

CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOODS

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW



TOPSHOP

Water Tower P

WELCOME HOME

The city of Chicago is made up of 77 distinct “community areas” - and over 100 neighborhoods, that represent a diverse array of cultures, people, and experiences. This guide highlights the most popular neighborhoods for Loyola University Chicago Law students. Including the various attractions, commute times, and price ranges of the neighborhoods.

The featured neighborhoods offer many opportunities, but cannot encompass all there is to explore in Chicago. We encourage you to get to know many areas during your time at Loyola.

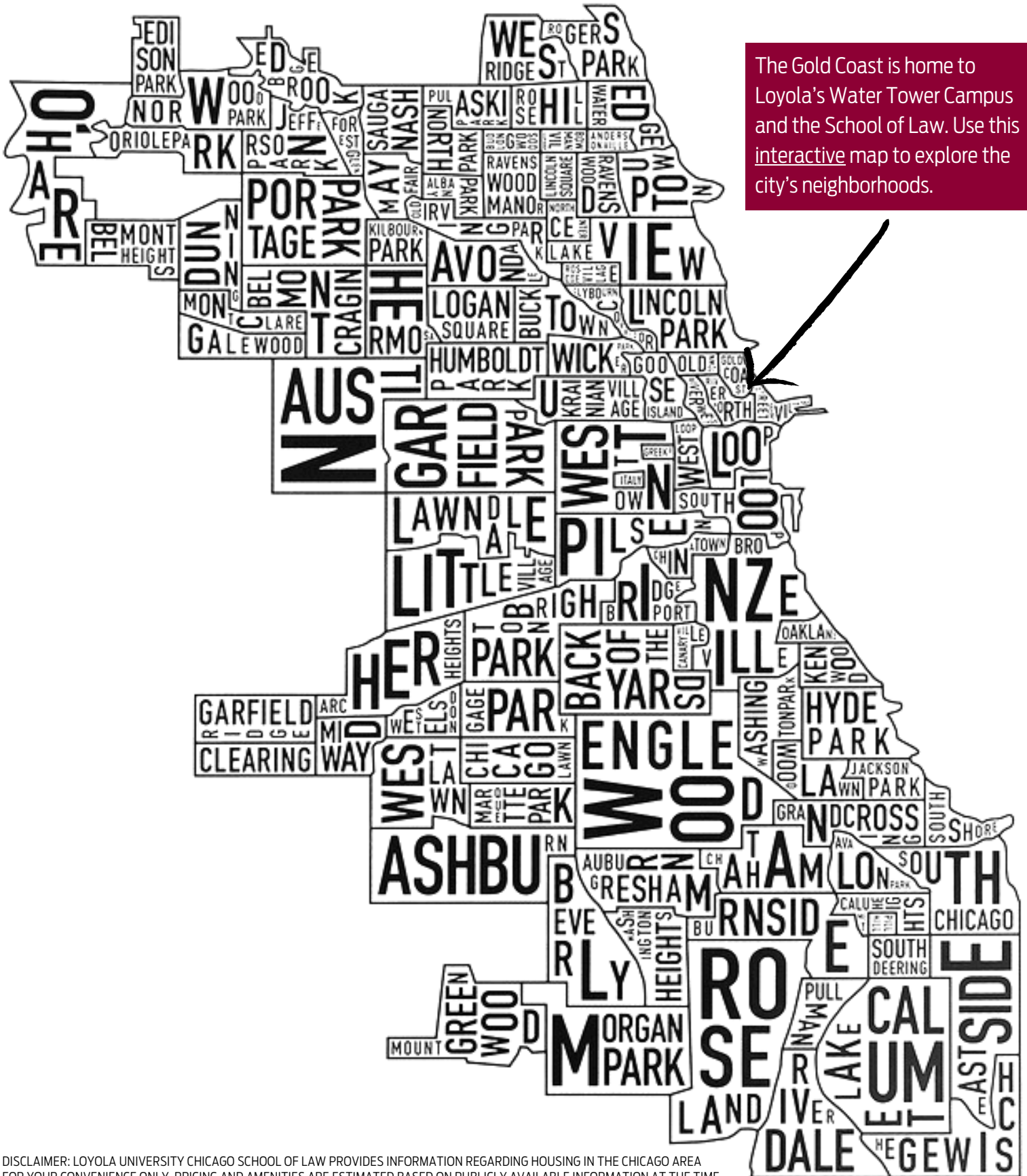
No matter which neighborhood you choose to call home during your time at Loyola, you'll find a welcoming community and endless opportunities. Our current students have shared their favorite spots and insider tips to help you feel at home in Chicago.

