

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS



*Your guidebook to
Achieve, Succeed, and
Thrive*



LEARN.CONNECT.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About ISSS

- 03 About the ISSS office
- 04 Contacting the ISSS Team

Admission & Arrival

- 05 Checklist
- 06 Housing
- 07 Packing Tips
- 08 Arriving in the US
- 09 Maintaining F-1 Status

Orientation

- 10 Orientation
- 11 Stay Informed

Achieve to Succeed

- 12 Billing, Tuition, & Fees
- 13 Transportation
- 14 Academic Resources
- 15 myUMBC & Tech Resources
- 16 Phone & Bank
- 17 Health & Support
- 18 Staying Safe

Get Involved

- 19 Social Events & Clubs
- 20 Things To Do On Campus
- 21 Explore Around Campus
- 22 Groceries
- 23 Shopping
- 24 Discover Community at UMBC
- 25 Jobs & Internships

Shady Grove Students

- 26 Shady Grove Student Info
- 27 Shady Grove Student Info
- 28 Shady Grove Student Info

Contacts & Information

- 29 Campus Contact Information
- 30 Campus Contact Information
- 31 Campus Contact Information



Access the Arrival Guide anywhere!

Scan the QR code to download the Arrival Guide and share it with friends.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES (ISSS)

The Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) is dedicated to supporting UMBC's international student and scholar community. The office offers a variety of programming and services to assist students and scholars in pursuit of their academic, personal, and professional goals.

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 in collaboration with the Career Center works with current students and alumni to help students access employment and internship opportunities. ISSS approves employment authorizations such as Curricular Practical Training (CPT) and Optional Practical Training (OPT).

CONTACT ISSS

Location: UC207A

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am - 4:30pm

Have a question?

Check the website!

Find resources and step by step instructions for many common processes, such as how to request an I-20.

iss.umbc.edu



Need an I-20?

Submit Requests in the ISSS Portal.

Login and select the appropriate request type from the options available.

iss-portal.umbc.edu

Need Further Assistance?



Help Ticket

The ISSS office does not respond to emails. Instead, we use a Help Ticket system to send and receive messages.



Walk-In

Stop by our office during walk in hours for a brief meeting with an ISSS advisor. Please bring your campus ID with you!



Virtual Appointment

Schedule a 15-minute appointment to speak with an advisor online about your question.

For more information visit our contact page:
iss.umbc.edu/contact

CHECKLIST

1

Congrats! Accept your offer.

Create your myUMBC account.

Check out your customized checklist:

[Undergraduate](#)

[Graduate](#)

2

Request a UMBC I-20.

Start early! Login to the ISSS Portal using your myUMBC login and submit a "New F-1 Student Request."

3

Pay the I-901 SEVIS fee.

Pay the I-901 SEVIS fee. The fee is valid for one year.

Transfer students must transfer their SEVIS record to UMBC. For more information, visit the [ISSS website](#).

4

Apply for a visa.

Complete the DS-160 form and book your visa appointment. Visit the ISSS website for more detailed information.

5

Secure housing.

Students are responsible for securing their own housing. See page 7 for more information.

6

Prepare travel arrangements.

Schedule flights and plan how to arrive on-campus. Students are required to enter the US by the program start date on their I-20.

7

Complete the Health/Immunization Form.

All new students are required to show proof of immunizations and complete the tuberculosis screening questionnaire through the myRetrieverCare Portal. Check [Retriever Integrated Health](#) for more information.

8

Register for courses.

F-1 international students must enroll full time every fall and spring semester.

Undergraduate students must enroll in a minimum of 12 credits. Graduate students must enroll in a minimum of 9 credits. **Only 1 online course** can count towards this requirement. See page 9 for more information.

9

Pay tuition and fees.

International students at UMBC are charged a fee to help pay for ISSS services. See page 14 for details. For questions about billing, reach out to [Student Business Services](#).

10

Attend all required orientations.

Check your emails regularly for orientation information and requirements from various departments.

11

Get your campus ID card.

Pre-submit your photo. Your campus ID card is used to access the on-campus gym, library, and UMBC transit system.

12

Submit Check-In documents.

International students must complete the New Student Arrival Documentation Check-In in the ISSS Portal. This is **required** to become an Active student at UMBC. See page 6 for more details.

13

Join campus events!

Connect with other students, join a club, and talk to your professors! All events are posted on [myUMBC](#) events. Get involved!

