



## LIVING ON ST. MAARTEN

### *On-campus and off-campus housing*

#### *Your place called home*

St. Maarten, bordered by beautiful beaches and positioned at the crossroads to the Caribbean, is the perfect place to confirm your passion for service and establish the boundaries that will define your early career in medicine. Your decision to enroll in medical school will prove to be, perhaps, the most difficult, yet rewarding challenge you have faced. For this reason alone, choosing a place to live should not be taken lightly. It can be crucial to your development.

American University of the Caribbean offers medical students the option to live on-campus or off-campus. No matter where you choose to live – both have their advantages – you will want to ensure that your environment is conducive to the rigors that medical school demands. AUC can help you find that place that is right for you.



#### *On-campus: location, location, location!*

Convenience is a prime benefit to living on-campus. Students who choose to live in one of the 80 furnished units on campus have easy access to all AUC resources and amenities. Campus living also offers students the chance to interact with like-minded peers from a wide variety of cultures and backgrounds from across the globe to form a unique community experience that is difficult to replicate off-campus.

Relax without the worries that conventional housing can entail and concentrate on being a student instead. One- and two-bedroom units in the five-floor residence hall at AUC are equipped with a refrigerator, stove, microwave, bed and dresser, dining table, sofa, desk and chairs as well as air-conditioning, cable and internet hook-ups, access to laundry facilities on each floor and spectacular views. Because we value the safety of our students, the housing building structure is reinforced concrete designed and reported to withstand hurricane force winds along with hurricane shutters to withstand a Cat5 storm. But the main focus will likely be studying and the fifth floor is a dedicated area solely for that.

Monitored by campus security personnel who promote safety 24/7, the residence facility is located adjacent to the academic building and within arm's reach of the offices of instructors and academic advisors. When you are through with coursework, the beach is a short walk from campus to unwind and enjoy.

Living on-campus is most likely to be less expensive. One fee covers everything including furnishings, water, electricity, cable television and internet bills.

- Single bedroom; single occupancy (total occupants: 1): \$5,575/semester;
- Double bedroom; single occupancy (total occupants: 2): \$4,750/semester.

Campus housing applications are accepted four months prior to the start of the semester and granted on a first-come, first-served basis. However, priority is given to first-semester students.

#### *Off-campus: spread your wings*

At some point of your tenure at AUC, you may choose to explore off-campus living options. And while the potential to spread your wings and enjoy greater independence sounds exciting, the decision can be a bit overwhelming, especially if you are venturing out on your own for the first time.

Choosing to live off-campus will present a new set of variables and responsibilities. The good news is that AUC staff is available to help you make the transition easier and less stressful, whether you are a student seeking a place to live for just yourself or for an entire family with its own unique issues. Experienced housing office representatives are extremely knowledgeable about St. Maarten and can suggest accommodations from an approved list of nearby off-campus living accommodations in Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach, Pelican Key, Point Pirouette, and Simpson Bay.

The office also manages a website that lists potential off-campus housing alternatives and roommates who are interested in sharing living expenses. You may also want to ask an upper-class student, who can be a trusted source for housing as well.

Rentals typically range from \$800-\$1,300 per month. Most require a deposit to cover at least one month's rent. About 90 percent of the students who do not live on the AUC campus reside within walking distance to the medical school. By partnering with local stakeholders, AUC takes great strides to ensure that these students remain safe and connected to the campus community.

A free shuttle service is available to take students, 7 p.m.-3 a.m., daily from the entrance of campus to residences in Cupecoy and Maho. For students who choose to drive to campus, a St. Maarten driver's license can be obtained upon arrival on the island.