

RentWise is a program with a purpose of helping renters to obtain and keep rental housing and to be successful through education.

Topics covered in RentWise:

- Managing Your Money
- Communicating with Landlords and Neighbors
- Finding a Place to Call Home
- Getting Through the Rental Process
- Taking Care of Your Home
- Moving Out
- Where to Go for Help with Problems

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RentWise was originally created by the Universities of Wisconsin and Minnesota and was licensed to the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. RentWise Coalition members include:

- Nebraska Assistive Technology
- Nebraska Health and Human Services
- Nebraska Housing Developers Association
- Region V Systems
- University of Nebraska – Lincoln – Extension

University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension

The University of Nebraska – Lincoln is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for diversity.

RentWise
Lincoln Network Members

CenterPointe
Community Action Partnership of Lancaster & Saunders Counties
Friendship Home
Hoppe Homes, LP
Lincoln Housing Authority
Lincoln Public Schools
Nebraska Assistive Technology
Nebraska Health and Human Services
Nebraska Housing Developers Association
Nebraska Children and Families Foundation
HomeServices Title
Realtors Association of Lincoln
Region V Systems
REOMA (Real Estate Owners and Managers Association)
Stronger Safer Neighborhoods
University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension



REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

RENTWISE



Lincoln Housing Authority

For more information contact:

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TDD 1-800-545-1833 Est. 875
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RentWise is a tenant education program that helps potential renters by providing information about how to find and keep decent rental housing. The goal of the program is for participants to become successful renters through education.

Renters who complete all six modules of the program will earn a certificate which can be shown to potential landlords and property managers as demonstration that they want to be a good tenant.



Why RentWise?

A study done comparing RentWise participants with a control group who did not take a renter's education course showed that participants of RentWise learned new skills and positive behaviors.

RentWise participants are more likely to use a developed spending plan and budget. They are also more likely to submit clearer and complete written rental applications, inquire about screening criteria when applying for rental properties, and practice good communication skills with their landlord and neighbors.

RentWise participants are less likely to rely on shelters.

RentWise participants are more likely to find and stay in permanent housing.

RentWise participants are more likely to feel positive about their life and report that they expect their standard of living to improve within the next three years.

"My guess is the RentWise program was founded with the intention of transforming the minds of tenants with a rental history such as my own... I only regret that this program wasn't available when I was 18."

-Former RentWise participant

RentWise is for...

- Anyone who is seeking rental housing
- Young adults transitioning to independent living
- Individuals and families in emergency shelters or transitional housing
- New residents
- Renters who needs money management skills to build their credit and rental history

... **EVERYONE!**



The RentWise program is intended to help renters:

- better understand the benefits of good communication
- improve their ability to resolve problems with landlords and neighbors
- move less often and increase housing stability
- know more about searching for safe and affordable housing that meets their needs
- better manage resources and money