



UMBC International Student and Scholar Services
Preparing for Fall 2022 at UMBC

February 22, 2022



CENTER FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Reminder:

Please **type questions in**
the Q&A not in the chat

Our team is monitoring the Q&A during this session. The chat is for links we share, but it is not monitored for questions.

Your patience is appreciated as we answer your questions!



📅 Agenda 📅

- Working With ISSS
- Student Support and Resources at UMBC
- F-1 Work Options
- Graduate Admissions - Accepting Your Admission, Class Registration and Next Steps
- Q&A



Meet the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) Team



Adam Julian - Director



Dave Anguish - Assistant Director



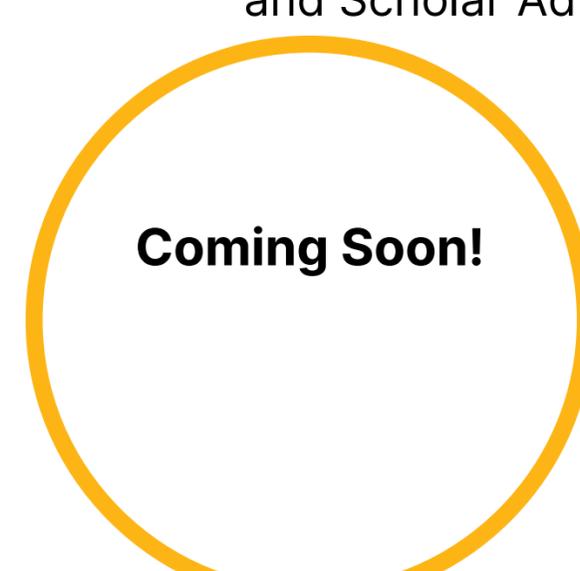
Adwoa Hanson-Hall - International Student and Scholar Advisor



Natalie Lobb - Graduate International Student Support Specialist



Mercedes Arias - International Student and Scholar Advisor



International Student and Scholar Advisor



About ISSS

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), a branch of UMBC's Center for Global Engagement, is dedicated to supporting UMBC's international student and scholar community and helping them achieve their academic, personal, and professional goals. ISSS offers a variety of programs and services to aide students in these endeavors:

- **Immigration Advising** - ISSS helps international students and scholars navigate the U.S. visa process and maintain valid immigration status by providing the guidance, knowledge, and necessary resources.
- **Community Building** - ISSS offers programming designed to help students make important connections within the UMBC community. These opportunities for intercultural exchange and mutual understanding enhance the UMBC international student experience.
- **Work and Internships** - ISSS works with current students and alumni to help them access the many employment and internship opportunities available to them by facilitating the use of benefits such as Curricular Practical Training (CPT), Optional Practical Training (OPT), and other employment authorizations.



Questions? Need assistance?

Contact Us

Before you schedule an appointment or contact us, the answers to most F-1 student questions can be found here:



CPT: Off-Campus Work Authorization



Social Security Numbers (SSN)



Travel Outside the US



Request a Letter



OPT: Post-Graduation Work Authorization



STEM OPT Extension



Extend Your F-1 Program (I-20)



Change of Immigration Status



New Students!

Fall 2021 International Student Arrival Guide



Something else?

See below to contact us!

The answer to most inquiries are available here:

issu.umbc.edu/contact/



Contacting the ISSS Team

Advising Hours

ISSS advisors are available to meet with you to discuss questions you might have.

You must have an appointment in order to speak with an ISSS advisor during Advising Hours.

Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- If you have already sent an email to ISSS with your inquiry, please do not make a separate appointment to follow up. You'll receive a response within 2 – 3 business days
- Remember to include your Campus ID and any relevant information when making your appointment



Live Chat (all times US EST)

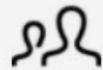
Monday/Thursday: 2:00 PM - 4:00

Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 12:00

Tuesday/Friday 10:00 AM - 12:00, 2:00 PM - 4:00

Live Chat 

▶ When should I use Live Chat?



ISSS Advising Appointments

Monday: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Wednesday: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Thursday: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Book an Advising Appointment 

▶ When should I book an appointment?

Document Drop Off & Pickup

If you need to drop off an I-20 for a travel signature or pick up a document from ISSS, you can visit the front desk of the Center for Global Engagement (CGE), located on the second floor of the University Center (above Starbucks and Chick-fil-A).

CGE is open from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Only come to pick up a document when you have been notified it is available
- Document requests cannot be made by visiting the front desk – please use the appropriate method (ISSS Portal or email) to make your request
- You must bring your UMBC Campus ID card
- You cannot meet with an ISSS advisor when you pick up a document

