

Below is a **simple comparative chart** showing **average monthly rent and estimated cost-of-living (COL) factors** for a PA (Physician Assistant) student who rents in the listed cities. Data drawn from recent rental market and cost of living sources where available. ([Apartments.com](https://www.apartments.com))

Notes/assumptions:

- “Average monthly rent” refers to typical apartment rents (approx. 1-bedroom where specific).
- “Estimated monthly cost of living” includes rent + utilities + food + transport + misc (general estimate). Smaller cities with limited data use rent as a proxy and a conservative multiplier.
- Some smaller towns (e.g., Dyersburg TN, Paris TN, Paducah KY) have limited formal COL data; Available rent data and typical regional living costs were utilized in average costs.

City	Approx. Avg Rent (1-BR)	Est. Total Monthly COL	Notes / Source
Atlanta, GA	~\$1,583 (metro area)	~\$2,300	Larger metro area rent & COL above average; higher food/transport costs. (New York Post)
Dyersburg, TN	~\$760†	~\$1,500	Smaller town likely low COL; rent ~ national lower end. (thelivingcost.com)
Cape Girardeau, MO	~\$578	~\$1,400	Lower rent, affordable overall. (Apartments.com)
Chattanooga, TN	~\$1,414	~\$2,100	Rent from TN data; moderate overall COL. (Rent.com)
Clarksville, TN	~\$1,100‡	~\$1,900	Regional mid-range rent estimate based on TN patterns. (Apartment List)
Dallas, TX	~\$1,462	~\$2,500	Metro rents elevated but below top coastal cities. (New York Post)
Huntsville, AL	~\$1,100‡	~\$1,900	Lower regional COL than major metros. (tellico.com)
Jackson, TN	~\$900‡	~\$1,700	Lower cost region; rent modest. (wtia.org)
Knoxville, TN	~\$1,307	~\$2,000	Slightly lower rent with moderate COL. (Rent.com)
Memphis, TN	~\$1,180	~\$1,900	More affordable rent than state average. (Rent.com)
Nashville, TN	~\$1,772	~\$2,700	Higher rent and general COL in TN. (Rent.com)
Paducah, KY	~\$700§	~\$1,500	Smaller city, generally lower COL (regional estimate). —
Paris, TN	~\$603	~\$1,400	Very low rent; overall very affordable. (Apartments.com)
Panama City Beach, FL	~\$1,500¶	~\$2,200	Beach area rent above state average; moderate to high COL (regional est). —

Legend – Estimated Sources & Notes

- † Estimated from national site data showing Dyersburg among lower rent cost cities. (thelivingcost.com)
- ‡ Estimated based on broader Tennessee/Alabama city rent patterns (smaller cities often 80-90% of metro averages). ([Apartment List](#))
- § Paducah estimates based on smaller Midwest town rent markets and typical Midwest cost indices. —
- ¶ Panama City Beach estimated above average Florida coastal rents (typically 10-20% above state median). —
- **Total COL** = rent + utilities + food + transport + misc (approx.). Major metro figures — Atlanta, Dallas, Nashville — include higher expenses than smaller towns. Average rent in the U.S. is ~ \$1,737/month. ([RentCafe](#))