Inspect the premises thoroughly before paying a deposit or signing a tenancy agreement. Use this checklist when you view accommodations, it can help you define your expectations and help you become better acquainted with minimum standards.

### Exterior - Take a comprehensive survey of the perimeter of the building

- Steps, walkways, driveways and parking spaces have a hard, safe surface
- Roof, foundation, walls, windows and doors are weatherproof
- There is a place to dispose garbage
- Street and sidewalk are well-lit; you feel safe being in the area and in the building
- Laundry room is clean and laundry machines are operational
- No signs of mouse/insect infestation
- Fire extinguishers are available and in visible places

### Interior - Consider the following when viewing an apartment or suite:

- Front door has an operational lock, chain lock and/or deadbolt, as well as a peephole
- All windows and doors (including balcony) properly close and have locks
- Interior floor is clean, sanitary and reasonably smooth and level
- Walls are clean and/or freshly painted
- Carpet is not stained or worn out
- There is a kitchen sink and the stove (electric or gas) and refrigerator are operational
- Cold and hot water taps work
- Heating system functions and is sufficient for winter months
- Bathroom is well ventilated with a flushing toilet
- Bathroom floors are waterproof
- Electrical, ventilations, air-conditioning and plumbing systems are operational
- Windows are weatherproof, properly sealed and/or double paned with screens
- Fire alarms are operational and there are at least two emergency exits (includes front door
- Cable and telephone (landline) are available
- Noise levels: Consider street noise, proximity to restaurants/bars, and check if the walls are "thin and noise from adjacent apartments may disturb you
- Is there sufficient lighting to suit your needs?
- Are there operational laudry facilities?