Getting in Touch By Email

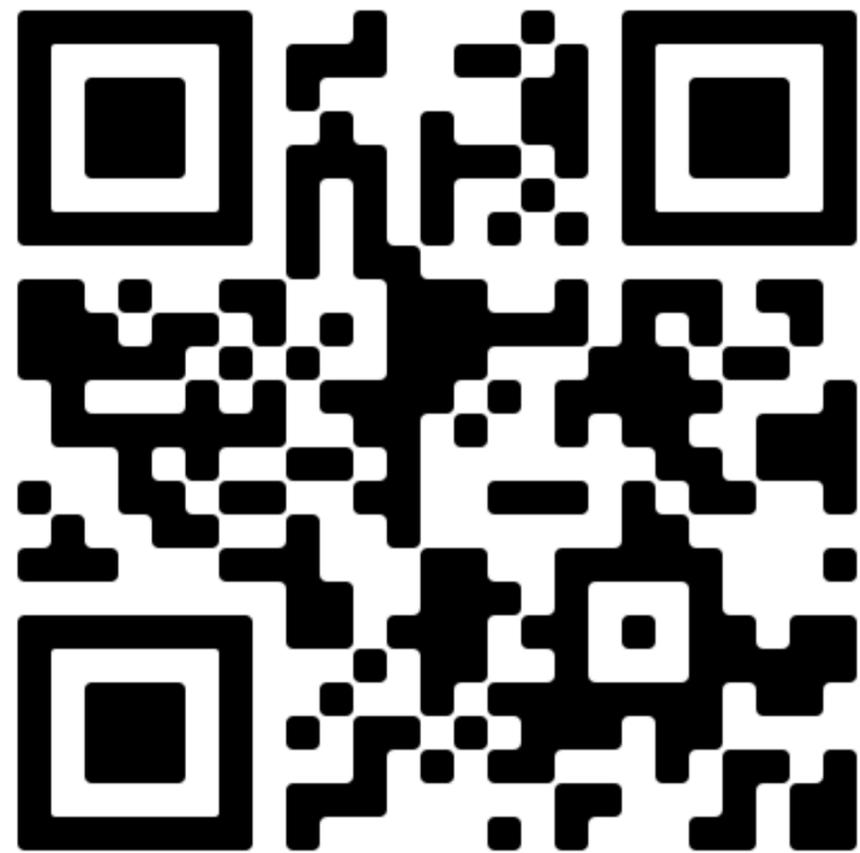
If you have a question or issue that you cannot resolve using any of the methods above, please email ISSS. We aim to respond to inquiries within 2 – 3 **business** days. ISSS advisors respond to emails during business hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Please do not send multiple emails or contact individual CGE staff members. This will only delay our ability to respond promptly to your message.

 Email ISSS



Speak with an Advisor



iss.umbc.edu/contact/



Stay connected with ISSS



ISSS email list:
Read your email!



ISSS Portal:
issp-portal.umbc.edu



myUMBC Group:
ISSS Academy



Advising Appointments
issp.umbc.edu/contact/

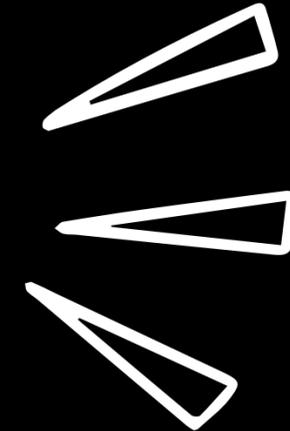
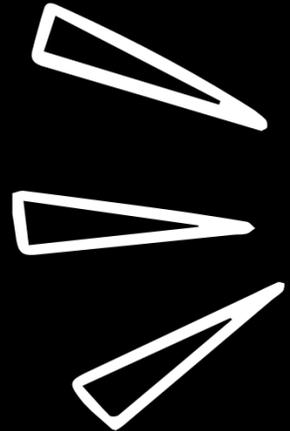


ISSS website:
issp.umbc.edu

Answers to most
of your
questions can be
found here!



Fall 2022 Considerations



Things To Consider For Fall 2022

- Visa or visa interview appointment by early August
- The earliest you can arrive in the US is 30 days before your I-20 program start date
- **Must enter US by August 31st**
- Be informed of travel and vaccine requirements in your home countries as well as in the U.S.
- Full time enrollment required (UG: 12 credits, Graduate: 9 credits)
- Must take at least **one** hybrid or in person class
- UMBC is offering a combination of in person, hybrid and online courses

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? Already at home and planning to return for Fall 2022?

Contact us: iss.umbc.edu/contact



Entering the US after Deferring To Fall 2022

What happens to your I-20?

- Program dates must be adjusted
- Updated financial documents required if originals are over 6 months old
- SEVIS fee is valid for one year

Graduate Assistants (RA, TA etc)

- Work directly with department on updating your GA offer

Entry to the US

- Fall 2022 semester begins August 31st
- Only able to enter the U.S. 30 days before the start of Fall 2022
- “Earliest Admission Date” section on your I-20
- Fall 2022 semester - August 1st



Requesting a UMBC I-20



1

**LOG IN TO
ISSS PORTAL
WITH
MYUMBC
CREDENTIALS**



2

**SELECT "NEW
F-1 STUDENT
REQUEST"**



3

**UPLOAD
REQUIRED
DOCUMENTS:
FINANCIALS +
PASSPORT.**



4

**RECEIVE
SIGNED
ELECTRONIC I-
20**



5

**PAY SEVIS
FEE +
SCHEDULE
VISA
APPOINTMENT**



Requesting a UMBC I-20



1

**LOG IN TO
ISSS PORTAL
WITH
MYUMBC
CREDENTIALS**

- Activate your myUMBC account
- Wait 24 hours
- Sign in to myUMBC Account
- Visit iss-portal.umbc.edu
- Select "Log in wit myUMBC"



Requesting a UMBC I-20



2

**SELECT "NEW
F-1 STUDENT
REQUEST"**

- You will be asked to select from available terms
- Fall = August Start Date
- Spring = January Start Date
- Term is listed on your admissions offer



Financial Requirements for I-20



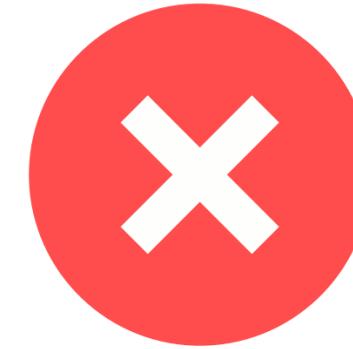
3

**UPLOAD
REQUIRED
DOCUMENTS:
FINANCIALS +
PASSPORT.**

- Amount required is based on **estimated cost** of an Academic Year (9 months)
- Amount is specific to UMBC only
- For Fall 2022 Admission at UMBC that is:
 - Undergraduate: \$44,114
 - Graduate: \$39,122
- **No cost to request a UMBC I-20**
- What documents are accepted?