HOUSING



Important: Make sure you have housing (at least temporary) BEFORE you board the plane!

On-Campus Housing - Undergraduate

Undergrads can choose to live on or off campus. Many new undergraduate students prefer to live on campus so that they are near UMBC events and activities. Admitted students will receive directions on applying for housing in their admissions package.

- Apply before the deadline. On-campus housing fills up quickly.
- Students are **not** required to live on campus.

Learn more about UMBC Residential Life at reslife.umbc.edu

On-Campus Housing - Graduate

Graduate students can choose to live on-campus in Walker Avenue Apartments. Apply directly at walkeravenueapts.com

- Students are **not** required to live on campus.

Pro tip: research housing options near or around the UMBC transit line! Check out more at transit.umbc.edu



Off-campus housing options near USG

UMBC at Shady Grove does not offer on campus housing, refer to page 24-26 for more information on housing options in the Rockville area



Off-Campus Housing

Many students live off-campus. **Plan early!** Finding housing takes time, make sure to start the process as early as possible.

[Retriever Support Services](http://studentaffairs.umbc.edu) provides a housing listing service and roommate finder at no charge for the UMBC campus community. Discover off-campus housing and public transport options, review leasing agreements, set up utilities, find roommates and more at studentaffairs.umbc.edu

Renting off-campus

Rent for off-campus student housing is typically paid on a monthly basis. Confirm any additional costs you will incur in addition to rent (ex. utilities, garbage, amenities) before you sign your lease!



Utilities

Utility bills, such as electricity and gas, are typically the responsibility of the renter. You will need to establish an account with the utility companies and pay your bills on time (usually monthly). Typically you will see higher bills in the winter and summer due to increased usage. Be prepared!

Other Bills

Make sure when you budget that you consider other recurring expenses such as internet, phone, streaming services (optional), and groceries.

Roommates

If you decide to save costs by sharing space with a roommate or two, make sure you establish a clear plan for sharing costs and responsibilities before you move in.

PACKING TIPS

Carry-On Items

The items below should be brought with you in your carry-on (hand luggage). **Do NOT pack these items in your checked luggage.** We recommend placing all the documents you took to your visa appointment in a folder and in your backpack for easy access.

- Valid passport
- Valid F-1 visa
- I-20
- I-901 SEVIS fee receipt
- UMBC admissions letter
- Financial support documents
- Money for initial expenses
- Phone & charger
- Residential address (where you'll stay when you arrive) for port of entry form
- Immunization records
- Medicine & prescriptions

Food

Some food items cannot be brought into the United States because they may carry animal and plant pests and diseases. Restricted items include meats, fruits, vegetables, plants, soil, and products made from animal or plant materials. However, most packaged non-perishable items and dried spices are allowed in to the U.S.



Don't pack any prohibited items! Check the list [cbp.gov/travel](https://www.cbp.gov/travel).

Prepare for the weather!

Maryland has four distinct seasons. Remember to pack clothing to stay comfortable during your first few months.

Summer:

- Avg. temp: 56.8°F (13.8°C) - 89.1°F (31.7°C)
- Very warm and humid. Some strong storms
- Clothing: cool, loose clothing

Fall:

- Avg. temp: 43°F (6.1°C) - 68.4°F (20.2°C)
- Weather gets cooler, especially at night
- Clothing: layers, sweaters & pants

Winter:

- Avg temp: 29.1°F (-1.6°C) - 42.4°F (5.8°C)
- Weather is cold with some snow
- Clothing: heavy coats, gloves, warm layers

Spring:

- Avg temp: 50°F (10°C) - 72.8°F (22.6°C)
- Weather starts getting warmer. Sun & rain
- Clothing: Jacket & light layers

Lost or Stolen Baggage

If you have lost your baggage, please contact your airline or the airport. They will assist you in tracking your luggage and provide any updates.

ARRIVING IN THE US

Airport Transportation

Below are a list of local airports near UMBC's main campus. Airports often have several different kinds of transportation options, such as transit, taxis, and ride shares (Uber/Lyft). **Check each airport's website to see what kinds of transportation they offer and how much they cost.**

Baltimore Washington International Airport (BWI)

Distance to UMBC: 7 miles

- Transportation options: Amtrak train, MARC train, Taxis, Uber/Lyft
- Accessible via UMBC transit

Washington Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA)

Distance to UMBC: 40 miles

- Transportation options: Amtrak train, MARC train, Metrorail, Uber/Lyft

Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

Distance to UMBC: 55 miles

- Transportation options: Metrorail, Uber/Lyft

Time Your Arrival!

