University accommodation
While renting privately may seem a cheaper option, the monthly rent won't include any household bills. Take a look at our university accommodation and our private rental guide to decide what is best for you.

Temporary accommodation
You are strongly advised to book accommodation in advance of arriving for your studies as it is often hard to find accommodation on arrival. If you have secured accommodation in advance, this will also assist your entry to the UK, if asked by border control where you will be living. However, if you need to find temporary accommodation, there are plenty of hotels and B&Bs close to the University campus. You can find more information on the Visit Scotland webpages or on the Hello Student London website. You will be expected to find accommodation by yourself as the university is unable to secure accommodation for you.

Private accommodation
Whilst most students prefer to live close to their campus, it is likely you will need to use the public transport network as not all students will be able to find accommodation close to the university. If you haven’t already done so, consider widening your search area to include accommodation within commuting distance from your campus. Look at our guide on private rental accommodation

Other accommodation options
There may be the opportunity to book a room to stay as a lodger in local homes for a short period of time. If lodgings are available they will be advertised on SpareRoom.

Bringing your family with you to study in the UK
If you are bringing your family to the UK, you are advised to arrive by yourself in the first instance and have them join you once you’ve found suitable accommodation. University Residences do not provide family accommodation.

Finding a referee and paying a deposit
If you have previously stayed in private accommodation in the UK, contact your previous landlord. If you don’t have a UK referee, you might be asked to pay up to two months’ rent as a deposit instead of the usual one. You cannot be asked to pay a deposit which is greater than two months’ rent.

Finding a guarantor
A guarantor is a third party who agrees to take on liabilities arising from someone else’s tenancy. This means that they guarantee rent payments and other tenancy obligations, for example, landlord losses, expenses, or damages. A guarantor is not a legal requirement, but there is nothing to stop landlords or letting agents from insisting on one. Some landlords will insist any guarantor be UK based. If you are unable to provide a guarantor acceptable to the landlord, you will need to consider another landlord. Some landlords will take rent in advance in place of the guarantor. The maximum allowable for this is six months in a Private Residential Tenancy.