Sources of Funding for I-20



- Checking/savings account bank statements
- Approved loan documents
- Scholarship awards
- Graduate Assistantships
- Fixed deposits (only if you can withdraw the money at any time)
- Documents CANNOT be older than 6 months
- Letter of Support/Affidavit

- Stocks or bonds
- Real estate holdings
- Retirement Funds
- Salary information
- Life insurance policies
- Unapproved loan documents
- Documents older than 6 months
- Pay Slips/Salary Statement



Requesting a UMBC I-20



4

**RECEIVE
SIGNED
ELECTRONIC I-
20**

- Processed within 3-5 business days
- Receive an electronic I-20 with an electronic signature from ISSS staff
- Alert ISSS Staff of any necessary changes/updates
- Print this I-20 out and hand sign in blue ink before your interview



Requesting a UMBC I-20



5

**PAY SEVIS
FEE +
SCHEDULE
VISA
APPOINTMENT**

- Once you have received your I-20 you can continue the F-1 Visa interview application process
- Pay I-901 SEVIS Fee
- Complete DS-160
- Schedule Interview

[Review the visa process here: F-1 Visa Process](#)



Funding Your Studies

Undergraduate

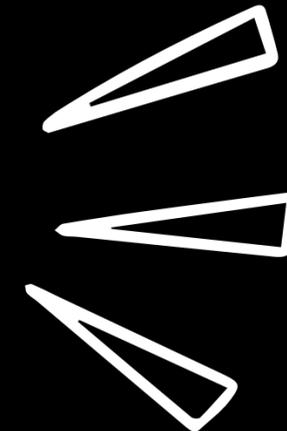
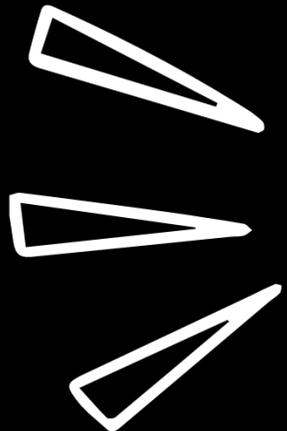
- Merit scholarships available based on GPA, test scores, application materials
- Contacted directly by Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships after admission
- scholarships.umbc.edu

Graduate

- Funding in the form of Graduate Assistantships (RA,TA)
- Not guaranteed and very competitive
- Funding is up to your specific department
- Contact information for your department: [UMBC Graduate Programs](#)



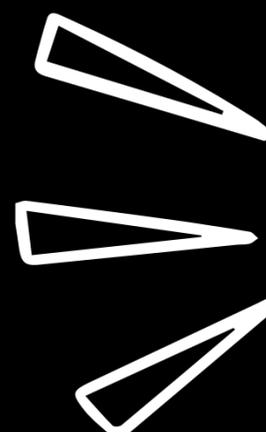
Vaccination Requirements



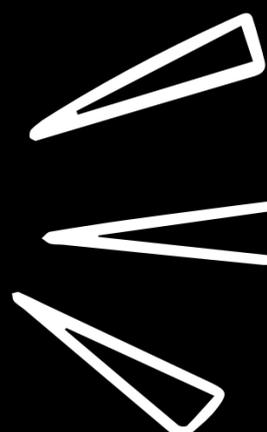
COVID -19 Vaccination Requirements

- Proof of vaccination **BEFORE** traveling to the U.S. is now required
- Present vaccination information to airline and/or U.S. Customs and Border Protection, **NOT** ISSS or during visa interview
- Effectively vaccinated = **two weeks after** single dose series, 2 - dose series, or accepted mix and match series 17 days apart
- Exemptions for countries with "limited availability"
- Questions about your case? Complete [U.S. CDC's Travel Assessment](#)

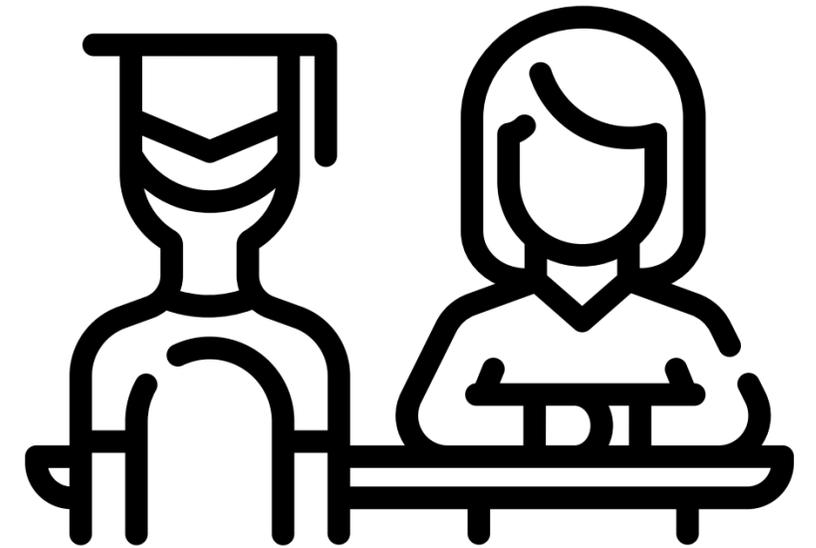




Campus Resources



- Student Organizations/Campus Life
- Academic Success Center
- Graduate Student Association
- Residential Life
- Off Campus Student Services
- UMBC Transit
- University Health Services
- Career Center
- Unibuddy



