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# Property management is a growing career opportunity, says Campus Apartments, which manages student housing in Ann Arbor

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Campus Apartments, one of the largest privately held student housing companies in the nation, has won new contracts to manage student housing in Ann Arbor. It now manages both **Woodland News** and **Harbor House**, a total of nearly 1,000 beds.

The property management business has changed greatly in the last few years with professional management becoming more important with starting pay in many areas greater than \$50,000 a year, says Miles Orth, executive vice president and COO of Campus Apartments. "While the housing market has collapsed, the rental market has increased tremendously. It has become a shining star in this economy. We're looking for property managers who will treat these assets like they own them -- people who are talented, experienced and knowledgeable -- and we're not at all shy about paying well for the right person."

There are two career tracts in the property management business -- sales and accounting and maintenance. Both tracts have tremendous career potential, Orth says. Likely candidates for the maintenance side aren't necessarily college educated but do have things like HVAC certification and often come from the construction industry. "They leave the construction industry where there is instability in favor of the apartment industry, which is very stable," Orth says.

People on the sales and accounting side usually, but not always, are college educated. They must have some financial management knowledge, the ability to manage people and outstanding customer service skills.

There are 10 to 15 full- and part-time openings in Ann Arbor, and lots of other openings in the other 24 states where Campus Apartments does business. "We're always looking for good people," Orth says.

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