HIGHLIGHTED NEIGHBORHOODS:

- EDGEWATER
- GOLD COAST
- LAKEVIEW
- LINCOLN PARK
- LINCOLN SQUARE
- LOGAN SQUARE
- OLD TOWN
- RIVER NORTH
- ROGERS PARK
- SOUTH LOOP
- STREETERVILLE
- UPTOWN/ANDERSONVILLE
- WEST LOOP
- WICKER PARK/BUCKTOWN



NEIGHBORHOOD MAP



The Gold Coast is home to Loyola's Water Tower Campus and the School of Law. Use this [interactive map](#) to explore the city's neighborhoods.

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EDGEWATER

HIGHLIGHTS:

Nestled along the northern lakefront, boasts a captivating mix of cultures and accessibility. With its eclectic dining scene, bustling commercial hubs, and close proximity to Loyola University Chicago - Lake Shore Campus, Edgewater is a melting pot of flavors and activities. Its serene beaches, lush green spaces, and convenient public transportation underscore its appeal as a dynamic yet peaceful neighborhood.



Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,200
1 Bed	\$1,600
2 Bed	\$2,300

Transportation Options:

Bus, Red Line

Commuter Time:

25-35 minutes

What our students think about the area:

“Living in Edgewater is super convenient for me. I'm right by Lake Shore Drive, so getting to school is easy. The neighborhood is so diverse and there's always something fun happening, like festivals and events. And being just a 10-minute walk from the lake is a plus”

“I live in northern Edgewater right by Loyola's Lakeshore campus, which is beautiful and provides a convenient shuttle to the Water Tower Campus. Housing is affordable and the area feels like a neighborhood.”

GOLD COAST

HIGHLIGHTS:

The aptly named Gold Coast is one of Chicago's most affluent neighborhoods. The Gold Coast is home to the Magnificent Mile and Oak Street, featuring plenty of upscale shops and dining options. Stop by Chicago's famous Rush Street, a vibrant spot known for trendy bars and nightclubs. This area has it all: views of the lake, shops, plenty of opportunities to socialize, and most importantly it is home to Loyola's School of Law. This area is perfect for residents who want to be in the center of it all.



Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,600
1 Bed	\$2,200
2 Bed	\$3,700

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS:

Walking, Bus, Red Line

COMMUTE TIME:

5-15 minutes

WHAT OUR STUDENTS THINK ABOUT THE AREA:

“It is an extremely safe neighborhood and very close to Lincoln Park, with great proximity to grocery stores, the pharmacy, and even veterinary and dental offices. I never feel uncomfortable walking around at night and to/from campus. It is an expensive neighborhood though, so prepare to live in a studio-sized apartment on a student's budget.”

“If the student has a pet there is a park only one block away. You are also only one block away from the law school (Loyola Law) which eliminates the train or busing as part of your commute to and from school. There are plenty of coffee shops and places to eat that are reasonably priced. “

“I live in Gold Coast (on Michigan), and I love it! One of my favorite things about living there is that it is walking distance to school. There are so many restaurants, bars, and places to shop that it's impossible to run out things to do. It's also so close to the lakefront, which is a great place to hang out or work out. It is a more pricey neighborhood, but it's definitely possible to find a reasonably priced apartment. Gold Coast can be loud, but if you are interested in living within the city it's perfect. “

LAKEVIEW

HIGHLIGHTS:

Lakeview is a vibrant community of Lakeview East, North Halsted, Southport Corridor, and Wrigleyville neighborhoods. This area offers a youthful, social vibe at an affordable price. Enjoy easy access to local amenities like bars, grocery stores, cafes, and gyms. This neighborhood is home to small businesses, bars, and eateries serving both the LGBTQIA+ community and Cubs fans. Lakeview has a lively shopping and dining scene, the scenic lakefront trail, golf courses, a boat harbor, Wrigley Field, and expansive green spaces.

Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,200
1 Bed	\$1,700
2 Bed	\$2,500

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS:

Bus, Red Line, Brown Line

COMMUTE TIME:

20-30 minutes



WHAT OUR STUDENTS THINK ABOUT THE AREA:

“There is a bus line that goes straight to the law school from Inner Lake Shore Drive in Lakeview East, so the commute for me is very easy. I am close to a Planet Fitness, 5-10 minute walk to Jewel Osco and/or Whole Foods. These places have many restaurants, are LGBTQ+ friendly, and often host festivals/fun festivities. I am also a 10 minute walk to the lake. I feel safe in this neighborhood.”

