

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

• A GUIDE TO •

iCOMMUTE

2017 - 2018

• OFF-CAMPUS LIFE •

PRESENTED BY

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT

WELCOME

We want to welcome you to **Florida Atlantic University**, and to South Florida! We are so excited that you are here, and we hope that your time at FAU is all that you would like it to be. We've compiled this guide to help assist you in your transition to your new home.

Whether you call the Boca Raton, Jupiter, or Broward areas home, all locations offer a tremendous amount of opportunities to get involved, not only on campus, but also in the local community. We encourage you to broaden your horizons, dine out, frequent local businesses, and get to know those around you.

The Division of Student Affairs is here to ensure that you have the best possible experience while attending FAU.

Welcome to South Florida and Go Owls!

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RENTAL APARTMENTS AND HOUSES

Finding a place to live off campus can be an exciting and nerve-wracking experience! When looking for a place to live, you'll want to take several things into consideration before signing your lease:

1. TAKE YOUR TIME!

Have some fun with the search, take some time to get to know the area, and make sure you can imagine yourself living there.

2. HAVE A PLAN, AND STICK TO IT

Make sure as you are looking to find a place, you are not getting more than you can afford. Rent in Boca Raton can be high. Rent can range anywhere from \$1500 and up.

3. LOOK AT SEVERAL PROPERTIES

Take time to visit several different units, get to know the property management team and nearby resources and amenities, make sure to also ask about utilities as well as things you like and do not like.

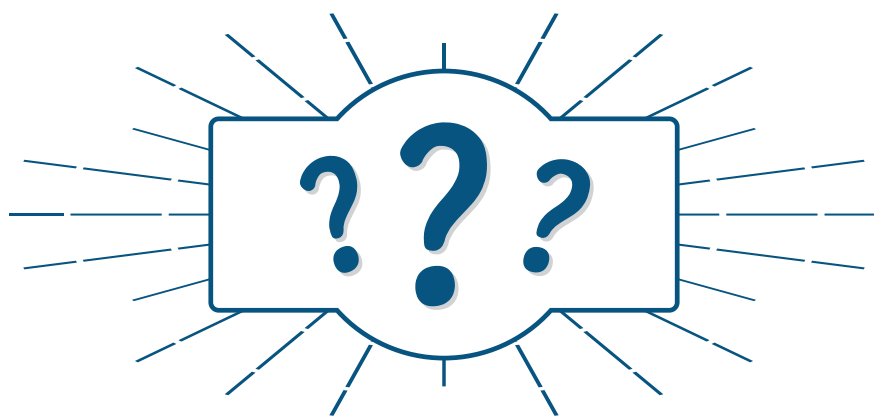
4. BE SAFE

We encourage you to also visit the property's location at night to ensure proper lighting as well as general safety and an acceptable noise level.

5. TRANSPORTATION AND GETTING AROUND

The South Florida region has a variety of public transportation options in addition to driving. The commuter rail line is known as Tri-Rail and runs from Mangonia Park (West Palm Beach area) southward to Miami International Airport. Connection points are available at each of the stops to Miami-Dade Transit, Broward County Transit, and Palm Tran (Palm Beach County.) FAU students are able to travel on Tri-Rail at a reduced cost and Palm Tran also offers a free shuttle to the university to and from the Boca Raton station located on Yamato Rd.

Parking is also free at most Tri-Rail stations, with the exceptions being the airport stations. For more information, please visit: www.fau.edu/involvement/commuter/index.php.



QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

1. What is the cost of rent per month?
2. What is included in the rent?
3. For utilities that are not included, will I need to set them up?
4. When is rent due?
Is there a grace period?
5. What are the methods of rent payment?
6. Is there a security deposit, or what other fees are required prior to moving in?
7. What are the requirements for a full refund of my deposit?
8. Are there any move-in specials?
9. Are furnished apartments available?
10. What type of lease is provided?
Joint or individual?
11. Can I sublease or break my lease early?
12. How can I report problems with roommates or other tenants?
13. Where is the closest access point to public transportation?
14. Are pets allowed?
Is there an additional charge?
15. How are maintenance issues resolved?
16. How are pest control issues resolved?
17. Is parking provided?
18. What type of security features are offered? How secure is the facility?
19. How can I verify that the locks have been changed between residents?
20. "Is Renter's Insurance Required?"
21. "Will I need a co-signer?"

