



CHAMPAIGN-URBANA WELCOME GUIDE

We at the NTFC welcome you to Champaign-Urbana, commonly known as Champaign, a great place to live and work. Please let us show you around your new home with the following recommendations!

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Auto Repair

- Joe's Automotive Repair (24 E Marshall St., C.)
- Peter B's Automotive (509 N Lierman Ave, U.)

Benefits

There are many benefits from being a signed NTFC member. Check out the NTFC website for a complete list.

Book Stores

- Iliuni Union Bookstore [IUB] (809 S. Wright, C.) and T.I.S. College Bookstore (707 S. Sixth, C.).
- Jane Addams (208 N. Neil, C.) specializes in women's studies and is also particularly good at locating out-of-print materials.
- Priceless Books (108 W. Main, U.)

Campus Labor Coalition

Champaign-Urbana is a labor town, and NTFC is proud to stand in solidarity with a number of other campus labor unions and organizations that together make up the Campus Labor Coalition. We're at our strongest when we stand together to demand better conditions for ALL workers on campus. You can easily show your support by following the other members of the CLC on social media! "United we bargain, divided we beg!"

- **AFSCME** The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 698 represents a wide range of campus employees, including instrument makers, laboratory mechanics, farmers, herders, animal caretakers, library specialists, theatrical stitchers, garage attendants and mechanics, aircraft mechanics, crash rescue specialists, nurses, nurse practitioners, medical technicians, histologists and radiographers.
- **Campus Faculty Association** While not unionized, the campus faculty association are an organization of tenure-track faculty on campus.
- **GEO:** Graduate Employee Organization that represents TAs and RAs.
- **SEIU** The Service Employees' International Union represents dining and building service workers. In 2017, their extensive organizing efforts won them a three-year contract with guaranteed raises each year.

- **Undergrad-Grad Alliance** The UGA is dedicated to improving the lives of undergraduate workers at UIUC by building relationships between undergraduates, graduates, and faculty.

Community Involvement

- NTFC hosts several service projects throughout the year:
 - McKinley Foundation Homeless Garden: Members can contact NTFC for opportunities to help plant and harvest vegetables.
 - School Supplies Drive: NTFC hosts this for underfunded elementary schools and the Urbana Adult Education Center.
- For a list of current community needs, visit <https://cuvolunteer.org/>

Community Sales

- YMCA “Dump and Run” sale, a great way to quickly get furniture and homegoods at the beginning of the semester. (https://universityymca.org/dump_and_run/)
- Semi-Annual One Week Boutique, great for first time parents. (<http://oneweekboutique.com/>)

Dental and Vision

- Illini Eyecare (Green St.)
- Jones Optical (Neil St.)
- Hessel Park Family Dentistry (Kirby Ave)

Dining and Nightlife

-Breakfast-

- Courier Cafe (111. N. Race, U) \$ Amazing pancakes and omelets at great prices with great atmosphere. Go later in the day for great burgers, fries, and shakes.
- Cracked (619 E. Green St, C) \$
- Le Peep (2209 S. Neil, C) \$-\$ One of the best breakfasts in town.
- Original House of Pancakes (1909 W. Springfield, C) \$ Enormous portions with loads of cholesterol in tacky decor=great breakfast.
- Sammy’s Pancake House (1206 N. Mattis Ave, C) \$ Pancakes, diner food, and everything else you need. A grad favorite.
- Destihl (301 N. Neil St, C) \$\$
- Big Grove (1 E. Main St, C) \$\$

-Chinese-

- Chinese Golden Harbor (505 S. Neil St, C) \$-\$ Great food and large portions. It’s quite expensive if you go on your own, but affordable if you plan to share.
- Peking Garden (206 N. Randolph, C) \$-\$ Large portions and wide selection.
- Tang Dynasty (300 S. Broadway, Lincoln Square Mall, U.) \$-\$ Great atmosphere and good food.
- Mandarin Wok (403 E. Green, C) \$ Best Chinese food in town if you order from the Chinese language menu.
- Lai Lai Wok (402 E. Green St., C)\$-\$ The best Chinese food on Green St.

