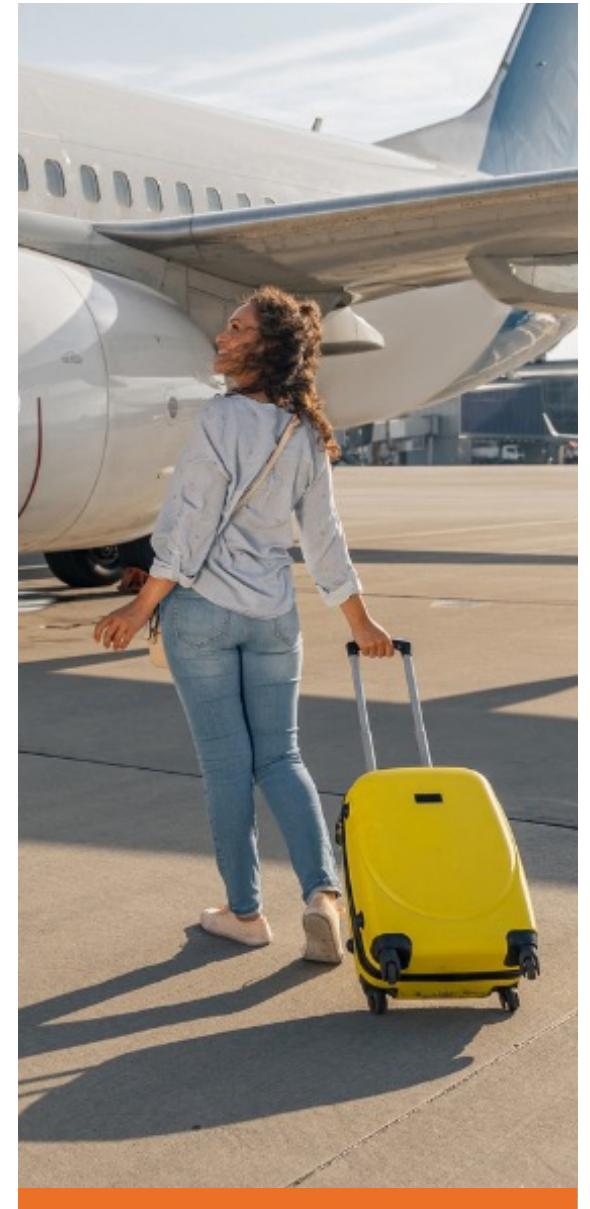


Airports for friends, family, and trips home

Dallas Fort Worth Intern. (DFW)	Dallas Love Field (DAL)
25 miles: 30–35 min. from campus	20 miles: 25–30 min. from campus
One of the largest airports in the world serving 200+ destinations	Hub for Southwest Airlines with domestic flights and student deals
Major carriers, including American Airlines, Delta, United, and Spirit	Smaller airport with shorter lines and faster boarding
DFW Website	DAL Website

Getting to Campus from the Airport

- Uber/Lyft from DFW: Approximately \$35–\$55
- From Love Field: Approximately \$30–\$45
- DART Rail from DFW: Take the Orange Line to Downtown, transfer to the Red Line for Richardson



Community and connection

Build your circle. Find your rhythm. Live your best student life on and off campus.

Starting fresh in a new city doesn't mean starting alone. At WCU Richardson, you'll have access to personalized support, student groups, and plenty of fun places to plug in.

Career and academic services

- Clinical placement and career services support, including resume review
- Peer Assisted Learning sessions, faculty tutoring, 24/7 tutoring through Tutor.com, NAS, writing assistance, library services, math labs, and science workshops
- Access to NCLEX advisors, bootcamps, study guides, and no-cost tutoring
- Volunteer at one of many local medical facilities and non-profit organizations.



Community and connection

Wellness and belonging

- Support through the Aetna Student Assistance Program, including stress management tools, and self-care check-ins

Registered Student Organizations

- *Student Nurses' Association*
- *Men in Nursing*
- *Student Team for Advocacy and Transformation*
- *Student Veterans Organization*
- *International Student Organization*
- *Peer Assisted Learning (PAL)*



Clinical experience

The Richardson-Dallas area is one of the fastest-growing and most medically diverse regions in the US, providing WCU students with access to high-impact, hands-on training in a wide range of settings. From bilingual care and emergency trauma units to community clinics and large hospital networks, you'll have the opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience.

What makes Richardson an ideal place to train?

