

# Housing Discrimination

## National Origin

National origin refers to a person's birthplace or ancestry, such as someone who is Latino/a or Hispanic or from another country or region of the world. It is illegal to discriminate against someone based on their national origin.

## Prohibited Conduct

Discrimination includes refusing to rent or sell, or charging more or offering different terms to someone, because of his or her race or color. Housing providers are prohibited from making discriminatory statements or publishing discriminatory advertising, as well as from making false statements about availability.

## Harassment and Retaliation

Harassing someone, or retaliating against or interfering with someone who is attempting to exercise their fair housing rights, is also prohibited.



OFF-CAMPUS LIFE  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

### For Questions, Help, or Support, please contact:

#### Stevie Jorgensen, Off-Campus Life

stevie.jorgensen@colostate.edu  
(970) 491-2248

#### Asian and Pacific American Cultural Center

apacc.csu@gmail.com  
(970) 491-6154

#### Black/African American Cultural Center

BAACC\_email@Mail.Colostate.edu  
(970) 491-5781

#### El Centro

elcentro\_staff@Mail.ColoState.EDU  
(970) 491-5722

#### Native American Cultural Center

nacc@colostate.edu  
(970) 491-1332

#### Student Legal Services

sls\_intake@mail.colostate.edu  
(970) 491-1482

#### Student Resolution Center

srcenter@colostate.edu  
(970) 491-7165



## Off-Campus Housing as a Person of Color

What to know and what to ask when leasing.



# Navigating Roommates

## Finding Roommates

Many off-campus housing options offer roommate matching for individual leasers. This option can work out well, but it does not guarantee a POC friendly roommates, and may put you into a dangerous living situation that you don't want to be in. Try living with friends, classmates, or finding potential roommates through RentalSearch and getting to know them before signing together.

## What to do if You're Having Roommate Problems

If you're having roommate issues, the first and best option is to talk it out. Don't be afraid to call a house meeting and express how you're feeling. If the issues continue, consider reaching out to the Student Resolution Center. Serious issues and dangerous situations should be referred to the property manager, with a request for immediate transfer. Consider also reaching out to Off-Campus Life and Student Legal Services for additional support.

I think I'm being discriminated against, what do I do?

### Identifying Discrimination

The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing and housing-related discrimination because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), familial status, and disability.

### Reporting Discrimination

If you feel you have or are being discriminated against, please contact Student Legal Services, CSU cultural centers, and/or Off-Campus Life for support.

**Read more  
about HUD  
Fair Housing  
laws.**



# Searching for POC Friendly Housing

## Look For Keywords in Listings

People looking for roommates on RentalSearch or in Facebook groups will often list if they are also looking for POC friendly living environments. Search through active listings for 'poc friendly', 'bipoc roommates', etc. Consider posting a roommate profile on RentalSearch or Facebook for yourself using these phrases as well so people can reach out to you!

## Don't Be Afraid to Ask!

When touring an apartment or house, don't be afraid to just ask the landlord if they are POC friendly and up to date on their Fair Housing training. A clear answer, good or bad, is better than a vague one!

## Check Reviews

Reviews in general should be taken with a grain of salt, but in this case they can be very helpful in determining other pocs' housing experiences. Search for words like "discriminate" and "racist" in reviews to see if there have been problems in the past with this landlord.