FINDING THE PERFECT APARTMENT

a frugal guide to apartment finding in the city.

1. FIND A ROOMMATE
   Living with roommates will decrease your rent and help you save money.

2. SET THE BUDGET
   Talk with your parents, roommates, and DePaul Financial Fitness to see what you can comfortably afford each month.

3. BEGIN THE SEARCH
   There are many free apartment search services available to you online (see next page for websites).

4. SHOP SMART
   Select apartments and arrange walkthroughs. Take photos during the viewing and ask as many questions as you have concerning the unit and the terms and/or conditions.

5. APPROACH THE LANDLORD
   Approach the landlord or the leasing company and express interest in moving forward.

6. BE CRITICAL
   Read the lease from beginning to end and make sure you understand everything!

7. YOUR CREDIT SCORE
   Prepare for a credit check. If you don’t have great credit, you may need a cosigner. Talk with Financial Fitness to learn more about how to check your credit score and how to build good credit.

8. SIGN & MOVE IN
   Sign the lease and put down a security deposit, along with the first month's rent. Move in, decorate, and call it a day!

REMEMBER: IF IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT PROBABLY IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!