-Coffee Shops-

- Caffe Paradiso (corner of Lincoln and Nevada).
- Espresso Royale is the most commonly found cafe, with locations in Illini Union, Main Library Tunnel, Champaign, Urbana, and the Krannert Art Museum.
- Cafe Kopi (109 N. Walnut, C.),

- Aroma Café (118 N. Neil, C.)
- Pekara (116 N. Neil., C.)
- Flying Machine Coffee (208 W. Main, U.)
- Columbia Roasting Company (24 E Columbia Ave, C.)
- Walnut Street Tea Company (115 S. Walnut Street, C.)

-Indian-

- Bombay Indian Grill (403 E. Green, C.) \$ Great Indian food on campus. Usually crowded for lunch, but reasonable for dinner.
- Himalayan Chimney (134 W. Church St, C)
- Koh-i-noor (6 E. Columbia Ave, C)
- Sitara (114 S Race St, U.) \$\$ Delicious indian food in downtown Urbana.
- Ambar (605 S. Wright St, C)

-Italian-

- Biaggi's (2235 S. Neil St, C)
- Timpone's (710 S. Goodwin, U) \$\$\$ A good choice for a special occasion. Lunches are more affordable.
- Nando Milano Trattoria (204 N Neil St, C) \$\$\$ Great Italian food.

-Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese-

- Woori Jib (710 S. 6th St., C) \$ Best Korean food on campus. Try the barbeque.
- A-Ri-Rang (607 S. Wright St. C) \$ Try the Dolsot Bibimbap.
- Sakanaya (403 S. Green St, C) \$\$ Decent food, but on the expensive side.
- Thai Basil Thai (701 S. Gregory, U. and 412 E. Green, C) \$-\$\$ Locations on each end of campus.
- Bangkok Thai (410 E Green St, C) \$ They have delicious daily specials for less than \$6. Generous servings.
- Siam Terrace (212 W. Main, U) \$-\$\$ A hike from campus, but worth the walk. The seasonal mango dessert is highly recommended.
- Thara Thai (912 1/2 Bloomington Rd., C) \$\$-\$\$\$ A little further afield but worth the drive.

-Mexican-

- Maize (60 E Green St, Champaign, IL 61820) \$-\$\$ A little off campus but worth the trip for authentic Mexican food made from scratch. There is also a sit down location in downtown Champaign.
- Huaraches de Moroleon (805 Philo Rd, Urbana, IL 61801) \$-\$\$ Off campus but so worth the drive for good Mexican food. Offers a variety of authentic dishes and has a large selection of margaritas and other Mexican cocktails and beers.
- El Oasis (510 N Cunningham Ave, Urbana, IL 61802) \$-\$\$ Excellent place for Mexican ice cream and snacks.
- Dos Reales (1407 N Prospect Ave, Champaign, IL 61820) \$-\$\$ A sit -down Mexican restaurant off campus.
- Fiesta Cafe (216 S. 1st St, C) \$\$ Decent food and even better margaritas. 40

-Vegetarian-

- The Red Herring Restaurant (1209 W. Oregon, U) \$ Located right across the street from the Foreign Language Building, serving tasty vegetarian and vegan lunches. Also try the \$8 all-you-can-eat themed dinners on Wednesday nights.

- The Dancing Dog Eatery & Juicery (126 W. Main St., U) \$ A popular 100% vegan eatery in downtown Urbana. They do a great brunch on Sundays.

-Local Favorites-

- Black Dog Smoke & Ale House (201 Broadway Ave., U) Delicious BBQ and tasty ales!
- Caribbean Grill (2135 S. Neil St, C) \$-\$\$ Great jerk chicken. Keep an eye out for their food truck!
- Hopscotch (802 W. John St, C) \$-\$\$ Cute local bakery. They can even make a few things custom with enough notice!
- Pandamonium Donuts (1105 Windsor Rd, C.) \$ Started as a food truck, now has their own store .
- Watson's Chicken Shack (211 N. Neil St, C) \$\$ A great place to get Chicken and Waffles. Overall decent menu, a little on the pricey side for fried chicken.
- Manolo's (1115 W. Oregon St, U) \$-\$\$ Their claim to fame is their New York style pizza and their empanadas. Their pizza is quite popular, but their empanadas get mixed reviews.
- Merry-Ann's Diner (1510 S. Neil, C, 1 E Main, C) \$ Standard side of the road diner fare.