Students entering the US in F-1 status for the first time can only enter up to 30 days before the I-20 start date!

Also, make sure to arrive at least a week before classes start to attend mandatory orientations!



"Always hold a small amount of cash in your wallet for important emergency purposes. You never know when you might need it." -Ayomide



Primary and Secondary Inspection

Primary Inspection

Present your immigration documents to a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer, who will review your documents and ask about your plans for your stay in the US. You will also have your fingerprints and a photo taken. This process usually lasts no more than 2-3 minutes.

Secondary Inspection

The CBP Officer may require you to go through a secondary inspection if they are not satisfied with your documents. Do not be alarmed if you are asked to go through Secondary Inspection. Remain calm, present your documents, and answer their questions.

Emergency Contact

If at any point during your travels you need to contact the ISSS office, please call **+1 410-455-5555** and ask to speak with an International Student Advisor.

I-515 Temporary Entry

If you are missing documents, the CBP Officer may deny you entry or give you a I-515 document allowing you temporary stay in the US. The I-515 form will indicate what information you need to provide, the deadline, and how to respond. Please contact the ISSS office if you receive an I-515.

MAINTAINING F-1 STATUS

Check-In with ISSS

After you arrive in the US, submit the “New Student Arrival Documentation Check-in” request via the ISSS Portal. This is **required** to activate the SEVIS record.

1 **Login** to the ISSS Portal. Click on "Search Forms"

- Select New Student Arrival Documentation Check-in

2 **Upload** these documents:

- Visa stamp page
- I-94 record

3 **Update** your personal information on myUMBC:

- U.S. address
- U.S. phone number
- Emergency contact

Full time Enrollment Requirement

F-1 students are required to enroll full time every fall and spring semesters:

- Graduate students are required to enroll in at least 9 credits.
- Undergraduate students are required to enroll in a minimum of 12 credits.

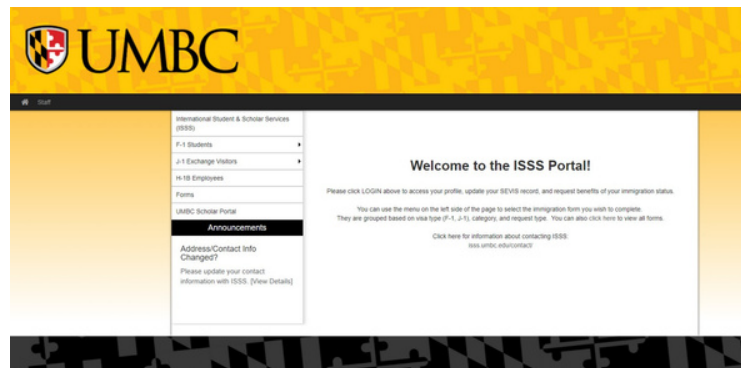
ONLY 1 ONLINE COURSE can count towards the full time enrollment requirement. For more information, please visit iss.s.umbc.edu.



Remember: your immigration status is your responsibility!

Requesting I-20s and Letters

All requests are submitted and processed in the ISSS Portal. Processing times are around 5-7 business days. iss.s.umbc.edu



Loss of F-1 Status

F-1 students may lose their immigration status if they do not comply with regulations. Once F-1 status is lost, a student may regain status, if the offense for losing the status was not too severe.

Enter with a New SEVIS ID

A student who is out of status may be able to leave the US and enter with a new SEVIS ID. Students will need to apply for a new visa and pay a new SEVIS fee. This method is risky for certain kinds of offenses that do not allow return to the US. Please contact the ISSS office to discuss your options.

Reinstatement

A student may be eligible to apply for Reinstatement. This is an application submitted to USCIS and takes an average of 6-12 months. Please note that during the time the Reinstatement application is pending, F-1 students are **NOT** eligible for F-1 benefits, such as work on campus or off campus.

ORIENTATION

New Student Orientations

As a new student, you need to make sure you attend all mandatory orientations that you are assigned.

Note: You may be assigned orientations based on your degree level, program, or other positions you hold on campus.