Student Organizations

- 200+ student organizations
- International Student Specific Clubs
 - Bangladeshi Student Association
 - Chinese Student and Scholars Association
 - EKTA - Indian Graduate Students
 - Iranian Graduate Student Organization
 - PAKSA
 - Vietnamese Student Association
 - Sri Lankan Student Association
 - Nepali Student Association



Housing

On Campus Housing

- UMBC Residential Life reslife.umbc.edu
- Undergraduate Housing:
 - [Residence Halls](#)
 - [Walker Avenue Apartments](#)
- Graduate Housing:
 - [Walker Avenue Apartments](#)

Off Campus Housing

- UMBC Off Campus Student Services ocss.umbc.edu
- Available to all students
- [Apartment Search](#)
- Roommate Search
- Assistance with understanding US renting practices

* **Students are responsible for securing their own accomodation** *



UMBC Transit

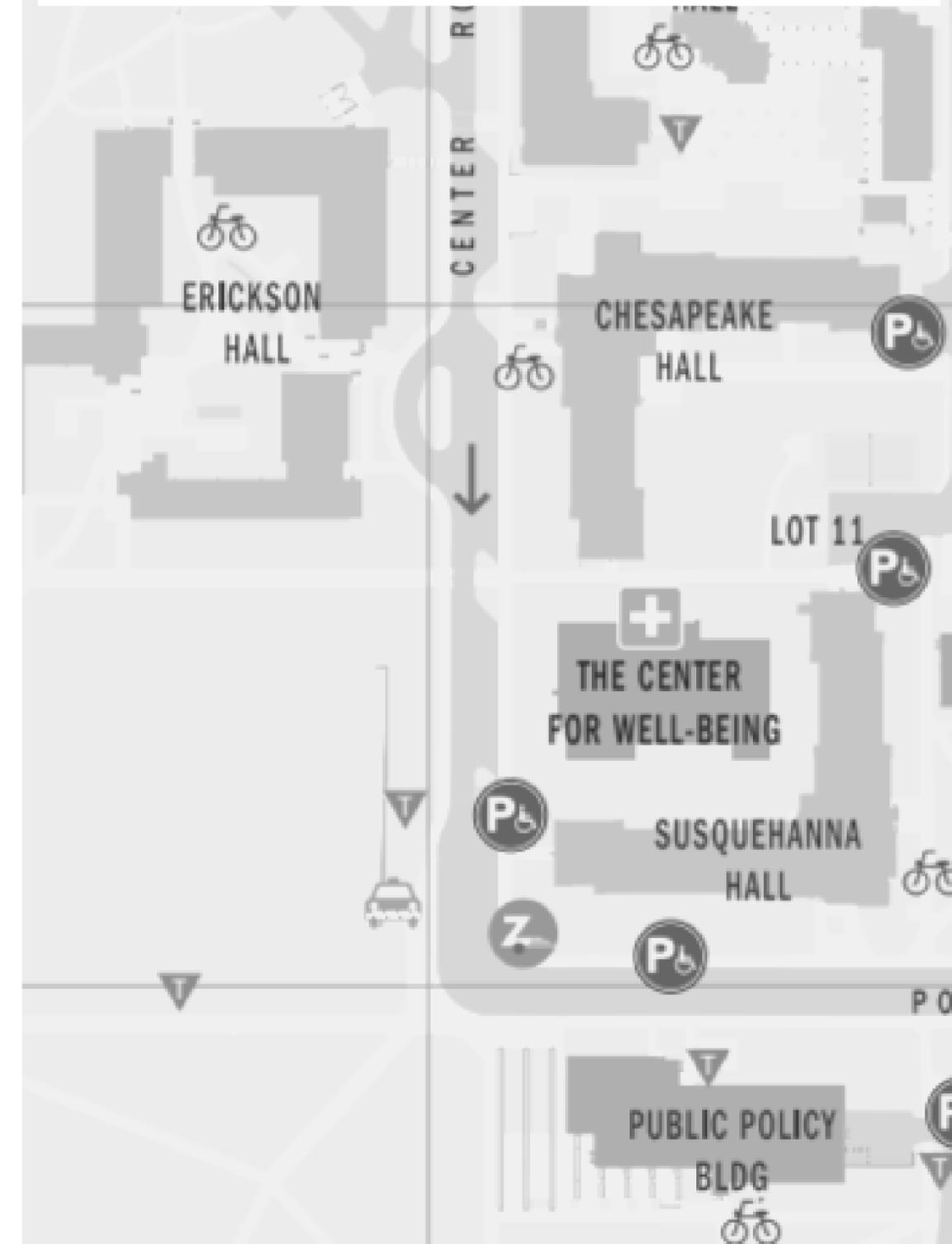
- Free!
- For UMBC students only
- Transit Tracker App
- Convenient connections to public transportation
- Helpful for thinking about housing options
- transit.umbc.edu



Retriever Integrated Health (RIH)- University Health Services (UHS)

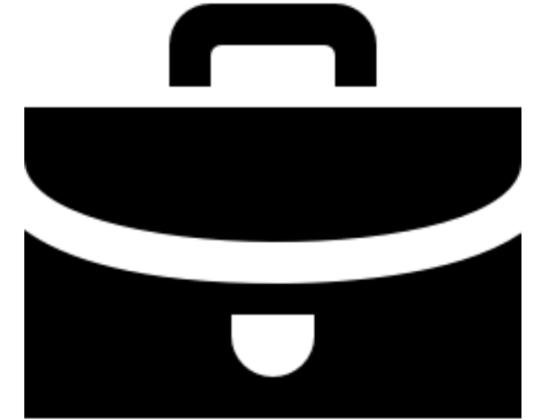
- UHS is UMBC's on campus student health services center. You'll be able to visit the doctor here as a student at UMBC.
- UHS is part of Retriever Integrated Health (RIH) which also includes the Counseling Center and Office of Health Promotion.