We love questions! If you have a question that you do not see listed, please ask us. We can be contacted at **icommute@fau.edu** or by phone at **561-297-3735**.



RENTERS INSURANCE

Whether you live in an apartment, a house, or are even in the process of moving, on campus rental insurance provides coverage for your valuables.

A standard rental insurance policy should include coverage for the following:

- Fire/Lightning
- Windstorm/Hail
- Explosion
- Riot
- Aircraft
- Vehicles
- Smoke
- Theft
- Vandalism
- Falling Objects
- Sinkholes
- Water Damage
- Electrical Damage

*It is important to note that flood damage is not covered and most often requires a separate policy.

*Some students are also able to be covered under their parents' homeowner's policy, check with your parents to see if this is an option.



ROOMMATES AND MANAGING CONFLICT

Having a roommate can be a great growth opportunity, however the relationship works best when there is strong communication. However, we recognize that conflict may inevitably arise and so we would like to also share some additional resources.

HOW SHOULD I PICK A ROOMMATE?

Think about yourself, think about your own needs in terms of having a space that you can call your own.

WHAT CAN I DO IF I CAN'T RESOLVE THE ISSUES I'M HAVING WITH MY ROOMMATE?

Every relationship takes work, however no matter how strong the relationship is inevitably conflict arises. One of the most critical factors in the success of that relationship is communication.

Some topics of conversation could include:

- Cleaning responsibilities
- Who is bringing what supplies
- General rules of living
- Respect of everyone's differences
- Utility/bill payment
- Grocery shopping

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO ME AT FAU IF I NEED SOME HELP?

- Dean of Students' Office
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Owls Care Health Promotion
- Student Health Services
- FAU Police Department

MOVING OUT

Just as you got together with your roommates and developed a plan to move in to your new place, you should also develop a plan for moving out. Take some time to decide who is going to be taking what as well as communicating with your landlord in order to have your security deposit refunded.

Some additional advice when it comes to moving out:

- Donate clothes, food, and furniture that you will not be taking with you
- Take pictures of the space after you have completely moved out
- Find out when you will be getting your security deposit back
- Keep in touch with your landlord just in case a need arises

TRUSTED LOCATIONS

Visit **www.fauoffcampus.com** for a list of available off-campus apartments and homes.

LEARN

SAFETY

Most crimes can be prevented, however only if basic steps are taken. Here are some simple steps as well as resources that you can use to protect yourself and your belongings.

PERSONAL SECURITY

This is for all students, faculty, staff and visitors regardless of your location.

- ✓ **Stay Aware**
Stay aware of your surroundings. Perpetrators choose their victims based on their vulnerability. Some think talking on the cellular phone is a better deterrent, but actually it is a highly visible sign that you are distracted.
- ✓ **Think Ahead**
Think ahead and plan your journey, avoiding unpopulated areas.
- ✓ **Avoid Walking Alone**
Try to avoid walking alone at night, and stay on well-lit main paths when possible, and avoid shortcuts. When on campus during late hours, utilize the night owl service. If it is unavailable, or if you would feel more comfortable having a police escort, contact FAU PD at **561-297-3500**.
- ✓ **Stay Alert**
Stay alert and aware of what is going on around you. Trust your instincts if you see anything suspicious and call your local police department for non-emergencies or **9-1-1** in the event of an emergency.
- ✓ **Let Someone Know Your Plan**
Let someone you trust know where you are going, the route you plan to take, and when you expect to return.





Avoid Distractions

Avoid wearing headphones when walking or driving; your ability to hear traffic, strangers, and potential trouble can be restricted.



Report Suspicious Persons

Report suspicious persons or activity immediately to Florida Atlantic University Police Department via telephone at **561-297-3500** or use an emergency blue light phone. Save the FAU PD phone number to your contacts, so you do not have to search for the number.



