

### **International Education Services**

Preparing for Fall 2020 | June 30.

Welcome

## Thanks for joining us today!



Mute your microphone



Type any questions in the **Q&A** box



This webinar is being recorded



# Today's Agenda

- 3 Enrollment Options for International Students
- Work Benefits
- Student Support and Resources at UMBC
- Question and Answer

#### NOTE:

This is a continuously evolving situation. Information presented during today's webinar is subject to change based on UMBC and SEVP guidance. Any updates/changes will be shared with students as soon as possible via email, webinars and UMBC + IES Websites.



## Retrievers Return Roadmap

- Retrievers Return Roadmap
- Approximately 10% of classes will be hybrid (online + in person) or in person at the beginning of the semester
  - <u>List of Hybrid Classes for Fall 2020</u>
  - Anything not listed on the Hybrid class list will be held online
- 100% of classes will be held online after Thanksgiving Break in late November
- Residence Halls will be closed after Thanksgiving Break in late November
- Fall 2020 Academic Calendar Undergraduate
- Fall 2020 Academic Calendar Graduate
- Full online course catalog: <u>Fall 2020 Online Course Catalog</u>



# Fall 2020 Options

Enroll Online from Outside the U.S.

Defer Admission to a Future Semester

Enter the US to attend UMBC for Fall 2020



### Enroll Online for Fall 2020 from Outside the U.S.

- Applies to: New students outside the U.S.
- No F-1 course enrollment requirements
- What happens to your I-20?
  - o Program dates will be adjusted to reflect your first semester in the U.S.
  - We will request updated financial documents if over 6 months old
  - 1st week of July: Begin processing Spring 2021 I-20s
  - Your SEVIS fee is valid for one year
- <u>Flexible Launch Program</u>: for Graduate students in certain departments only
  - o take up to 3 online courses in the Fall semester then study in person for Spring 2021
  - Example programs: Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Cybersecurity, Data Science, Engineering Management,
     Human Centered Computing, Information Systems, Systems Engineering
- Things to Consider:
  - Reliable internet connection
  - Time difference and Synchronous (students sign on at the same time) vs Asynchronous (students sign on at their leisure) classes
- Tuition/Fees: Student Business Services
  - No final decision made on reduction of tuition if courses are held online
  - Certain student fees meant to support on campus facilities will not be charged
  - Payment due dates vary depending on class registration date



#### Entering the U.S. after Enrolling Online for Fall 2020:

- Only able to enter the U.S. 30 days before the start of the Spring 2021 semester (late January)
- Can students enter the U.S. in the middle of the semester?
  - No. This is not possible based on current F-1 immigration rules
- Can I enter the U.S. with a B2 visa and take online courses?
  - No. B2 Visitor visas do not allow for full time academic study. This means you wouldn't be able to take any online courses
  - Changing status from B2 to F-1 is a time consuming and costly process



## Defer Admission to a Future Semester

- Defer: requesting your admission be changed to another semester
- Can defer for one academic year without having to reapply
- How to Defer:

Undergraduate	Graduate
<ul> <li>Deadline: August 31st</li> <li>Email admissions@umbc.edu</li> <li>In your email, confirm your new semester - Spring 2021 or Fall 2021</li> <li>Receive confirmation of deferral</li> <li>Enrollment deposit will be deferred</li> <li>Applied for housing? Cancel Housing Here</li> <li>Receive updated admission letter</li> <li>DROP ALL CLASSES Deadline: September 3rd</li> <li>UG Scholarship Recipients Only: Request Scholarship Deferral</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Deadline: As soon as possible</li> <li>Visit this website: Graduate School Forms</li> <li>Read deferral instructions</li> <li>Complete Deferral Form</li> <li>Questions? Email GradSchool@umbc.edu</li> <li>DROP ALL CLASSES Deadline: September 3rd</li> </ul>



#### Entering the U.S. after Deferring to a Future Semester

#### What happens to your I-20?

- IES will contact you once deferral is completed by Undergraduate/Graduate admissions
- Program dates will be adjusted to reflect your first semester in the U.S.
- We will request updated financial documents if over 6 months old
- 1st week of July: Begin processing Spring 2021 I-20s
- o 1st week of January: Begin processing Fall 2021 I-20s
- Your SEVIS fee is valid for one year

#### Graduate Assistants (RA, TA etc):

- The university is still considering options for international students and their options for enrolling online or deferring
- Please work closely with your department to explore your options

#### Entry to the US

- Only able to enter the U.S. 30 days before the start of your chosen semester
  - Spring 2021 semester late January
  - Fall 2021 semester late August



#### Enter the US to attend UMBC for Fall 2020

Things to consider if you've already received your visa:

- Current immigration rules are clear you cannot enter the U.S. as a new student if your classes are online only
- SEVP (government agency that handles F-1 Immigration rules) has not finalized a decision for Fall 2020 on whether new F-1 students can enter the U.S. if classes are only online
- Be aware of travel restrictions in your home countries as well as in the <u>U.S.</u>

#### Transfer Students:

- Students currently in F-1 status in the U.S. transferring to UMBC from another institution
- Please follow regular I-20 transfer guidelines
- Planning to travel home? Or already at home and planning to return for Fall 2020? Please email us at <u>ies@umbc.edu</u>



### Effects on Work Authorization (Online or Deferral)

- Work types:
  - On-Campus
  - Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
  - Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- Immigration rules for off campus work (CPT and OPT)
  - Must complete 2 full-time academic semesters in the U.S.
  - Full-time academic semester = Fall or Spring semesters
- OPT eligibility timeline:
  - Must complete 2 full-time semesters in US
  - OPT authorization is for AFTER graduation and won't be impacted by starting your UMBC career online