UHS is located in The Center for Well-Being (D7 on [campus map](#)). Signs with the location are on campus



Career Center

- Resume review
- Career fairs – generalized and program specific
- International Student Career Conference
- Trips to visit local businesses and potential employers
- Job search and job evaluation advice
- Interview preparation
- UMBCworks
- careers.umbc.edu





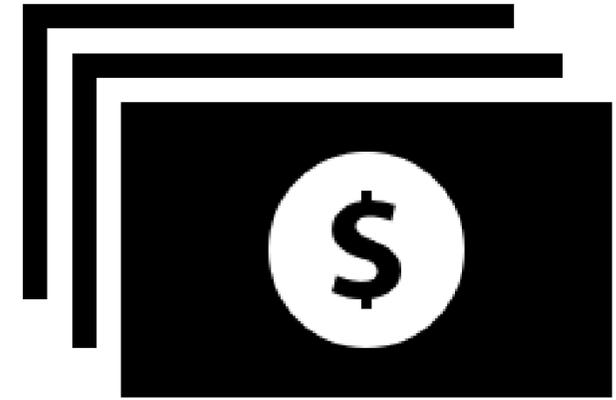
F-1 Work Options

Employment is limited under F-1 status

**The employment rules are very strict
and must be followed carefully**

Types of Employment

- On-Campus Employment
- Off Campus Employment (Practical Training)
 - Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
 - Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- Need-based employment (off-campus)
 - Severe, Unexpected, Documented Economic Hardship (USCIS processing fee of \$410)



On-Campus Employment

- Can begin working on arrival
- Jobs on UMBC campus only
- Apply through UMBCworks
- Will need an SSN after getting a job offer. ISSS will help you with that process
- How much can you work a week?
 - During semester: 20 hours
 - During summer/winter break: 40 hours
- Finding a position is competitive and not guaranteed



Off-Campus Employment: CPT

CPT: Curricular Practical Training

- Paid internships while a current student
- Eligible after 2 academic semesters **in US**
- Must be authorized by ISSS, noted on I-20
- Must be related to your degree program
- How much can you work a week?
 - During Semester: Part Time - 20 hours
 - During Summer/Winter Breaks: Full Time – 20+ hours



OPT and STEM OPT Extension

OPT

- 1 year full time work permission after graduation
- Work can be: part time, fulltime, paid or unpaid
- Job must be related to degree

STEM OPT

- 2 year **extension** of work authorization
- Who is eligible for STEM Extension? Any student with a STEM eligible major
- ISSS guides students through the process of applying for OPT and STEM

OPT



STEM Eligible Majors at UMBC

- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Cybersecurity
- Data Science
- Engineering
- Engineering Management
- Health Information Technology
- Information Systems
- Physics
- Systems Engineering

ICE has a full list of STEM Degrees
Here: [STEM Designated Degree
Program List](#)

To find your major, use the CIP Code
on your I-20 to search the list



Off-Campus Employment: Economic Hardship

- For students in unexpected financial hardship
- Have to prove source of unexpected difficulties
- Not often approved, have to make a very strong case
- Application to USCIS costs \$410
- **Don't rely on this option!**

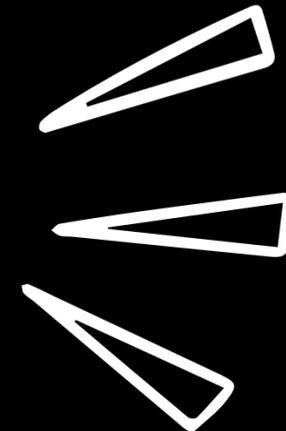
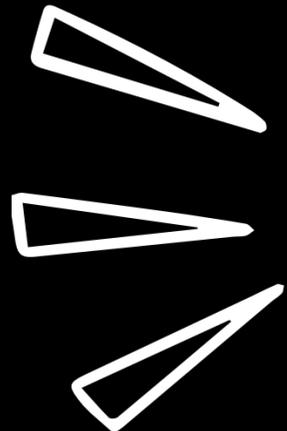


Work Options Summary

- On-campus work (immediate)
- Off-campus work:
 - CPT (after 2 semesters in US)
 - OPT (after graduation)
 - STEM OPT Extension



Graduate Admissions



Graduate Admissions

- Mike Suica: Manager - Recruitment and Admission
- Megan Dignan: Marketing Coordinator



Check your offer letter to find your Campus ID!

In addition to being the official photo ID of UMBC, your Campus Card is also your meal, library, gym, and transit card. [Money deposited onto your Campus Card](#) can be used most locations on campus including vending machines and pay-for-print stations and select locations in the surrounding Catonsville/Arbutus area.

<https://campuscard.umbc.edu/about/>



K. Jill Barr J.D., M.Ed.
Senior Assistant Dean of Graduate Enrollment Management

Campus ID #: MR65136
Subject Area: Information Systems - MS
ID: 4000529424
Semester Deferred:



October 19, 2021

Dear [REDACTED]:

I am very pleased to offer you admission to the Graduate School at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). We know that you will find graduate education and research here both challenging and rewarding.