-Special Occasions-

- The Bread Company (706. S Goodwin, U) \$\$-\$\$\$ Good cheeses, pizzas and pastas in relaxed environment. Good for a romantic date when they get the fireplace roaring. They also carry a great beer selection!
- Radio Maria (119 N. Walnut, C) \$\$-\$\$\$ Eclectic Spanish and fusion cuisine in a beautiful, artistic setting. Great Sunday brunch.
- Destihl Restaurant (301 N. Neil St., C) \$\$ A gastrobrewery in downtown Champaign.
- Milo's (2870 S. Philo, U) \$\$ Great seafood, very friendly owners and staff. Budget conscious gourmands should look for the "early Bird" specials.
- Ko-Fusion (1 E. Main C) \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$ Pricey but the sushi is good, and the place provides a unique atmosphere for this area.
- Big Grove Tavern (1 E. Main, C) \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$ Upscale tavern sourcing from local farms and artisans.
- Bacaro (113 N. Walnut, C) \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$ Upscale Italian fusion entrees and an extensive wine list.

-Bars-

- Quality (110 N. Neil, C) will always have a good few beers on tap and good mixed drinks. They are NTFC's go-to bar for happy hours and events. They have darts, board games, and pinball. Indoor and outdoor seating, no food.
- Blind Pig Brewery (120 N. Neil, C) Great beer selection. 19 taps and 2 hand pulls. Cozy, bustling atmosphere. Blind Pig Co., "The Piglet" (120 N. Walnut, C) The Blind Pig recently opened a separate location, also in downtown Champaign. This location doesn't boast quite as extensive a beer selection, but it offers beer brewed on-site, an excellent beer garden, and Sunday night specials and trivia.
- Barrel House (34 E Main St., C) Beautiful bar furnished and built with wood scavenged from old barns in Central IL. Indoor and outdoor seating.
- Bunny's Tavern (199 W Water St., U) Primarily catering to bikers, specializes in beer buckets and has a great outdoor patio.
- Cowboy Monkey (6 Taylor, C) Snazzy bar and performance space with a pricey drink menu. Comfortable outdoor seating. Salsa and Tango dancing on Wednesday. 43
- Crane Alley (115 W. Main, U) Best outdoor seating in Urbana, good mix of fancy dishes and classic pub food, and a massive beer selection.
- Iron Post (120 S. Race St., U) Great live music venue and outdoor seating.

- Jupiter's (39 E. Main St, C) Very spacious, nice pool tables, great pizza. Arrive after 8pm on Tuesday for half-priced pizza.
- Murphy's Pub (604 E. Green St, C) Best campus bar, decent food, relaxed setting.
- Radio Maria (119 N. Walnut, C) Beer selection rivals the Blind Pig in scope and price, but tapas selections are a bit pricey. Wine selection is excellent as well, and there are great daily specials most days except Friday.
- Rose Bowl (106 N. Race S., U) Live country music in downtown Urbana.
- Seven Saints (32 E. Chester St., C) Good atmosphere. Serving sliders and excellent cheese curds.
- Soma Ultralounge (320 N. Neil, C) Decent salsa night and discount cover charge before 11pm.

Grocery Stores

Urbana:

- Urbana Farmers' Market (Open May-November), excellent place to get local, fresh and affordable produce (300 S Broadway Ave, U.)
- Common Ground Food Co-op, a member-run natural food store featuring superb produce, (300 S Broadway Ave, U.)
- Strawberry Fields, organic and vegetarian foods (306 W. Springfield, U.)
- Aldi, a German company which owns and operates both Aldi and Trader Joe's, is the most affordable grocery store in the area (3102 E University Ave, U.)
- Schnucks, regular supermarket (200 N. Vine, U.)
- Meijer, a big box grocery store (2500 S Philo Rd, U.)
- El Progreso, Latin American Grocer (510 N Cunningham Ave, U.)
- U of I Meat Sales Room, student run butcher with fantastic meats and eggs at a very affordable price, check hours before going (1503 S. Maryland Ave., U.)
- World Harvest Foods, has kosher and halal meats along with many other delicious foods (306 Springfield Ave., U.)
- Sola Gratia Farm CSA, affordable farm produce service. See their website for more details (<http://www.solagratiacsa.com/>)

Champaign:

- Aldi, a German company which owns and operates both Aldi and Trader Joe's, is the most affordable grocery store in the area (801 W Interstate Dr, C.)
- Ruler Market, a Kroger grocery store (716 W. Town Center Blvd. C.)
- Harvest Market, natural and organic food store (2029 S. Neil St, C.)
- Fresh International Market, Asian Grocer (505 S Neil St, C.)
- County Market, typical grocery store (2401 N. Prospect Ave, C.)
- Meijer, a big box grocery store (2500 S Philo Rd)
- AmKo, east and south Asian foods, has a halal meat selection (101 E. Springfield, C.)
- Far East Market, east Asian market (105 S 5th St, C.)
- Annapoorna, Indian market (505 S. Neil St #11, C.)
- El Progreso, Latin American Grocer (1001 W Bloomington Rd, C.)

