

Dear Student,

Today's email focuses on what people should look after when searching for home so they have multiple benefits related to their health, cost, and comfort.

Here are our recommendations:

- 1 Request the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) of your prospective accommodation - The EPC has a scoring system from A + to H, where H is the worst energy efficiency level and A + is the best. If you want to minimize energy costs then you should look for a property that is as close as possible to A.
- 2 If your prospective accommodation is partially or fully furnished, check the energy class of the appliances (e.g. refrigerator, washing machine, etc.). Energy efficiency classes are typically seven (7), and depending on the product type, they range from G (red color that refers to a low-yield product) to A +++ (a dark green color that indicates a highly efficient product).
- 3 Check out any signs of poor insulation or poor maintenance mold, moisture and condensation. Long-term exposure to such conditions can have a significant impact on your quality of life. For this reason, try to avoid houses that have such problems.
- 4 If there are moisture / mold or condensation problems present, ask the proprietor to take measures to address them before proceeding with the rental (eg improving the insulation of the property or supplying it with a dehumidifier).
- 5 The existence of thermostatic control and automation systems in a home improves the thermal comfort of the occupants while contributing to energy saving.
- 6 Ask for removing any furniture or aesthetic covers from the radiators as they reduce the radiator performance and burden your resources.
- 7 Check whether the hot water piping or the boiler is insulated. Heat losses of systems due to poor or no thermal insulation are a source of energy burden.
- 8 If possible, talk to the current tenants of the house so you can get information on the quality of the house, its operating costs and any other possible problems.

For more information, please visit <u>www.studentswitchoff.gr</u> and our facebook page: <u>Student Switch Off+ Greece</u>. You can also watch the relevant Student Switch Off + <u>video</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Sender's signature



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