Now, making informed choices in off-campus housing just got easier.
WORKING TOGETHER, THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AND COMMUNITY RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS ARE MAKING IT EASIER FOR UA STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING OPTIONS.
PRESENTING

UA'S PREFERRED RESIDENTIAL RENTAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
Crimson Choice, UA’s preferred residential rental educational program, is an important part of the University’s comprehensive approach to student well-being. Created around the three “Es” of Environment, Education, and Enforcement, Crimson Choice is intended to help UA parents and students make more educated and informed decisions when selecting off-campus housing.

Here is how it works.

Each year, Crimson Choice personnel will review the rental property of owners who volunteer for the program. Using over 60 criteria, inspectors evaluate the physical safety of the property on such things as the quality of the exterior doors, locks, and windows. They also look at fire safety, lighting, and how well the grounds are maintained. If enrolled, these properties become Crimson Choice properties and are awarded the Crimson Choice designation and placed on the Crimson Choice website.
While UA can never guarantee that accidents and criminal activity will not occur, Crimson Choice is an important step for the security and well-being of our students. You’ll find Crimson Choice properties on our website, www.crimsonchoice.ua.edu. Also, look for the UA Crimson Choice logo on properties you visit.
What we look for in a Crimson Choice property

Here are some of the over 60 criteria we look for in a Crimson Choice participating property. For a complete listing of criteria, please go to www.crimsonchoice.ua.edu

Exterior doors/locks
- Is the door metal or solid core constructed?
- Door has 180-degree or wide-angled peephole at appropriate height or window nearby.
- No glass panels in door unless double pane glass.
- Door appears to have a securely installed key-operated dead bolt.
- Hinge pins are non-removable or are located inside the residence.
- Doorframes appear securely fastened.
- Strike plates appear secured into the doorframes.
- Locks appear in good working order and complex states that it will re-key at resident's request. (Resident may incur expense.)
- Is the door entrance sufficiently lit?
- Is there good visibility with little shrubbery to allow concealment?
- Sliding glass doors appear to have strong working locks.

Windows
- Double hung windows appear securely pinned or appear to have working locks.
- Window locks cannot be readily unlocked from exterior.

Interior
- Smoke detectors near bedrooms and kitchen.
- Handrails appear sturdy and secure.
- Bathtubs and showers have safety strips or non-slip surface.
- Electrical system appears in working order, checked several plugs.
- Emergency exit reasonably available from each bedroom.
- Passage locks appear to work on bedroom doors.

Exterior
- Shrubs are reasonably cut below window level.
- Tree limbs are reasonably cut above window level.
- Residence number is visible from the street (day or night).
- All walkways appear reasonably lit.
- The entire building exterior is reasonably lit.
- There is sufficient, reasonably lit parking for each resident.
- Mailboxes do not display names and appear secured.
- Stairways appear to be sturdy and free of obstruction at time of inspection.
- Balconies, if present, appear structurally sound at time of inspection.

Overall Appearance
- Roof appears in good condition, no visible leaks detected.
- Foundation appears in good condition with no visible large gaps or cracks.
- Exterior wall treatment (bricks, siding) appear in good condition with no visible missing pieces, no loose siding.
- Drainage appears well-maintained and no standing water present.
- Sidewalk appears level and in good condition.
- Parking area appears in good repair.
- Facility appears neat and in order.
To learn more about Crimson Choice or for a list of approved properties, visit www.crimsonchoice.ua.edu or call 348-9400.

Crimson Choice is an educational program of The University of Alabama, intended to encourage students, parents, and rental owners to take personal responsibility for their own security and well-being, and to provide tools to enable them to do so. Rental owners remain solely responsible for the operation, physical condition, and maintenance of their properties. Neither Crimson Choice nor The University of Alabama guarantee nor warrant the safety or security of any properties participating in the program. Safety and security in any given situation depends on multiple factors, not the least of which is the responsibility of all persons to make informed decisions and use safe practices.

The reviews that are conducted are limited in nature; they do not purport to find every potential hazard or violation, and are based upon conditions at time of inspection.