Trust Your Instincts

Trust Your Instincts if something doesn't look right to you, it probably isn't. If someone or something appears out of place in your building, contact your RA or the police immediately.



Safety in Numbers

Whether on campus, at home or out for the day, travel in groups whenever possible. Perpetrators look for individuals who are easy targets, in areas where they can hide. Simply one other person can take away the criminal's opportunity.



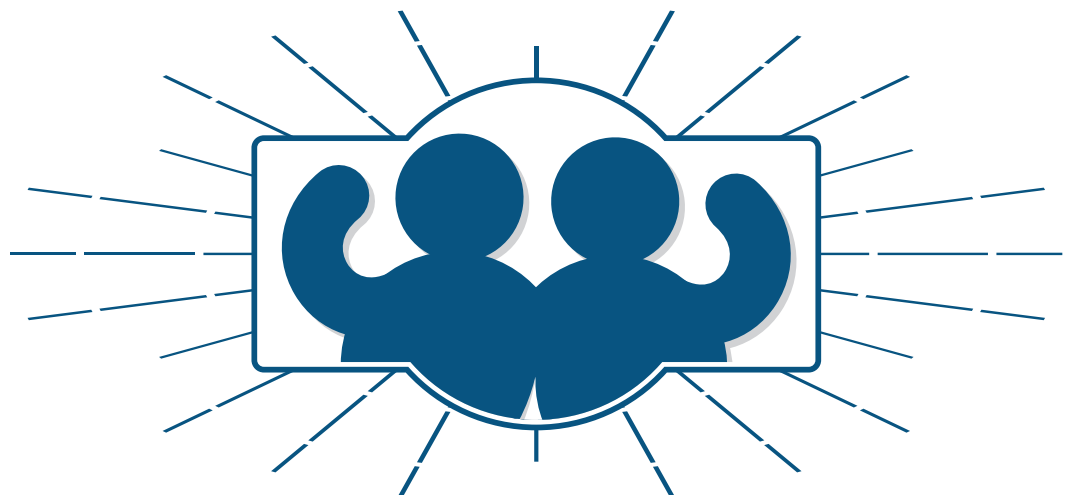
Owl Guardian App

The FAU Owl Guardian App enables users to create a virtual safety net of friends, family and police by transforming their mobile phones on campus into personal safety devices. For more information, please visit: **www.fau.edu/safetyapp**

Adopted from FAU Police Department Guide for Personal Safety.

For more information on how to keep yourself safe, please visit:

www.fau.edu/police/information/safetytips.php



HURRICANE SAFETY

Hurricane season in the Atlantic is **June 1 through November 30**.

SOME IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS TO KNOW INCLUDE:

Tropical Depression

An organized system of thunderstorms with a defined circulation and top sustained winds of less than 39 mph.

Tropical Storm

An organized system with a defined circulation and top sustained winds between 39-74 mph. Once a storm reaches Tropical Storm strength, it is given a name by the National Hurricane Center.

Hurricane

An intense tropical weather system with a well-defined circulation and sustained wind speed of 74 mph or higher

Tropical Storm Watch

Conditions are possible in the specified area of the watch within 48 hours.

Tropical Storm Warning

Conditions are expected in the affected area within 36 hours.

Hurricane Watch

Conditions are possible within the specified area within 48 hours.

Hurricane Warning

Conditions are expected in the specified area within 36 hours.