“There's lots of good restaurants, nightlife (both Wrigleyville and North Halsted are within walking distance), and small businesses, so it is a vibrant neighborhood, but the side streets are quiet so you have space to study without activity. It is also a safe area, although I would recommend staying vigilant at night as with any neighborhood.”

“The area is safe and has a lot of great restaurants/amenities within walking distance. To get to Loyola's law school I take the 146 bus which takes you almost directly to the law school. My apartment is quite large and within walking distance to Lake Michigan. Both of these factors outweigh the inconvenience of a slightly longer commute.”

LINCOLN PARK

HIGHLIGHTS:

Lincoln Park is a popular neighborhood for those looking to explore the outdoors while also living in a lively neighborhood. With its location right on the lakefront, thousands of acres of green space, the zoo, and picturesque streets - Lincoln Park can provide a breath of fresh air from the hustle and bustle. Streets lined with charming boutiques, cozy cafes, and lively bars mixed with modern buildings and amenities.

Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,400
1 Bed	\$2,200
2 Bed	\$3,100



Transportation Options:

Bus, Red Line, Brown Line

Commute Time:

20-25 minutes

What our students think about the area:

“I live in Lincoln Park East off of Clark. Safe neighborhood that is close to multiple bus lines and is a 15-minute walk to the brown and red lines. |Beautiful neighborhood with vintage buildings and many trees. Walkable and close to groceries, restaurants, etc. |Don't live in a high rise and rents will be much cheaper.”

“Lincoln Park is such a great place to live during law school. There are lots of local restaurants and shops, and great places to walk within the community. The commute, though not right next to school, is well worth it. It is possible to find an affordable walk-up within the neighborhood, though having a roommate is definitely helpful!”

“I love living in Lincoln Park, there is so much to do in the summer, you're just a short trip from popular areas in the city, and it's still close to campus. It's more reasonably priced than the neighborhoods surrounding campus. Anything you could really need is within a 10-minute walk or less, and I love being close to the lake. It is a really safe neighborhood, there are lots of young families around, but still plenty to do on the weekends.”

LINCOLN SQUARE

HIGHLIGHTS:

Known for its Old World charm, Lincoln Square is a quaint yet vibrant area on Chicago's North Side. With its bustling commercial district centered around the historic Lincoln Avenue, this neighborhood offers an array of boutique shops, cozy cafes, and restaurants featuring diverse cuisines. Residents here enjoy a blend of cultural immersion and community spirit. With its tree-lined streets, picturesque parks, and easy access to public transit, Lincoln Square provides a welcoming neighborhood for those seeking a blend of serenity and cultural vibrancy.



Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,200
1 Bed	\$1,600
2 Bed	\$2,200

Transportation Options:

Bus, Red Line

Commute Time:

25-35 minutes

What our students think about the area:

"I have lived in this area since first moving to the city almost four years ago. There are plenty of nice restaurants and bars in the area offering almost any type of cuisine imaginable - including some great brunch spots. It is close enough to areas such as Lincoln Park and Lakeview, but avoids some of the pitfalls of those areas such as lack of parking, pricey apartments, and congestion/noise. While the commute is a bit longer than some other neighborhoods closer to campus, parking is easy and almost everywhere in the neighborhood is within walking distance of a Brown Line stop!"

LOGAN SQUARE

HIGHLIGHTS:

You'll find the heart of Logan Square at the intersection of Logan and Kedzie Boulevard. Logan Square features the Illinois Centennial Monument, designed by architect Henry Bacon, also known for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC. Biking through Logan Square's friendly streets, you can find inexpensive dining, coffee shops, dive bars, and cocktail lounges that bring a fun flair to everyday life.



Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,200
1 Bed	\$1,500
2 Bed	\$1,700

Transportation Options:

Bus, Blue Line

Commute Time:

35-40 minutes

What our students think about the area:

“Logan is cheaper and more fun than River North. If you live near the Blue Line it's an easy commute.”

“It's very neighborhood-esque. Low buildings, lots of walk ups, and quirky storefronts. Incredible food and drink options. Lots of free parking availability and affordable housing. I would encourage anyone to walk around or ask someone who knows the area well before renting.”