Undergraduate students:

- International Student Orientation - **Attendance is mandatory.** Check issu.umbc.edu
- Freshman and Transfer Orientation - Learn more and register at orientation.umbc.edu

Graduate students:

- International Student Orientation - **Attendance is mandatory.** Check issu.umbc.edu
- Graduate School Orientation: Orientation is assigned through Blackboard. Learn more at gradschool.umbc.edu/students/orientation
- Program Orientation - check with your program and UMBC email for details on orientation

Class Registration

Consult your advisor before registering for classes to ensure that you are on track to graduate. **International students must be enrolled full time!** Instructions for how to register for classes can be found on the Registrar's website: registrar.umbc.edu

Welcome Events

Many departments and student organizations will host welcome events at the beginning of the semester. Check your email or on my.umbc.edu for details!

Welcome Week! A UMBC tradition to welcome new and returning students back to campus. There is something for everyone so check out welcomeweek.umbc.edu for a list of events and join in the fun!

"Welcome Week is the first event of the year to participate in. It's a great chance to have fun, get free food and win UMBC merchandise" -Hrishi



Retriever Card

Your retriever card is your student ID. Use it for UMBC transit, meal plans, library, and on campus payments! Learn more at campuscard.umbc.edu

"Get your retriever card as soon as possible to start getting student discounts!" -Kirthana



"Your UMBC email account will be the primary mode of communication with the university. Make sure to check it regularly." - Jervon



Student Code of Conduct

To view the UMBC Student Code of Conduct or find more information about appointments, policies, or news, please visit Student Conduct and Community Standards website at conduct.umbc.edu

STAY INFORMED

■ Social media

UMBC, State and National departments and organizations have social media accounts which share information. Always make sure your news is from a verified and reliable source.

"Just exploring UMBC websites helped me learn more about the school, the campus life and the general dynamic. Following UMBC accounts on social media made me quickly familiar the university and campus." -Ian



■ UMBC alerts

UMBC occasionally sends important alerts to the community via UMBC email and via text message. Alerts may pertain to inclement weather, campus outages or safety. This service will only be used for alerts deemed as critical to the UMBC community. [Info and sign-up here](#)

■ UMBC email

Check your UMBC email. Important course and university updates and info are often shared via email. ISSS also sends out regular newsletters with any important information, including any changes to current immigration or employment regulations.

■ myUMBC

See what's happening around campus through [myUMBC](#). Explore various campus groups, attend events, and get involved!

■ Local television stations

Most major US cities have local television networks covering area and national news and weather. Local stations are affiliates of national networks. Baltimore area stations below:

- WBAL - Channel 11
- WMAR - Channel 2
- WBFF - Channel 45
- WJZ - Channel 13

■ Public news radio

Public radio is an easy and convenient way to access both local and national news. Tune into Baltimore's local National Public Radio (NPR) station **WYPR 88.1 FM**.

BILLING, TUITION, & FEES

Tuition

Tuition is the cost of your classes at UMBC. Your tuition costs are based on your level of study and the number of credits you are enrolled in. Tuition amounts usually change every semester and will be reflected on your bill.

- A breakdown of tuition (and fees) is updated on the Student Business Services (SBS) website: sbs.umbc.edu/tuition-info/



Remember: The financial information on your I-20 is not your bill. It is an approved estimate of the cost of attendance for one year.

Health Insurance

International students at UMBC are automatically enrolled in UMBC's student insurance plan (students with Graduate Assistantships will be enrolled through their departments).

The fee for health insurance is applied to accounts about a month after the semester begins, but the coverage is effective from the beginning of the semester. Details about the insurance plan can be found at health.umbc.edu

Students have the option to purchase meal plans that are applied directly to their campus card. More information about meal plans can be found at campuscard.umbc.edu.



Fees

Fees are charges for services you access as a student at UMBC. Applicable mandatory fees will be automatically applied to your account. Find an explanation of fees at: sbs.umbc.edu/tuition-info/mandatory-fees

- Fees may appear on your bill at different times. For example, the International Student Fee is charged after the add/drop date
- Students with a GA contract may still need to pay for mandatory fees.