For more information on how you can prepare your home/apartment please visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Ready.gov website: **www.ready.gov/hurricanes**

FAU EMERGENCY INFORMATION

In the event of a university emergency, students will be notified through **FAUAlert**. Students are advised to ensure that their contact information is kept up to date. More information on the university's plans to address emergencies as they arise can be found on the Department of Emergency Management's website: **www.fau.edu/emergency**

Additionally, students will receive notifications on class and event cancellations and postponements, as well as any additional important information and bulletins.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND LINKS:

Palm Beach County Hurricane Preparedness Guide
www.pbcgov.com/dem/hurricane

Broward County Hurricane Preparedness Guide
www.broward.org/hurricane

LOCAL MEDIA OUTLETS

FAU Alert: **www.fau.edu/emergency/universityalerts.php**
WTVJ NBC 6 (Broward and Dade Counties)
WPLG ABC 10 (Broward and Dade Counties)
WFOR CBS 4 (Broward and Dade Counties)

WSVN Fox 7 (Broward and Dade Counties)
WPTV NBC 5 (Palm Beach County)
WPEC CBS 12 (Palm Beach County)
WPBF ABC 25 (Palm Beach County)
WFLX Fox 29 (Palm Beach County)

TRANSPORTATION

Depending on where you need to go, there are several options for public transportation around the Boca Raton area.

PALM TRAN

Palm Beach County's bus service offers several routes through Boca Raton including a **FREE** shuttle from the Boca Raton Tri-Rail station located on Yamato Rd. to the FAU campus Monday through Friday. For more information, please visit:

www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/palmtran

TRI-RAIL

Tri-Rail, operated by the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) is the commuter rail service that operates from Miami International Airport to Mangonia Park (West Palm Beach.) Additionally, as referenced above-Palm Tran offers a **FREE** shuttle to campus.

ZIPCAR

ZipCar, in partnership with FAU is a car-sharing service where users are able to have access to a vehicle **24/7** right on the Boca Raton campus. For more information please visit: **www.zipcar.com/universities/florida-atlantic-university**



PARKING ON CAMPUS AND DECALS

The Parking and Transportation Services office at FAU coordinates the FAU Shuttle, distribution of parking decals as well as the appeal and citation process. For more information on the various parking decal levels, please visit:

www.fau.edu/parking/allpermits.php





UTILITIES

ELECTRICITY

Depending on your lease, you may be required to pay for utilities for your apartment/house. In South Florida, Florida Power and Light (FPL) is the main provider of electricity. To apply for service, visit FPL at **www.fpl.com** or call **561-994-8227** in Palm Beach County or **954-797-5000** in Broward County.

In order to initiate service, be prepared to provide

- Service Address
- Social Security Number, Driver's License, Social Insurance Number, or another form of identification if any one of these identifiers is not available.
- Preferred service start date

Depending on credit approval, FPL may require a deposit in order to initiate service.

FPL ADVICE

In order to save money, set your thermostat at 78 degrees during the summer and an 68 during the winter.

- Clean or replace your AC filter regularly
- Don't place heat generating appliances or electronics near thermostats
- Use fans to circulate air to help regulate heating or air conditioning
- Use compact fluorescent bulbs as opposed to standard incandescent bulbs to also save



WATER

Many times water/sewer is included in a lease, but not always. The city of Boca Raton provides a list of many ways that you can conserve water throughout your home.

A small sampling can be found here

- Keep a container of water in the refrigerator rather than running the faucet and waiting for the water to get cold
- Soak vegetables in a container partially filled with water and then quickly rinse under running water. Reuse the water in the container for watering plants.
- In general, run the clothes washer only when it is full. If you must do a smaller load, use the settings to reduce the water level.
- Take a shower of no more than five minutes rather than a bath.
- Do not use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- Take your car to a carwash to be cleaned rather than washing it in your driveway.

For more information on how you can conserve water, please visit tips from the City of Boca Raton here: www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us/pages/sites/default/files/Uploaded_PDF/US/30WaysUCanConsWater.pdf

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Just like electricity, you may be required to initiate telecommunications service on your own. In South Florida, cable TV is often provided by Comcast and phone service is provided by AT&T (Bell South.) However both providers also offer bundle service aimed at saving you money.

For more information, please visit either www.comcast.com or www.att.com to learn about services provided by both. Some complexes also provide services so it is also important to check with your property management to see if they offer any of these services in conjunction with your rent.