Hair Care

- Ippatsu Salon (73 E Chester St, C.) and Timothy John Salon & Spa (404 W Green St, U) are favorites for upscale cuts, coloring, and styling.
- For braids, natural styles, or presses, try Locks of Glory (124 N 1st St., C.), and The Whip Hair Designs (904 N 4th St., C.)

- For an inexpensive barber, try Glen's (602 S. 1st St., C.)

Libraries and Study Carrels

The Urbana and Champaign public libraries (urbanafreelibrary.org and champaign.org) are also excellent. The Champaign Public Library has recently been renovated and allows its meeting rooms to be reserved by non-profit orgs. Grad students are also able to obtain study carrels, located in the stacks of the main library. Register for a carrel in the circulation office, on the 2nd floor of the main library.

The Urbana and Champaign libraries are some of the year-round gems of the community. The libraries are connected, so a card to one is valid to the other and the collection is fully shared. Both libraries have excellent children's programming and a great indoor play area. The Urbana library has board games, musical instruments, tools (such as sewing machines), and other non-traditional items available to check-out. Both host excellent events for people of all ages.

Laundromat:

Courtesy Cleaning (402 N. Broadway, U.)

Local Websites and Blogs

- Champaign Moms: Online resource geared towards family but with helpful area info for all! (<http://champaignmoms.com>)
- Smile Politely, independent online magazine that focuses on local music, restaurants and events (<http://www.smilepolitely.com>).

Newspapers, Radio, and TV

- The News-Gazette, and the free, student paper, the Daily Illini offer versions of local and world events.
- the Independent Media Center (202 S. Broadway, U), which publishes The Public I, a free news and analysis monthly, and distributes a number of zines and newsletters for free or a small donation
- WILL AM580, offers an NPR affiliate with good local programming on; a classical station at 90.9 FM
- The WHHP 98.3 FM, based in a house in Farmer City, IL, plays bluegrass, old timey music, and alt country.
- WEFT 90.1 FM and WRFU 104.5 FM. WEFT is a 20+ year old community radio station, meaning that everyone you hear on air is a volunteer. Schedules can be found at www.weft.org. WRFU is a newer low-power community station broadcasting out of the Independent Media Center in Urbana. We are big fans of WRFU's "The World Labor Hour," which broadcasts on Saturdays from the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center and regularly covers labor issues.
- WBCP 1580 AM is R&B and Gospel
- WILL-TV, PBS affiliate

On-Campus Recreation & Gyms

- The Activities and Recreation Center (ARC) is the university's newly renovated complex, housing several gyms, racquetball/ handball/volleyball courts, pools, an indoor track, weight rooms, stair-masters, a climbing wall, and more!
- Campus Recreation Center East (CRCE), which has state of the art equipment, weights, a pool, a hot tub, and a water slide!

- The University of Illinois Ice Arena is open for ice skating and broomball through the academic year. Bowling, billiards, and video games are available, for a fee, in the basement of the Illini Union.
- YMCA (2501 Fields S Dr, C.) A staple in the community. Nothing fancy, but has childcare.
- Refinery Gym (2302 W John St, C.) Best rated gym in the area, crowded.
- Luyanda Boxing (219 S Locust St, C.) Highly recommended boxing gym.
- Charter Fitness (300 Broadway Ave #160, U.) Extremely cheap, no frills.
- Planet Fitness (2002 Glenn Park Dr, C. & 1809 Philo Rd, U.) Extremely cheap, no frills.
- Yoga Institute of Champaign-Urbana- Highly recommended. Has a wide variety of classes, including modest classes.