Students may continue to seek and apply for scholarships throughout their education. scholarships.umbc.edu



Payments

Payments are made through the payment portal. You can submit an international payment by selecting "Make a Payment" -> "International Payment"

Wire transfer is available, contact Student Business Services for more information sbs.umbc.edu/contact-info

Bills and Due Dates

UMBC issues all bills electronically. Info about accessing bills and your account is found on the SBS website at sbs.umbc.edu

- **To access your e-bill:** Login to myUMBC, select Billing & Personal Finances under Guide and click on Payments & Billing
- Due dates depend on when you register. Please reference the SBS E-billing Schedule on their website.
- Payment plans are available

TRANSPORTATION

UMBC Transit

The Campus shuttle is free for students!

UMBC Transit is a robust, free campus shuttle available members of the UMBC community. The shuttle provides service to many surrounding areas. **You must show a student ID to board.** Check out UMBC transit routes and maps at transit.umbc.edu.

"Always rely in the schedule of the transit busses and look out for your closest UMBC bus stop. Also make sure to arrive 5 mins early to your UMBC bus stop."

-Sourab



Public Transportation

MTA (Maryland Transport Authority)

Use MTA public transport options to travel throughout Baltimore and surrounding areas. Options include bus, metro, and light rail. Student Fare: \$1.50 per trip, All Access College Transit Pass: \$57.00 per month Routes and more info at mta.maryland.gov.

Cham City Circulator

The Charm City Circulator is a **free** shuttle that travels to popular locations and stops in Baltimore city center. Learn more [here](#).

Driving in the US

If you plan to drive in the US, you are **required** to obtain a **valid** US driver's license. More information can be found on the [ISSS website](#) and on the [MVA website](#).

- If you plan to park on campus, you will also need to register for a free [parking permit](#).
- Students may drive with a valid international license for up to 1 year after arrival in the US.

Shady Grove Parking & Transport

Refer to pages 24-26 for info about USG parking and area transportation options



Ride-Share

Popular ride-share options available:

- Uber
- Lyft

Don't forget to tip your driver in the app!

Car Rentals

Many car rental companies will rent to students over 18 with a valid MD driver's license. They will also have insurance you can purchase. ZipCar offers prepaid hourly car rentals.

Trains & Buses

Bus:

- There are a number of affordable long-haul bus companies. Some options are: Greyhound, BoltBus, Megabus, Peterpan
- These buses have service to all major cities and states.

Train:

- MARC - Maryland train system, travels from Baltimore to DC, and surrounding areas. The closest MARC station to UMBC is the Halethorpe station.
- Amtrak - US-wide train network

Plane:

- The closest airports to UMBC are:
 - BWI- 7 miles away (Accessible by UMBC transit)
 - DCA- 40 miles away
 - IAD- 55 miles away

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

AOK Library

The Albin O. Kuhn library hosts not only UMBC's vast library collection, but much more including:

- Study space
- Copying and printing services
- Digital Media Lab
- Equipment rental
- Research help
- In-person workshops
- Innovation Lab (maker space)

Librarians are available to help you find the resources you need so be sure to familiarize yourself with this space!

"At the library, if I have a group discussion I book a group study room. If I want to study alone, an individual study room, or if I just want to study and chill then there is RLC, which is open (24/7)" -Sirisha



Academic Success Center

The Academic Success Center provides supports to all UMBC undergraduate students including:

- Tutoring Services
- Peer Assisted Study Sessions
- Academic Advocates

A complete list of services and instructions for accessing them can be found at academicsuccess.umbc.edu.

Commonvision

Commonvision is UMBC's student design and print center. Look [here](#) for their free zines and games! Visit commonvision.umbc.edu for a full list of services.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a vital ethical commitment of the UMBC community. View resources to help you understand and avoid accidental plagiarism at academicconduct.umbc.edu.

Departmental Resources

Many departments offer resources and supports for their students. Connect with your department early on to discover what is available to you. Find your department at umbc.edu/academics/colleges

Grad Student and Postdoctoral Development

The office of Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Development ([GSPD](https://gspd.umbc.edu)) is the hub of professional development for all graduate students and postdocs at UMBC. gspd.umbc.edu

Research Opportunities

UMBC is classified as an R1 institution meaning there is a high level of research activity on campus. See how you can be involved!

Undergraduate Opportunities at: ur.umbc.edu
Graduate Opportunities at: research.umbc.edu/graduate-assistantships

GSA Writing Advisor

The GSA Writing Advisor assists graduate students with any writing project/assignment across all curricula. The Writing Advisor can help at any stage in the writing process. Schedule an appointment at gsa.umbc.edu/writing-advisor

MYUMBC & TECH RESOURCES

myUMBC

MyUMBC is your gateway to UMBC services, information, and connections to the campus community. You can:

- Access your profile and other apps
- Update your contact information and manage your campus card.
- Discover campus events and student orgs

Set up your account at: my.umbc.edu/account

Do not share your myUMBC password with anyone! This information is private to you.