GETTING INVOLVED

While there are many things to do in South Florida, it is also important to maximize your time and potential at FAU. You have many opportunities and resources available to you, and it is critical to your success to make use of these resources:

- FAU Career Center
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Owls Care Health Promotion
- FAU Athletics
- Student Activities and Involvement
- Student Employment
- Undergraduate Advising Services
- Weppner Center for LEAD and Service Learning

Each of these offices and programs offer a wide range of student services aimed at ensuring that you have the best possible experience while a student at FAU. We encourage you to connect and find an area that you are passionate about to further enrich your student experience.

FAU OWL PERKS

FAU Owl Perks offers a variety of discounts for the FAU Community for entertainment, dining, services, shopping, health and beauty, offices and businesses, and much more!

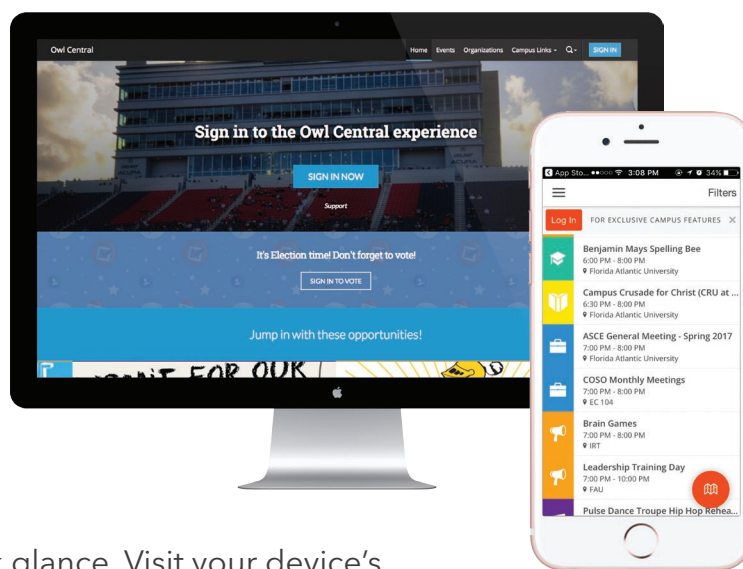
For more information visit: **www.fau.edu/owlperks**

OWLCENTRAL

OwlCentral is the university's main platform for learning about the many ways to get connected and get involved here at FAU. We want you to be successful while you are a student and in the years to come. One of the ways to accomplish that is by joining an organization. In OwlCentral, you can learn about the vast number of organizations that we have as well as access information on starting your own. You can also see all of the different events and programs that are going on across all of FAU's campuses. You can visit OwlCentral at **www.fau.edu/getinvolved**.

CORQ

Additionally, OwlCentral has a companion application for your smartphone or other web-enabled device called "Corq." Corq allows you to see all of the different events and programs that are taking place at a quick glance. Visit your device's application store and download Corq today!





ATHLETICS

Another great way to get connected is through Athletics! Come cheer on your fellow Owls in a wide range of sports! From a football game at the stadium, to a baseball and softball game, and everything in between, there is a sport for everyone! Visit **www.fausports.com** for more information, to see the schedules, meet the players, and more!

At FAU, you are joining a community and we want you to feel at home while you are here! Whether you commute from Boca Raton, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Miami, or anywhere in-between we want you to feel that you are part of the Owl family! **Go Owls!**



DISCOVER

EXPERIENCE SOUTH FLORIDA

Whether you like to explore South Florida on your own, or with friends, there is something for everyone! We hope that this section illustrates a few highlights of all that our region has to offer!

- See an Owls football game
- Visit the FAT Village Art Walk in Fort Lauderdale
- Drive through Lion Country Safari
- Street Painting Festival in Lake Worth
- Cool off at Rapids Water Park
- Renaissance Festival in Deerfield Beach
- Visit the only coral reef state park at John Pennekamp State Park in Key Largo
- Shop at a local farmers market
- Food Truck Rally in Hollywood
- Enjoy an airboat ride, and maybe see an alligator
- And of course, spend some time on our world famous beaches!

Boca Raton

- Gumbo Limbo Nature Center
- Mizner Park
- Town Center Mall at Boca Raton
- Red Reef Park
- Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens



FOOD & DINING

ON CAMPUS

Did you know there is a meal plan, just for commuter students? It's true! FAU Commuter students can choose from a variety of meal options.