Please indicate whether or not you will be accepting our offer of admission by logging in to your myUMBC account. **Accepting your admission is required before you are able to register for classes.** To activate your account visit <https://webadmin.umbc.edu/> then click the "Create my Account" link. Activating your account requires your date of birth and UMBC Campus ID. Your Campus ID is [REDACTED].

Your Graduate Program Director or Program Coordinator will contact you regarding program-specific orientation and academic advisement for your first semester's course selection. If you are subject to prerequisites or other terms of admission, the department to which you have been admitted will notify you directly. The Graduate School Catalog, Policies and Procedures are available at our [website](#).

As you prepare for your arrival at UMBC, there are some health related requirements that you must meet before you arrive on campus. Visit the [University Health Services website](#) and check the "Incoming Students" section to review and submit required health forms. Also, check out our Getting Started page where you can find important information on the next steps you should take as a newly admitted student.

The [Office of International Education Services \(IES\)](#) will help you with your immigration requirements and questions as you prepare to attend UMBC as an international student. Please follow these [instructions](#) to request your I-20, schedule your F-1 interview and prepare for your transition to the U.S. and to UMBC. You may contact the IES with any questions related to immigration by emailing ies@umbc.edu

Residential Life provides temporary housing accommodations on campus to UMBC graduate students who will be participating in campus orientation programs. Please be aware that temporary housing is available only on a limited basis, and is not guaranteed. For more information about housing registration, availability and costs please visit <https://reslife.umbc.edu/> or contact reslife@umbc.edu.

Please see the information at the end of this letter. If document requirements are listed, please send the documents to the Graduate School by the end of your first semester.

If you have other questions or need assistance, please contact the staff of the Graduate School at 410-455-2537 or gradschool@umbc.edu. Congratulations on your acceptance and best wishes in your academic pursuits.

Sincerely,

K. Jill Barr J.D., M.Ed.
Senior Assistant Dean of Graduate Enrollment Management

Campus ID #: [REDACTED]
Subject Area: **Professional Studies - MPS**
Semester: **Spring 2022**

Notes:

Official and final degree certificate confirming completion of bachelor's degree

The Graduate School | University of Maryland, Baltimore County | 1000 Hilltop Circle | Baltimore, MD 21250

PHONE: 410-455-2537 | FAX: 410-455-1130 | WEB: www.umbc.edu/gradschool



Activate your myUMBC Account!

How do I create a myUMBC account?

Created by Anna Sniadach, last modified by Andrea Mocko on Sep 29, 2017

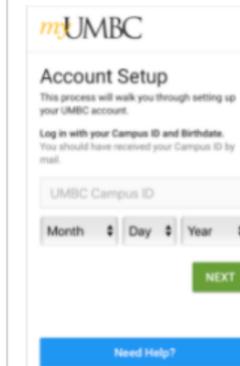
Tell me

You will need:

- Your CampusID
- Your Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

1. Go to <http://my.umbc.edu/account>

2. Enter your Campus ID (e.g. AB12345) and select your date of birth using the drop-down menus.



It is important that you use your UMBC gmail account when communicating with campus offices/services. Your program will send you important information regarding classes, advising, and upcoming events (such as Orientation) to your UMBC email address/account.

Instructions are here: [Activate Your myUMBC](#)



3. Click **Next**

4. You will be prompted to upgrade your account. Click **Next**.



myUMBC

Account Upgrade

In order to take full advantage of UMBC online services, you must upgrade your account.

This process will ask you some basic questions to set up your UMBC online identity and ensure the security of your account.

NEXT

5. Select a username from the options available. **This CANNOT be changed.**

Step 1: Account Info

First, we'll set up the basics of your account.

Username

Pick a username to represent you on various campus systems. This will also be your email address. **This cannot be changed.**

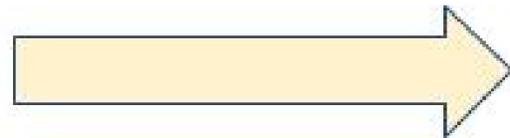
NX60734

TPERSON1



7. Choose whether to keep your existing password by entering it in the box labeled Confirm Existing Password or create a new one.

If you choose to create a new password, you will be asked to enter it twice, once in the box labeled New Password and again in the box labeled Confirm password.



Password

Create a strong password to protect your account. Your password must:

- include upper AND lower case letters
- include at least one number or symbol
- Avoid common words

Use Existing Password

Create New Password

Confirm Existing Password

8. Select **Next**

9. Select three security questions and provide answers to each.

ⓘ Be sure to remember these answers. They will be used should you forget your password in the future.

Step 2: Recovery Info

What will you use when you can't log in?

Security Questions

Answer the following questions and save them for you.

Security Question One:

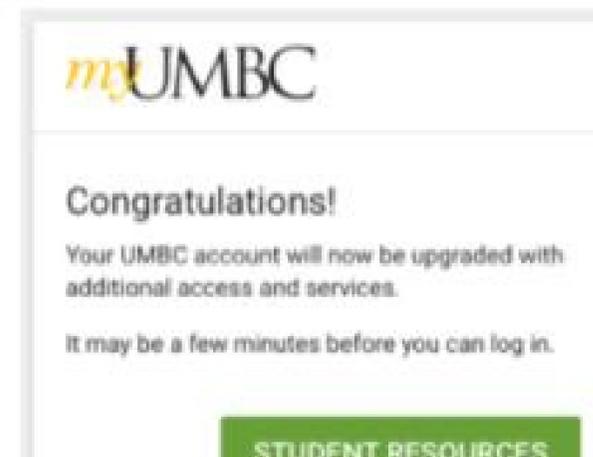
Security Question Two:

Security Question Three:

10. Enter a new or confirm the secondary email address we have on file.

Secondary Email

Tell us an email address we can send password reset info to.



myUMBC

Congratulations!