## **Example Work Authorization Timeline**

Semester	Enrollment	Work Options
Fall 2020	Online / Optional	None
Spring 2021	Full time Physically on-campus in the US	On-campus
Summer 2021	Optional	On-campus
Fall 2021	Full time Physically on-campus in the US	On-campus
Winter 2022	Optional	Part-time/Full-time CPT, On-campus
Spring 2022	Full-time on campus (Part-time if last semester to graduate)	Part-time CPT, On-campus, Full-time CPT if 4 credits or less required to graduate by end of semester
Summer 2022	Optional	Part-time or Full-time CPT, On-Campus, OPT (only If you graduate in Spring 2022)



# Connecting with the UMBC Community

- Still have access to most <u>UMBC resources</u> virtually
  - Academic tutoring
  - GSA
  - o *my*UMBC
  - Student Clubs
  - Women's Center
  - Mosaic Center
  - Student Events
  - RAC exercising
  - Student Business Services
  - Career Center
- #UMBCTogether



## Housing Options - Preparing for Future Semesters

- Students are responsible for securing their own lodging and accommodation
- Main Campus
  - On-campus options mainly for UG students
    - On campus housing capacity reduced due to COVID-19
    - Fall 2020 planning is ongoing no final decisions made
    - If you registered for housing for Fall 2020, Residential Life will contact you directly the week of 6/22
    - UMBC Office of Residential Life COVID-19 Statement
  - Off-campus options for all students:
    - UMBC Off Campus Student Services
    - Off Campus Housing Website
    - Other apartments near campus: Westland Gardens, Maiden Choice Apartments
- Shady Grove
  - No on campus housing options available
  - UMBC Shady Grove Housing Guide



### **UMBC Student Business Services**

- Website: <u>sbs.umbc.edu</u>
- Handle tuition, billing and payment plans
- E-Billing Schedule

#### Fall

Register By	E-Bill Date	Due Date	Late Fee Charged
07/31	08/01	08/20	08/25
08/31	09/01	09/20	09/25
09/30	10/01	10/20	10/25

#### Payment Plan Options

Fall 2020 Enrollment Dates					
Enroll By	Installments	Due Date			
07/19/2020	4	07/20/2020			
08/19/2020	3	08/20/2020			
09/19/2020	2	09/20/2020			
Final Paym	ent	10/20/2020			



## Career Center Support

- Finding an on-campus job for Spring 2021
- Virtual Career Fairs
- Resume review services
- Other career preparation
- Website: <u>Careers.umbc.edu</u>



## IES Office Support

- General Questions and Advising
- Updated I-20s:
  - Start processing Spring 2021 I-20s the first week of July
  - Students whose financial documents are over 6 months old will need to submit updated documents
- Information Updates
- Fall 2020 Online Orientation
  - U.S. virtual classroom expectations
  - Visa Preparedness
  - Tips for success
- Creating Community
  - Global Ambassadors
  - Social media and Facebook groups



# Requesting Your I-20: Finances

Log in to the IES Portal with myUMBC credentials

"New F-1 Student Request" Form

Upload all required documents Receive draft I-20 from UMBC and make shipping request

Pay SEVIS Fee Schedule visa interview

Allow at least 24 hours for change to register in your myUMBC account

#### Required Documents:

- Copy of your passport
- Proof of available funding for one academic year (\$35,982 for Graduate and \$40,624 for Undergraduate)
- Affidavit or letter of support from financial sponsor

- No cost to request a UMBC I-20
- No cost to update a UMBC I-20 after deferral
- Amount required is based on estimated cost of an Academic Year (9 months)
- Amount is specific to UMBC only
- Required amount is subject to change
- As of Fall 2020 Admission at UMBC that is:
  - Undergraduate: \$40,624
  - o Graduate: \$35,982



## Important Websites

<u>UMBC COVID-19 Page</u> (Retrievers Return Roadmap)

IES COVID-19 Page

**Grad School COVID-19 Page** 

Flexible Launch Program

**UMBC** Residential Life

Student Business Services (tuition fees, payment schedule etc)

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### Frequently Asked Questions

- If I start classes online can I enter the U.S. in the middle of the Fall semester?
  - No. Current F-1 rules prohibit this.
- Will my electronic I-20 be ok for entering the U.S.?
  - Yes, the electronic copy is valid for visa interviews and entering the U.S. You will also receive a letter of explanation from the IES Office
- I have a valid B2 Visa can I enter the U.S. that way and take online classes?
  - No. B2 visas do not allow visa holders to study.
- How do I defer my admission?
  - Undergraduates: email <u>admissions@umbc.edu</u> Deferral deadline: August 31st
  - Graduate: <u>Deferral Form</u> No deferral deadline but the sooner the better!
- I already received an I-20 for the Fall 2020 semester but plan to defer. What happens next?
  - We will update your I-20 program dates. Once your deferral is approved, IES will reach out to directly about next steps.
- Can UMBC guarantee visa approval?
  - We cannot guarantee your visa approval. We can however share resources throughout the Fall semester on preparing for your interview.



# Questions?

- Advisers are always available via email at <u>ies@umbc.edu</u>
- Our website: IES.UMBC.EDU <u>Information for Admitted</u> <u>Students</u>
- © See what we're up to! @UMBC\_IES #UMBCInternational
- Join our Fall 2020 Admitted Students Group! www.facebook.com/groups/IESFall20

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For more information, visit

ies.umbc.edu

Or email us at

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