Profiler Dining Memberships

- 110 Profiler Membership-110 meals you can use over the course of the academic year (\$694.30)
- 85 Profiler Membership-85 meals you can use over the course of the academic year (\$564.00)
- 50 Profiler Membership-50 meals you can use over the course of the academic year (\$345.56)
- 30 Profiler Membership-30 meals you can use over the course of the academic year (\$244.86)

Swipe and Save Packages

- 50 Meals+200 Owl Bucks-50 meals you can use anytime, plus \$200 Owl Bucks (\$545.56)
- 30 Meals+300 Owl Bucks-30 meals you can use anytime, plus \$300 Owl Bucks (\$544.86)
- 30 Meals+200 Owl Bucks-30 meals you can use anytime, plus \$200 Owl Bucks (\$444.86)

For more information on meal plan options, please visit:

www.dineoncampus.com/fau/show.cfm?cmd=commuters

MYFITNESSPAL

Together with Under Armour, track your calories and lose weight the healthy way. Myfitnesspal is a free download! For more information, please visit:

www.myfitnesspal.com.

OFF CAMPUS

Even though there are many great dining options located on campus, sometimes you want to also go explore off campus and try something different. There are a variety of restaurants around the Boca Raton area that offer a variety of foods from:

- Shake Shack (1400 Glades Rd.)
- Caribbean Grill (1332 NW Boca Raton Blvd.)
- Flashback Diner (1450 N. Federal Highway)
- Chipotle Mexican Grill (1666 N. Federal Highway)
- Panera Bread (1600 N. Federal Highway)
- Punjab Fine Indian Cuisine (1801 N. Federal Highway)
- Fran's Chicken Haven (1925 N. Federal Highway)
- Flakowitz Bagel Inn (1999 N. Federal Highway)
- Pei Wei (1914 NE 5th Ave.)
- Relish & More (1930 NE 5th Ave.)
- Cannoli Kitchen-East (2001 N. Federal Highway)
- Argentinian Deli (501 NE 20th St.)
- Senor Burrito (513 NE 20th St.)
- Sonny's Café (2151 N Federal Highway)
- Blaze Pizza (2146 N Federal Highway)
- Brooklyn Water Bagel (2250 N Federal Highway)
- Big Joe's Burgers (2831 N. Federal Highway)

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

RESOURCES ON CAMPUS

- Division of Student Affairs
- Dean of Students Office
- Student Activities and Involvement
- Student Accessibility Services
- Student Conduct
- Fraternity and Sorority Life
- Weppner Center for LEAD and Service Learning
- Parent and Family Programs
- FAU Police Department
- FAU Athletics
- Diversity and Multicultural Affairs
- Military and Veterans Affairs
- FAU Bookstore
- FAU Career Center
- Financial Aid
- FAU Bursar
- FAU Registrar
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Student Health Services
- Owls Care Health Promotion

RESOURCES OFF CAMPUS

City of Boca Raton

City of Boca Raton
561-393-7700 | www.myboca.us

City of Boca Raton Commission
561-393-7700

Boca Raton Code
Enforcement Office
561-393-7934
www.myboca.us/pages/code-enforcement

Boca Raton Fire Rescue
561-982-4000
www.myboca.us/pages/fire-rescue

Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce
561-395-4433
www.bocaratonchamber.com

Palm Beach County

Palm Beach County Commission
561-355-2001 | www.pbcgov.com

Palm Beach County Animal
Care and Control
561-276-1344
www.pbcgov.com/publicsafety/animalcare

211 of Palm Beach and
the Treasure Coast
561-547-8637 or 211
www.211palmbeach.org

Solid Waste Authority of
Palm Beach County
561-640-4000 | www.swa.org

Florida Department of Health
in Palm Beach County
561-274-3100
palmbeach.floridahealth.gov

Florida Poison Information Center-Miami
(Palm Beach, Broward, Dade,
and SW Florida)
305-585-5250 | floridapoisoncontrol.org

Palm Beach County Library System
561-482-4554 | www.pbclibrary.org

School District of Palm Beach County
561-989-7572
www.palmbeachschools.org

Palm Beach County cont.

Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections
561-656-6200 | www.pbcelections.org

Discover the Palm Beaches (Tourism)
800-554-7256 | www.palmbeachfl.com

Broward County

Broward County Commission
954-357-7000
www.broward.org/commission

Broward County Animal Care and Adoption
954-359-1313
www.broward.org/AgenciesAndServices/Pages/AnimalCareAndAdoptionContactUs.aspx

211 of Broward County
954-537-0211 | 211-broward.org

Solid Waste and Recycling
Services-Broward County
954-765-4999
www.broward.org/WasteAndRecycling

Florida Department of Health in
Broward County
954-467-3812 | broward.floridahealth.gov

Florida Poison Information Center-Miami
(Palm Beach, Broward, Dade,
and SW Florida)
305-585-5250 | floridapoisontcontrol.org

Broward County Library System
954-201-2600 | www.broward.org/library

Broward County Public Schools
754-321-0000 | www.browardschools.com

Broward County Supervisor of Elections
954-327-8787 | www.browardsoe.org

Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention
and Visitors Bureau
954-765-4466 | www.sunny.org

Law Enforcement

Boca Raton Police Department
561-338-1234 | www.myboca.us/police

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
561-688-3000 | www.pbso.org

Broward County Sheriff's Office
954-765-4321 | www.sheriff.org

Florida Atlantic University
Police Department
561-297-3565 | www.fau.edu/police

Florida Highway Patrol
(Troop L-PBC and Broward)
561-357-4040
www.flhsmv.gov/florida-highway-patrol/troop-boundaries-information

Transportation

Tri-Rail
800-874-7245 | www.tri-rail.com

Palm Tran
877-870-9849
www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/palmtran

Broward County Transit
954-357-8400
www.broward.org/BCT

Utilities

Florida Power and Light in Boca/Delray
561-994-8227 | www.fpl.com

Florida Power and Light in Broward
954-797-5000 | www.fpl.com

Comcast/Xfinity
800-266-2278 | www.xfinity.com

AT&T
844-723-0252 | www.att.com

State of Florida

The State of Florida
866-693-6748 | www.myflorida.com

Florida Recreation and Parks
850-878-3221 | www.frpa.org

Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
850-617-2000 | www.flhsmv.gov

Florida Tax/Registration Office (Palm Beach)
561-355-2264 | www.pbctax.com

Florida Tax/Registration Office (Broward)
954-765-4697
www.broward.org/recordstaxestreasury

