

So you found an apartment that you really like, but before you decide to apply it's important to know everything you can. Here are some questions you may consider asking:

- Is there an application fee?
- What's the monthly rent? This will help you determine if your housing will be affordable.
- Are any utilities included (electricity, heat water, sewer, garbage, cable and internet are all possible)? What is the average utility cost in a unit?
- How much is the security deposit? How do I get it back?
- Do you have any leasing specials?



- What lease terms are available (month to month, 6 months, 12 months)? What happens if I have to terminate my lease early?
- What is your rental application criteria (minimum credit score, prior rental history)? Examples can be found in the *Preparing Your Rental Resume* section of this guide.
- Do I need a co-signer?



- I have a disability, how can you accommodate me?



Fair housing laws require providers to make reasonable accommodations in their rules, policies, and practices to give a person with a disability an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling unit or common space. Examples include: allowing a service or companion animal, designating a reserved parking space closer to the door, visual alarm systems, or moving a tenant to a ground floor for easier mobility. Be mindful that it is unusual to be charged a fee to provide reasonable accommodations. More information can be found at High Plains Fair Housing, www.highplainsfhc.org or 1-866-380-2738.

- Is there a garage, assigned or unassigned parking lot or off street parking?
- Am I responsible for any repairs? How do I request them?
- What are the security features of the building?
- Is there an onsite manager?
- What is your pet policy?



While this list doesn't cover everything, it's a good start. The North Dakota Apartment Association's Landlord and Tenant Rights booklet found at www.ndaa.net is a great resource.