“It's diverse, generally safe, and affordable. There are tons of great restaurants and things to do in adjacent neighborhoods like Bucktown, Wicker Park, and Ukrainian Village.”

“Logan Square is young and has great shopping, restaurants, and bars. It's easily accessible by the blue line, has beautiful tree lined streets, and is very walkable. Plus, the farmer's market is lovely!”

“A quieter neighborhood that still has a lot of shops, restaurants, and bars within walking distance. The commute to Loyola is pretty easy by bus and you're surrounded by other great neighborhoods like Wicker Park and Bucktown.”

OLD TOWN

HIGHLIGHTS:

Conveniently close to the lakefront and a short commute to Loyola's Water Tower Campus, many are drawn to all that Old Town has to offer. With vibrant dining on Wells Street, boutique shopping and a thriving entertainment district, this neighborhood is always bustling. Catch a comedy show at The Second City or head over to one of the many bars or taverns to enjoy happy hour with some friends.

Transportation Options:

Walk, Bus

Commute Time:

10-20 minutes

Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,900
1 Bed	\$2,200
2 Bed	\$3,000



What our students think about the area:

“While Old Town is a close walk to school, it also is far enough away that it provides an opportunity to get immersed in Chicago outside of law school. From the Division Farmer's market on Saturday mornings, to walking the beautiful houses of Lincoln Park just north, to the fantastic restaurants and night life right out your door, it is a great place to live in your 20s in Chicago. The south part of Old Town is also a great option logistically because it has grocery stores galore (Jewel Osco, Aldi, Target) and a Red Line stop right at Division that can get you all over the city.”

“So close to school but not too close - 15-10 minute walk to campus. Near lots of transport (Red Line), easy to get to the Loop if you work at a firm. A little pricey but not terrible with a roommate, and lots of cafes for studying (Aster Hall, Doma, Chicago health foods) and bars and restaurants.”

RIVER NORTH

HIGHLIGHTS:

Across the Chicago River from the Loop is River North, a stylish neighborhood offering fine dining, art and design. With its wide variety of cuisines, you'll have no problem finding a place that fits your taste and your budget. River North is also popular for its nightlife including wine bars, cocktail lounges, and popular clubs. Major attractions in River North include Merchandise Mart and popular architecture such as Marina City and the 330 N. Wabash Building.



Transportation Options:

Walking, Bus, Red Line, Brown Line

Commute Time:

10-15 minutes

Average Rent	
Studio	\$2,100
1 Bed	\$2,800
2 Bed	\$4,200

What our students think about the area:

“The neighborhood is walking distance to school which I have found to be really nice, allowing me to go home on breaks and lessening my commute time. Additionally, the neighborhood has various grocery stores, accessible to public transport, coffee shops, and close to the water.”

“Super close to school- five minute walk. |Easy to commute to work in the loop because it's close to multiple bus lines and the Red Line. |However, rent is expensive so I would recommend getting a roommate. The neighborhood is super touristy. However, it is close to campus. grocery stores, and a nice park. Restaurants in the neighborhood can be expensive, so I would recommend traveling somewhere else to casually go out to eat.”

“ It is very convenient for class and events. There are lots of restaurants and grocery stores close by. Pretty much everything I need is within a 10 minute walk. The only downside is the cost of living, and finding affordable options.”

ROGERS PARK

HIGHLIGHTS:

Nestled along Lake Michigan's shoreline, Rogers Park is a vibrant, diverse neighborhood that boasts a rich cultural tapestry. Home to Loyola University Chicago's Lakeshore Campus, its streets are lined with historic buildings, eateries, and artistic spots. With easy access to public transportation and sprawling parks like Loyola Park, residents enjoy a balance of urban amenities and lakeside views, making it an ideal neighborhood.



Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,000
1 Bed	\$1,300
2 Bed	\$1,800

Transportation Options:

Bus, Red Line

Commute Time:

40-50 minutes

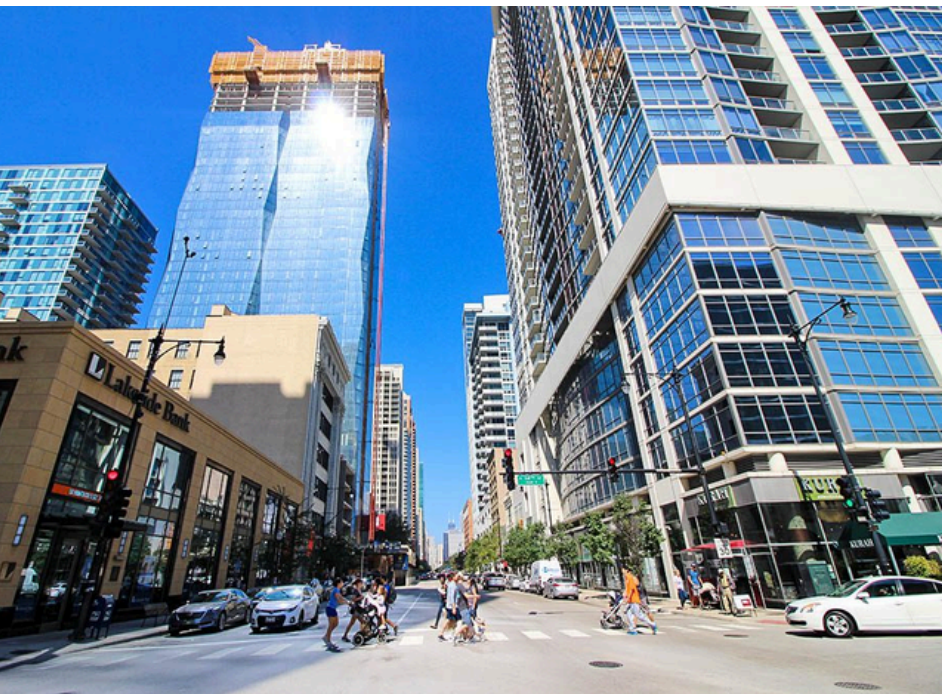
What our students think about the area:

"Rogers Park is Chicago's most diverse neighborhood. There is so much culture every time you step out on the sidewalk. It has a good mix of young and old, families, students, and professionals. There is a real sense of community when you go outside. Housing is very affordable and you are so close to the lake and the many beaches and parks. It is very far north from the law school, but you have access to the LUC shuttle which is a lifesaver, and the Red Line ride only takes about 35 minutes normally to get to school."

SOUTH LOOP

HIGHLIGHTS:

Situated at the heart of Chicago's bustling downtown, the South Loop is a dynamic neighborhood blending historic architecture with modern skyscrapers. This area offers an urban playground of cultural attractions, trendy restaurants, and lively nightlife. From the iconic Grant Park to the Museum Campus, students here experience the pulse of city life while relishing in the convenience of accessible transit and panoramic views of Lake Michigan.



Average Rent

Studio	\$2,000
1 Bed	\$2,300
2 Bed	\$3,000

Transportation Options:

Bus, Red Line

Commute Time:

15-30 minutes

What our students think about the area:

“South Loop is wonderful for the culture, museums, restaurants, people and close proximity to downtown”

“I live on the edge of South Loop and the beginning of Bronzeville. The area is residential with plenty of street parking and public transportation is very accessible. It is quiet and safe. Sometimes, I wish I lived a little closer to bars and restaurants in walking distance.

Overall, the cost isn't too bad”

“South Loop is a lively neighborhood not too far from campus. The Red Line, Orange Line, and Green Line are accessible. There are all types of stores readily accessible. It is a mixed age of people but I have seen mostly younger people. It is a little pricey but there are some buildings that are reasonably priced.”

STREETERVILLE

HIGHLIGHTS:

Known as the gateway to the Navy Pier, Streeterville is located along the lakefront next to the Gold Coast and River North. On the Pier you'll find amusement rides, shops, plenty of food options as well as sightseeing boats and bikes. Over the summer you'll want to stop by to enjoy the beer garden and fireworks or stop by the Children's Museum and Shakespeare Theater. Off the Pier you'll find many quality dining options, beaches, and entertainment. Like the Gold Coast and River North, living in Streeterville can be expensive but also convenient due to its location and easy transportation options.

Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,900
1 Bed	\$2,500
2 Bed	\$4,000



Transportation Options:

Walking, Bus

Commute Time:

5-15 minutes

What our students think about the area:

“Streeterville is a downtown oasis. It is considered one of the safest neighborhoods in the entire city, and definitely the safest downtown neighborhood. I feel safe walking around this neighborhood late at night alone. It is also very walkable to the law school.”

“Super convenient for getting to school plus also close to public transport to get to the Loop or other neighborhoods.”

