Form 2: Moving In Checklist

Questions to Ask

- What utilities are included in the rent?
  ☐ heat   ☐ electricity   ☐ hot water   ☐ gas

- When will the apartment be available?

- Is there a tenant in the apartment now?
  If so, when will she be moving out?

- Is the landlord planning to make any repairs to the apartment after the current tenant moves out, and if so, which repairs?

- Does the apartment have any lead paint in it or has it been inspected for lead paint? (This is important if you are pregnant or have any children under the age of six.)

- If you have a car, what are the parking arrangements?

Things to Check Out as You Walk Around

- Turn on all the faucets in the bathroom and kitchen all the way (including the shower and the bathtub).
  Is there hot and cold water?
  How is the pressure?
  Is the water discolored?
  Do the drains work properly?

- Is there a refrigerator? (Note: Landlords are not required by law to provide refrigerators. But, if they do, they must keep them in good condition.)

- Flush the toilet.
  Does it work?
  Does it fill up properly?

- Flip the light switches and see if the lights go on. Are there at least two electrical outlets OR one electrical outlet and a light fixture in each room?

- Are there any exposed wires?

- Are the windows weathertight (which means you cannot feel drafts of air through them coming from outside)?
  Do they open and close?
  Do they have screens?

- Are the walls, floors, and ceilings in good condition?
  Any cracks, holes, or signs of leaking?

- Look for any evidence of bugs or rodents (such as dead bugs, mouse droppings, bait and/or traps)?

- Are there at least two exits?
  Are they blocked in any way?

- If the apartment is above the first floor, are there fire escapes?

- Is there a smoke detector and a carbon monoxide detector?

- Are there locks on the outside doors and windows?
  Do they work?

- Is there a mailbox?

- If it is heating season (September 15-June 15), does the heat work?
  Can you control the heat?

- Is there a common entrance?
  Does it have a working lock?
  Is there good lighting?