



Date presented	09 – 14 – 2020
Type of action	Recommendation
Final vote	10 – 0 – 1

2021-0001: Rent College Pads Recommendation

Sponsored by: Ruffino, Powers

Co-sponsored by: Shea

Recognizing that there is currently no official centralized database for Ithaca College students to find off-campus housing,

Understanding that access to a curated (off-campus) housing site best allows students to safely navigate the leasing process, avoiding scams and unsafe listings,

Drawing attention to the lack of curation, communication, and control over the general Ithaca housing market,

Student Governance Council recommends that the Office of Residential Life works to build a partnership with Rent College Pads in order to streamline the off-campus housing procurement process for Ithaca College students,

It is recommended that.

1. Ithaca College should enter into a contracted partnership with [Rent College Pads](#), under the intent of receiving:
 - a. A customized housing website made and monitored specifically for the Ithaca College off-campus community. This website should feature:
 - i. Single Sign On (SSO) compatibility, allowing students to sign on using their netpass ID and password,

- ii. Capability to mass-message all housing providers with requests and recommendations,
 - iii. A live interactive map showing listings' locations with travel times to campus by walking, driving, and using public transportation,
 - iv. Up-to-date information about utilities, pricing, lease terms and length, parking, and any other information deemed necessary or relevant for prospective lessees,
 - v. Warnings and notifications about students who need to receive prior approval to lease off-campus,
 - 1. If possible, using metadata through SSO to make students without approval incapable of applying on the site,
 - vi. A series of informational videos about the rental process,
 - vii. Live and continued support from a Rent College Pads representative for as long as the partnership exists,
 - viii. A comment and rating system that automatically places landlords receiving three or more below average (less than three star) reviews under inspection for violations of reasonable care and maintenance for the health and safety of student lessees,
- 2. Any prospective landlords looking to connect with students through Rent College Pads will meet the following minimum criteria to access the service,
 - a. The lease length and terms will be clearly expressed on the listing and lease,
 - b. The attributes, costs, and utilities of the location will match the listing in totality,
 - i. Including but not limited to what utilities are provided, if certain utilities will be at an extra cost, structural information such as square footage, the number of potential roommates, clear and up-to-date information of any other aspect listed on the site or of which is important for a tenant to know,
 - c. Understanding and adherence to [Senate Bill S6458](#), the "Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019," and any other local, state, or federal law relating to offering and maintaining housing,
- 3. Landlords who provide additional benefits to lessees will receive benefits through Rent College Pads, namely a front and center posting on the homepage of Ithaca College's designated Rent College Pads site,
 - a. The desired benefits will be decided cooperatively between the Student Governance Council, the Office of Residential Life, and a Rent College Pads representative annually.

4. Services rendered from Rent College Pads should be provided at no cost to Ithaca College or Ithaca College Students.