Your UMBC account will now be upgraded with additional access and services.

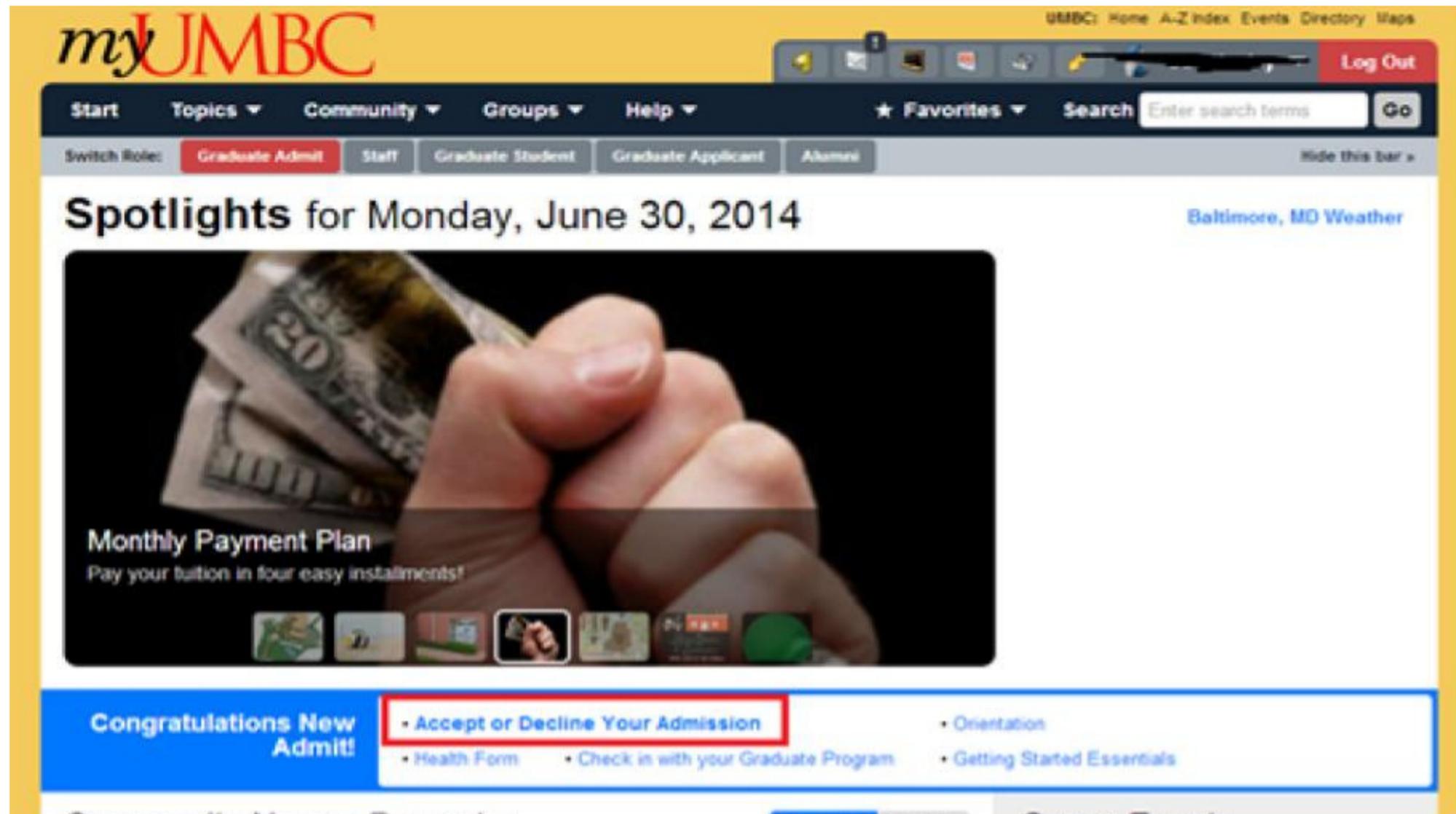
It may be a few minutes before you can log in.

STUDENT RESOURCES



How to Accept Your Admission

- After activating your account you will be directed to your myUMBC homepage.
- Click the "Accept or Decline Admission" prompt on this page to accept:



How to Accept Your Admission

- From here, you will be directed to PeopleSoft, where you will complete the process.

Savorites | Main Menu > Self Service > Student Center

Donald's Student Center

Finances
My Account
[Account Inquiry](#)
Financial Aid
[View Financial Aid](#)
other financial...  

To Do List
[Letter of Recommendation 1 of 2](#)
[Letter of Recommendation 2 of 2](#)
[Transcript](#)
[more](#) 

Personal Information
Contact Information

Permanent Address 19 N Patterson Park Ave Baltimore, MD 21231 BA	Mailing Address None
Home Phone 410 507 8362	Home E-mail Withheld

Admissions

 Incomplete  Complete  Admitted  Accepted

My Applications

UMBC	Graduate Degree	Public Policy - PhD	Fall 14		Accept or Decline
UMBC	Undergraduate Degree	Psychology - BS	Fall 14		



How to Accept Your Admission

- On the next screen, click “I Accept Admission.”