United States Postal Service
800-275-8777 | www.usps.com

Newspaper/Media

University Press
888-897-7711 | www.upressonline.com

Boca Raton Tribune
561-826-7945 | www.bocaratontribune.com

South Florida Sun-Sentinel
954-356-4000 | www.sun-sentinel.com

Miami Herald
800-843-4372 | www.miamiherald.com

Health Care

Boca Raton Regional Hospital
561-955-7100 | www.brrh.com

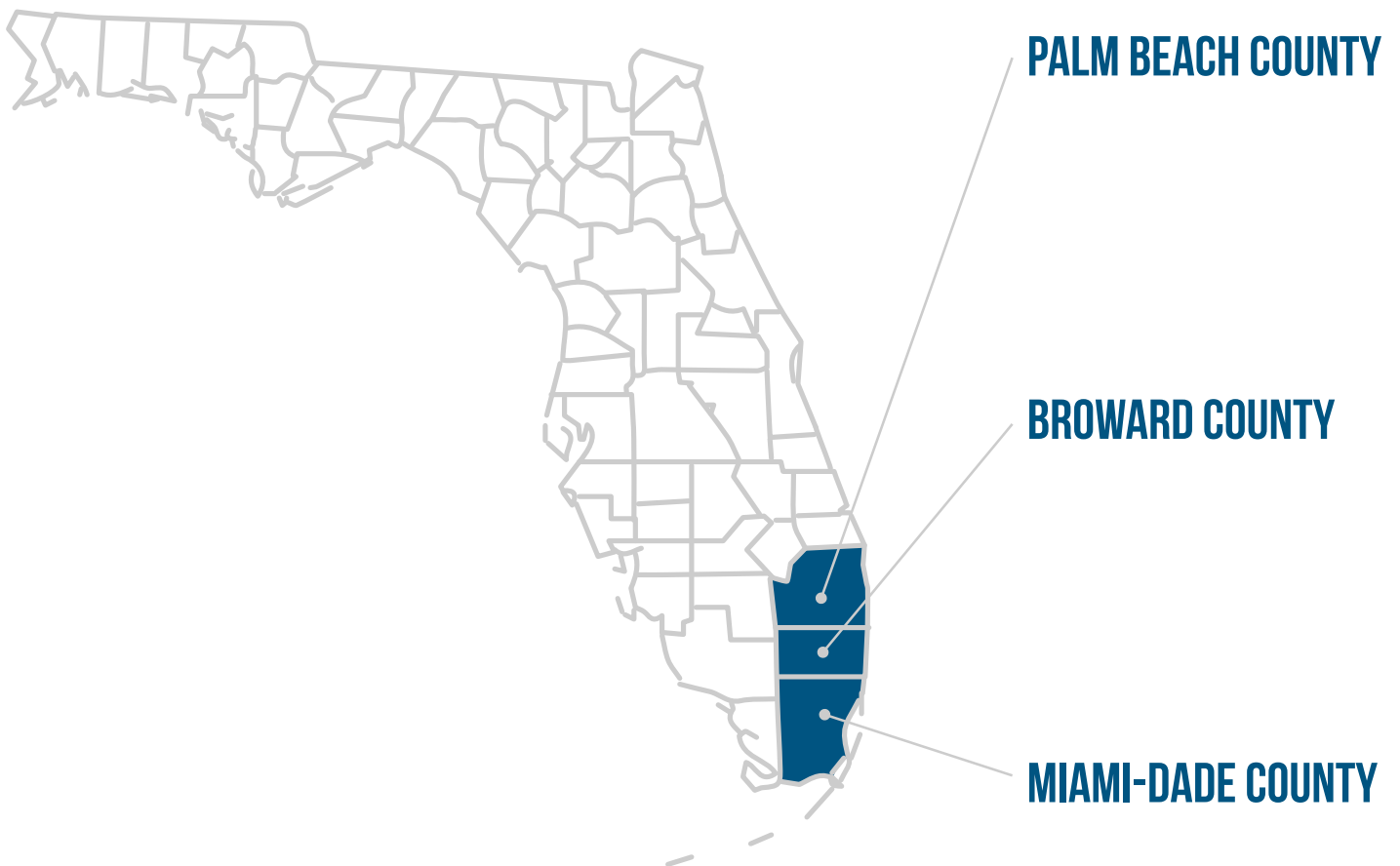
Broward Health Medical Center
954-355-4400 | www.browardhealth.org

Palm Beach Children's Hospital
561-844-6300
www.palmbeachchildrenshospital.com

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital
954-265-5324 | www.jdch.com

South Florida

REGIONAL MAP



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT AND ACTIVITIES STAFF

BOCA RATON CAMPUS:

Donald Van Pelt

Director
dvanpelt@fau.edu

Allison Rodgers

Assistant Director
Student Government
rodgersa@fau.edu

All Staff

561-297-3735

Aaron Hackman

Associate Director
hackmana2015@fau.edu

Richard Mahler

Assistant Director
Student Activities and Involvement
mahlerr@fau.edu

JUPITER CAMPUS:

Devin Herrera

Assistant Director
Campus Life
djherrera@fau.edu
561-799-8724

BROWARD CAMPUS:

Ashley Simmons

Assistant Director
Campus Life
asimmon9@fau.edu
954-236-1467

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

PRESENTED BY
STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT

fau.edu/involvement
icommute@fau.edu
561-297-3735

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™