Outdoor Activities

- U of I Arboretum on Lincoln Ave.,
- Busey Woods (1505 N. Broadway, U.),
- Meadowbrook Park
- Lake of the Woods.
- Allerton Park, located 30 miles SW of Champaign.
- Turkey Run State Park in Indiana is the closest camping/hiking area
- Dog owners can take their pet to Urbana's Dog Park (1508 E. Perkins Rd., U.)
- Christie Clinic Marathon. The race happens every April and includes a kids fun run, 5K, 10K, half-marathon, and full marathon. It ends at the 50 yard line of Memorial Stadium. The course is described as "fast and flat."

Outdoor Activities w/ Kids

- Homer Lake Playscape: Lakeside playscape with natural toddler-friendly stream, sandpits, climbing area and more.
- Idea Garden
- Friendship Grove Nature Playscape: Outdoor play area next to Anita Purves Nature Center
- Meadowbrook Park: Fantastic playground and jogging trail
- Hessel Park: Great playground and splash pad
- Ambucs Park: Has a train feature, playground, and large african-tongue drums
- Crystal Lake: Great outdoor space, boathouse has canoes and paddle boats for rent.
- Champaign Prairie Farm: The Farm features traditional farm animals such as sheep, pigs, goats, horses, cows, chickens, and geese. Open May - August.
- Curtis Orchard & Pumpkin Patch: Great orchard and has goats, chickens and outdoor playground
- Crystal Lake Park Family and Aquatic Center: Public waterpark and pool recreation area
- Turkey Thicket: Closest Camping area

Parent Resources

- UIUC Student-Parents website: <http://odos.illinois.edu/student-parents>
- My Morning Out: A daycare that is open from 8:30-noon. Full-time, part-time and drop in care is available.
- Child Development Lab: This daycare is run by the university and comes highly recommended, but is difficult to get in. <https://cdl.illinois.edu/>
- Crisis Nursery is an amazing free resource for the community. They are equipped and trained to handle emergency childcare in case of family crisis. See their website for more details. <http://www.crisisnursery.net/ForParents/HowToUseCrisisNursery.aspx>

- Cooperative Nursery School of Champaign-Urbana is also highly recommended:
<https://www.coopnursery.org/>
- Windsor Road Christian Church has a great indoor playground that is free and open to the public M-F from 9-4pm.
- The Orpheum Children’s Science Museum has affordable memberships and daily rates. (346 N Neil St, C.)
- Recommended Pediatricians (list provided by the Chambana Mom’s readers picks):
 - Dr. James Hauffe
 - Dr. Mark Musselman
 - Dr. Dionne Smith
 - Dr. Sean Fullan
 - Dr. Katherine Avery
 - Dr. Donna Beck
 - Dr. Frank Stephens
 - Dr. Ada Sum
 - Dr. Neena Tripathy
 - Dr. Anna Ziemer

Paychecks and Banking

Payday is but once per month on the 16th. Your first paycheck won’t arrive until September 16th. Questions about paychecks can be answered in your main department office. Occasionally, new faculty members have problems with their paychecks. We have effectively dealt with these problems in the past and are here to help you resolve any wage-related issues.

There are numerous banks on and off campus. The U of I Employees Credit Union (www.uiecu.org) offers free checking and savings with no minimum balance. Busey Bank (www.busey.com) can open bank accounts for international faculty that do not have a social security number.

Pets and Petcare

- The Champaign County Humane Society (1911 East Main Street, U) has a wide variety of animals up for adoption, including cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, and reptiles.
- Champaign Area Trap Spay/Neuter and Adoption Program (CATSNAP) is a foster-based program that holds cat adoption events in PetSmart (2017 N Prospect Ave., C).
- Sailfin Pet Shop (720 S. Neil St., C) sells fish (fresh and saltwater), birds, small mammals, reptiles, and tarantulas. They also carry supplies for all of the above animals, including bulk food, at good prices.
- Prairieland Feeds (303 S. Dunlap St, S). They are a locally-owned store whose prices typically beat the big box store for general pet supplies, wild bird feeders/seed, and large animal supplies.
- The University of Illinois’ Veterinary Teaching Hospital (1008 W Hazelwood Dr, U) provides 24/7 emergency services. They are also a good source for certain kinds of specialized veterinary care. However, they are expensive for basic care and general checkups.
- Good Friends Animal Hospital (908 East Main St., U) is a certified Cat Friendly Practice.