- Access to specialty hospitals
- Diverse clinical rotations in pediatrics, geriatrics, community health, surgical recovery, and ICU
- Opportunities with leading hospital systems, clinics, and public health initiatives

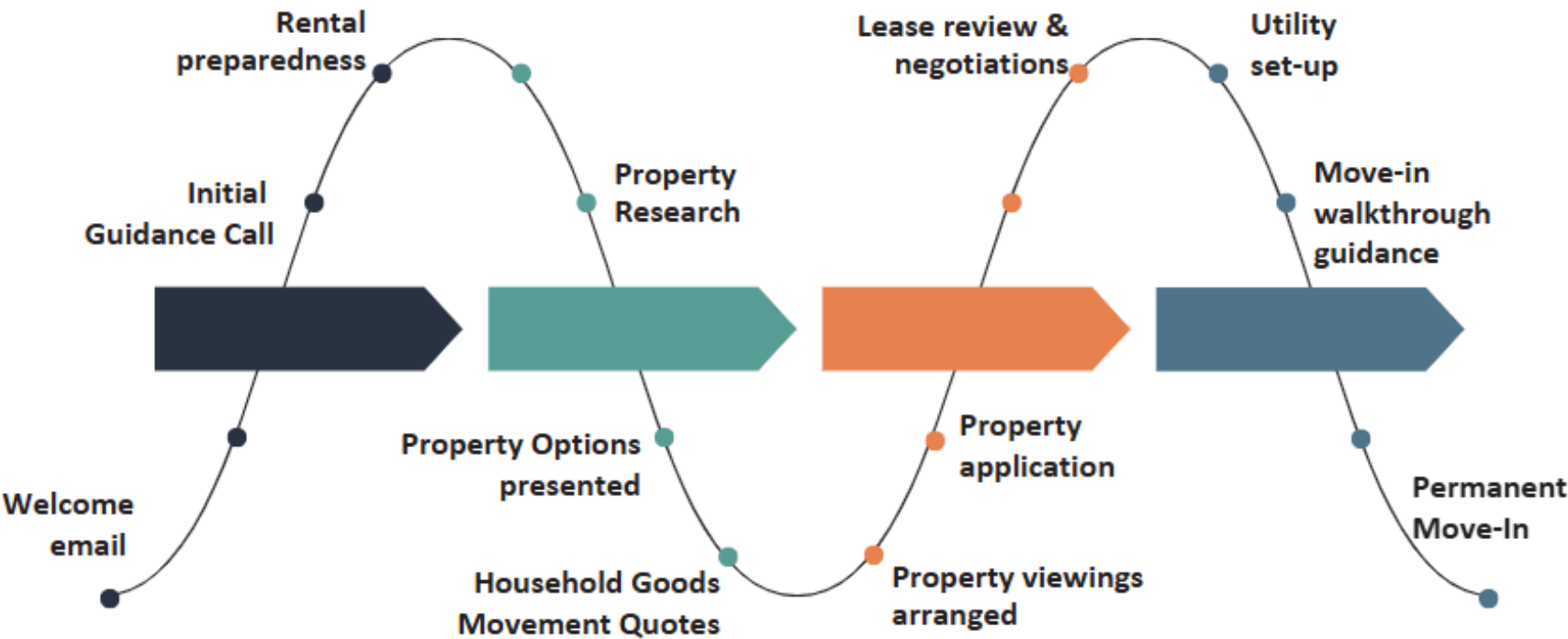
Notable healthcare partners & facilities

- [Methodist Richardson Medical Center](#)
- [Medical City Plano Hospital](#)
- [Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas](#)
- [Children's Health Dallas Pediatric Hospital](#)
- [UT Southwestern Medical Center](#)



Student relocation journey

National Corporate Housing is with you every step of the way—from your very first thoughts about relocating to the moment you settle into your new home.



Your relocation game plan

Once your move is confirmed, we'll guide your journey with personalized support. From housing to utilities, we'll help you create a plan that's smooth and stress-free. Here are some general items and timelines to consider.

Timeframe	Task
8-10 weeks before move	Research neighborhoods, cost of living, and school or work commute
	Set a budget for the move (travel, housing, deposits, setup costs)
	Notify landlord if you're renting and check your lease requirements
	Start comparing moving companies or rental truck options
6-8 weeks before move	Secure housing in the new state (lease agreement or home purchase)
	Book your movers or reserve your rental truck/trailer
	Schedule time off work or school, if needed
	Collect important records (medical, dental, school, vet, etc.)
	Confirm moving insurance or renter's insurance for coverage
4-6 weeks before move	Begin packing non-essential items
	Change your address with USPS
	Notify banks, credit card companies, and subscription services
	Transfer or cancel local memberships (gym, library, etc.)
	Arrange utility disconnection at your current address
2-4 weeks before move	Set up utilities at your new home (electric, water, gas, internet)
	Schedule Wi-Fi installation and mobile phone service transfer
	Plan your route or travel arrangements to the new state
	Arrange pet travel (carriers, paperwork, or vet certificates, if needed)

Timeframe	Task
1 week before move	Confirm mover/truck rental and share contact details
	Refill prescriptions and transfer pharmacy, if necessary
	Clean out fridge/freezer and dispose of perishables
	Prepare important documents (IDs, leases, insurance, moving paperwork)
Moving Day	Conduct a final walkthrough of your current home
	Verify items are loaded properly and nothing is left behind
	Keep valuables, medications, and paperwork with you—not in the moving truck
	Lock doors, drop off keys, and take photos of move-out condition (for renters)
After you arrive	Unpack essentials and clean your new space
	Check inventory of delivered items (if using movers)
	Register your car in your new state
	Get a new driver's license (typically within 30 days of residency)
	Register to vote in your new state
	Find new healthcare providers and update insurance info

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