“It’s one of the best neighborhoods in the city. Some of the best restaurants and bars that Chicago has to offer are right here. Rents can get a little pricey, but it’s worth it when you can walk a couple blocks to school and anywhere else downtown.”

UPTOWN/ANDERSONVILLE

HIGHLIGHTS:

Uptown is a mix of old and new, with a rich history and ethnic diversity that make it a unique and exciting home for Loyola students. With popular music venues like the Aragon theater, the Riviera theater, and the Green Mill jazz club, you can see a live show before visiting Argyle Street for world-class Ethiopian, Lebanese, Indian, Vietnamese, and Chinese cuisine.

Andersonville, a historically Swedish neighborhood, also boasts one of the largest queer communities in Chicago. Comprised almost entirely of locally-owned businesses, you can find a variety of walkable shops, bars, and boutiques with one of a kind items. Andersonville is known for its charm and friendly atmosphere.

Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,000
1 Bed	\$1,500
2 Bed	\$2,000

Transportation Options:

Bus, Red Line

Commute Time:

25-30 minutes

What our students think about the area:

“I love Uptown! It is quiet, relatively affordable compared to neighborhoods closer to campus, diverse, and close to the lake. Tons of great food and access to fun neighborhoods like Andersonville and Edgewater. For getting to school, I can easily hop on a number of express buses and be at school in 15 minutes. Or, I can bike on the lakefront and be there in a half hour. I am about halfway between the Water Tower and Lakeshore campuses, so I can easily access facilities at either location.”

“It is a very diverse area with people of all different ages, races, income levels, etc. The food in this area is very good and reasonably priced. It is also very close to the lakeshore and beach, which is great when the weather is nice. Transportation to other neighborhoods to the north and south is also very good. However, there are not a lot of places open late at night.”

“There are multiple bus stops and an L stop. There's a lot of food options that are affordable, and it's close to the other neighborhoods that most students live in. The lake is within walking distance, and there's a dog beach pretty close.”



WEST LOOP

HIGHLIGHTS:

Previously home to many Chicago factories, markets and warehouses, the West Loop is one of Chicago's fastest growing residential neighborhoods. Home to the United Center, you can catch a Blackhawks game or one of the many musical talents that come to Chicago. Visit "Restaurant Row" for a wide selection of chic dining options, bars, and nightlife. The West Loop also features Fulton Market, the Chicago French Market and Greektown for those looking for traditional eats.

Average Rent	
Studio	\$1,500
1 Bed	\$1,800
2 Bed	\$2,200

Transportation Options:

Bus, Pink Line, Green Line, Blue Line

Commute Time:

30-40 minutes



What our students think about the area:

“I live in West Loop, right off of Ogden Ave. The commute was fairly easy, although I have to transfer buses. However, I am really close to downtown, there are ample parks around, shopping and restaurants are aplenty, and sports fans will appreciate being near the United Center. Those with a car will also appreciate being near both I-90 and I-290, allowing easy access to the suburbs. My rent is also cheaper than other areas I looked in, especially considering the size of my apartment.”

“Restaurants, grocery stores, bars, parks, and transit nearby. Great for commuting to summer work in the Loop. One downside is to commute to campus you will have to transfer to the Red Line. “

WICKER PARK/BUCKTOWN

HIGHLIGHTS:

Nestled on Chicago's northwest side, these neighborhoods boast a mix of historic architecture and modern developments. Attracting residents with its artsy vibe and diverse culture. From cozy cafes to lively bars and boutiques, the area offers an array of experiences. With convenient access to public transportation, including the CTA Blue Line, commuting to downtown and beyond is straightforward. Wicker Park and Bucktown provide a vibrant urban setting and an authentic Chicago experience.



Average Rent	
Studio	\$2,000
1 Bed	\$2,200
2 Bed	\$3,100

Transportation Options:

Blue Line

Commute Time:

20-30 minutes

What our students think about the area:

“Vibrant neighborhood with fun nightlife. Blue Line and buses accessible. Fun food options. Cost of living a little higher than other neighborhoods.”

“A quieter neighborhood that still has a lot of shops, restaurants, and bars within walking distance. The commute to Loyola is pretty easy by bus”

“Love Wicker Park! It is by far the funkiest neighborhood in Chicago. This amazing bohemian community. Also, the nightlife is great as it's never a simple weekend in Wicker Park, there's always some new club, street festival, or restaurant opening.”