Recreation & Festivals

Champaign and Urbana both have fantastic park systems, with parks and “parklets” scattered all over the two cities. They also offer fitness and general interest classes; check out the web sites of the

Champaign Park District ([http:// www.champaignparkdistrict.com/](http://www.champaignparkdistrict.com/)) and the Urbana Park District (<http://www.urbanaparks.org/>) for more information.

- Urbana Sweetcorn Festival: Last weekend of August
- Taste of Champaign Urbana: June
- Urbana Blues, Brews, and BBQ Festival: June
- Boneyard Arts Festival: April.
- Roger Ebert's internationally recognized Overlooked Film Festival draws thousands of film buffs to downtown Champaign's historic Virginia Theater every spring.
- Pygmalion Music and Arts Festival: End of September
- Mistletoe Market: First week of December
- Cheese Festival in Arthur, IL: Labor Day Weekend
- Champaign County Fair: In July
- Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College. Most weekend nights they show full-dome shows and look at that night's sky. Many shows are child-friendly. Once a month there is a science lecture at the Planetarium, and several times a year they show laser shows set to Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon and other classics.
- Urbana's First Fridays. On the first Friday of each month you can find activities, food and drink samples, and open houses in downtown Urbana.

Renting and Housing in C-U

As a generalization, Urbana has a more quirky, progressive, artsy vibe and Champaign is more uniform and predictable. However, in both towns, housing is extremely affordable to the extent that many PHD students will choose to buy a house instead of rent.

Theater, Films, and Dancing

- The University's Krannert Center for the Performing Arts (www.krannertcenter.com) presents drama, dance, symphonies, and operas in several theaters.
- The Station Theater (223 N. Broadway, U)
- The Armory Free Theater (in the Armory Building on campus)
- Virginia Theater (203 W. Park, C.).
- The Art Theater (126 W. Church, C.)
- Harvest Moon Drive-in Theater in Gibson City
- The Spurlock Museum (600 S Gregory St, U.)
- The Krannert Art Museum (500 E Peabody Dr, C.)
- U of I's Assembly Hall and Foellinger Auditorium
- The Canopy Club (708 S. Goodwin, U.)
- Cowboy Monkey (6 Taylor, C.)
- Zorbas (627 E Green St, C.)
- The Iron Post (120 S. Race, U.)
- For dancing, try The Regent Ballroom (1406 Regency Dr., S.) which hosts regular dance nights for swing, salsa, and other ballroom dancing styles. Try Soma, Ko-Fusion, Radio Maria, and Cowboy Monkey for salsa and hip hop on weeknights.

Transportation

- **Biking:** The City of Urbana was named the first Gold-Level Bicycle Friendly Community in Illinois by the League of American Bicyclists in November of 2014. Urbana is one of only 25

communities in America in achieving Gold-level status or higher. Champaign has a bronze level rating.

- The Bike Project (608 E. Pennsylvania Ave., C., and 202 S. Broadway, U.)
- Neutral Cycle (624 S 5th St, C.)
- Bike Shares: The CU area will begin a pilot program for allowing dockless bike share companies to operate around town and on campus fall of 2018. This system adds a new layer of convenience for getting around town by bike. Users can download an app to unlock bikes wherever they are available and lock them at any bike rack when they are done. Pricing is usually based on time on the bike and the service is very affordable.
- Bus: The CU area has fantastic and frequent bus services that are completely free for faculty members. Due to its great infrastructure and reliability, ridership is more than that in much bigger cities like Indianapolis and Albuquerque. Refer to their website for route information. (<https://www.cumtd.com/>)
- Driving: Both campus and local authorities heavily police meters. For an annual fee you purchase a pass to park on a large lot at the edge of campus and ride a shuttle bus to central campus. Information about the shuttle pass and other options is available from the Parking Division (www.parking.illinois.edu). At the same office you can purchase a cash key, an easy way to pay meters on campus and in both Champaign and Urbana. Additionally, the app MobileMeter is used by the city and very helpful for keeping the meter fed. Many lots on campus are free after 12 5pm or on weekends, like the lots in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and the Main Library lot, but others are 24-hrs so carefully read signs posted at the entrance to the lot before you park.
- Getting to Chicago and Chicago Airports: Amtrak to downtown Chicago is \$15, but it is notoriously late. Other bus services are excellent for getting to and from the airport. Peoria Charter is strongly recommended. We would recommend that our members do not use Suburban Express, due to their frequent displays of racism.