Accept Admission

Institution	UMBC	Career	Graduate
Admit Term	Fall 2014	Program	Graduate Degree
Application Number	10098859	Plan	Public Policy - PhD

Select either the Accept or Decline button to indicate your choice. You will then be asked to confirm your decision. Select the Previous button if you do not wish to make a selection at this time.

I ACCEPT ADMISSION

I DECLINE ADMISSION

PREVIOUS



How to Accept Your Admission

Then, click "Confirm Acceptance" on the next page!

Accept Admission

Institution	UMBC	Career	Graduate
Admit Term	Fall 2014	Program	Graduate Degree
Application Number	10098859	Plan	Public Policy - PhD

CONFIRM ACCEPTANCE



PREVIOUS



Class Registration

Registration Opens June 1

For more information on how to register for classes, visit:
wiki.umbc.edu/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=17171426

Registration Issues? [Contact UMBC's Registrar's Office](#)



Plan Changes

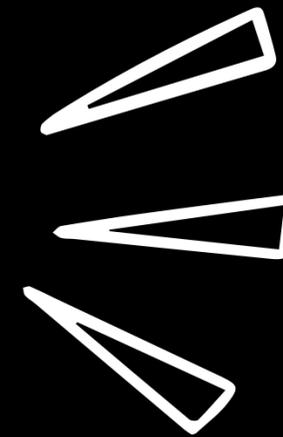
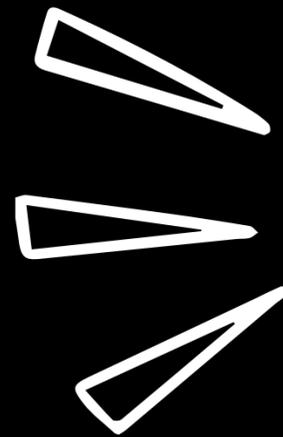
- The plan change process is only available to those who have completed at least one semester of graduate coursework at UMBC, and requires approval from both the original and desired program staff.
- **Newly admitted students are not eligible to request a program plan change.**



Ask

a

Student!



Ask a current student on Unibuddy!

Have a question about student life or navigating UMBC?

- Global Ambassadors answer your questions about student life and the campus experience at UMBC!
- There are 11 student ambassadors from different home countries, areas of study and with a wide variety of personal interests

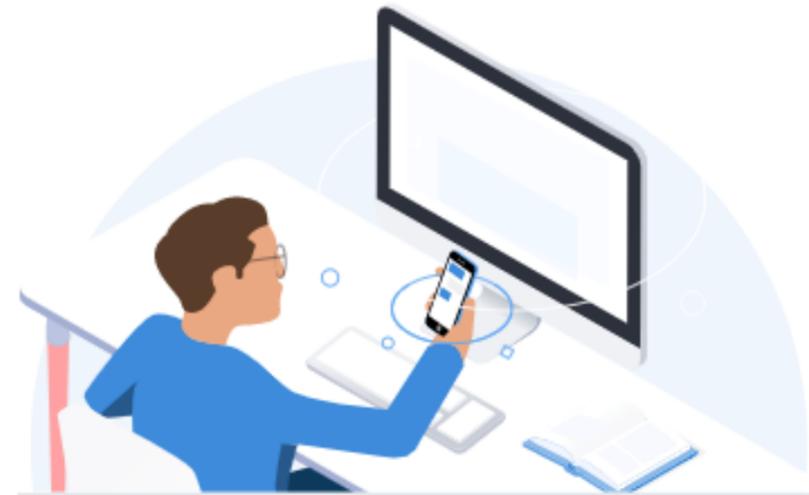

Students


Staff


Blog


Inbox


Sign Up



Chat to your future

Send your message and get notified as soon as you receive a reply

[Click here to meet and chat with the Ambassadors!](#)



How Global Ambassadors can help

Global Ambassadors can:

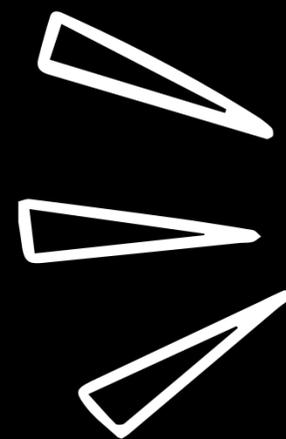
- Discover more about UMBC campus life
- Connect you with UMBC resources
- Learn about US & UMBC classroom culture and student life in the US!

Global Ambassadors cannot:

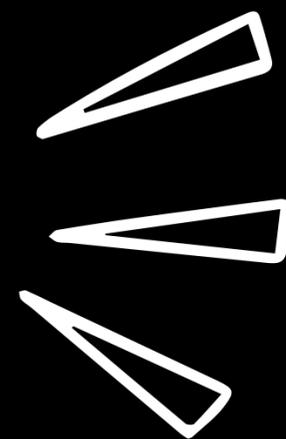
- Provide immigration support
- Help you get a job or provide CPT/OPT advice
- Offer academic advising or pick your classes for you

...BUT they can connect you with teams who will help you with these things!





Q&A



Follow us on social media!

We're online! Follow us to learn about ISSS activities.



Facebook:
umbcisss



Twitter:
@umbc_iss



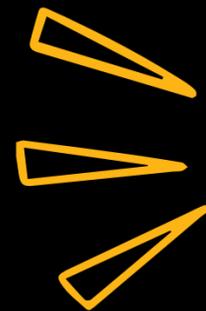
Instagram:
@umbc_iss

✦ **Keep up** with events at ✦
✦ UMBC ✦





Congratulations!



We look forward to seeing you in Fall 2022!