Technology Requirements

To help ensure students are equipped for academic success, UMBC requires all students to be technologically self-sufficient. This requires students to have a reliable laptop computer and internet access. For more information or assistance visit doit.umbc.edu/students.

Duo 2-Step Authentication

In an effort to enhance the security of your online account, students, faculty, and staff at UMBC are [required to use Duo Multi-Factor Authentication](#) (MFA). When traveling, ensure that the authenticator apps you choose are compatible with your destination's network regulations. [More information here.](#)

Software

UMBC offers students a selection of software and services available for download.

- A full list of software available to students and how to download is found [here](#).

UMBC Email

UMBC email is hosted by Gmail. **It is strongly recommended that students check their UMBC email account on a daily basis.**

View the UMBC email FAQ page [here](#)

Blackboard

Blackboard is UMBC's course management system. You can view all of your courses, submit assignments, view presentations and recorded lectures, and check your grades.

- Access Blackboard at blackboardblackboard.umbc.edu



“Since all assignments and updates are made through the blackboard, it is important to constantly access blackboard to check for updates”
- Jiwon

Webex

Your online lectures and virtual meetings will typically be hosted on Webex. Each student will have a personal Webex room to host meetings and can also join meetings via links provided.

- Get started with Webex at emservices.umbc.edu/webex

Questions about UMBC technology resources?

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) has an extensive FAQ page in case you ever need help troubleshooting. Find the FAQ and how to submit a help ticket at: help.umbc.edu

PHONE & BANK

Cellphone Plans

There are a number of options to obtain service and a local phone number. Most students start out with a sim card for the first few months. Then they set up a service with a contract (prepaid option).

Many students use wi-fi to access communication apps such as WhatsApp and WeChat when they arrive.



■ CampusSIMS Mint Mobile:

US phone number and service immediately upon arrival. You pay ahead for a designated amount of credit. Order a SIM [here](#).

■ Contract/Prepaid plan:

Most service operates on contract plans. Contracts are usually 2 years in length for the cheapest option. With a contract, you pay a prepaid amount on a monthly basis.

■ Pay-as-you-go (PAYG):

Similar to CampusSims. You purchase credit as needed with a local carrier.

Local Carriers

Compare plan options across carriers to determine the best plan for you. For directions to local carriers, click [here](#).

Local carriers. Some with offices near UMBC:

- T-Mobile Catonsville
- T-Mobile Landsdowne
- Verizon
- AT&T
- Boost Mobile

Opening a US Bank Account

Having a US bank account may be necessary to make it easier to process transactions. Fees and interest rates will depend on the financial institution. To open an account, you will need documents to prove your identity and your residency. Call ahead or check the bank's website to confirm what documents to provide.

Required documents usually include:

- Passport
- I-20
- Proof of address
- Initial deposit

Ask your bank at home if they have branches or affiliates in the US to make the process easier.



Local Banks

Click [here](#) for more information about banking

- PNC Banks (location on campus)
 - Will come to campus before the semester starts and offer account applications.
- Bank of America
- Maryland State Employees Credit Union (ATM on Campus)
- Wells Fargo

Exchanging Money

Check with your financial institutions about any fees or interest rates when exchanging money between your bank at home and your US bank.

ATMs are available on campus to withdraw cash. There is usually a transaction fee.

HEALTH & SUPPORT

Retriever Integrated Health (RIH)- Health Services

RIH provides outpatient primary care clinical services, health programming, and outreach. Services include:

- Diagnosis of acute illnesses
- Immunizations
- Routine physicals and more

Located in the Center for Well-Being.

More information at health.umbc.edu

UMBC hosts annual vaccine clinics on campus for flu shots and Covid19 vaccines (when available). Watch for dates to be announced in the fall!



Retriever Integrated Health - Counseling Services

The Counseling Center offers **free** and confidential counseling services and workshops to all registered UMBC students.

More information at health.umbc.edu

Student Support Groups

RIH hosts a range of support groups where students gather to share the challenges and struggles they are facing. Check out which groups are currently running and get more information at: my3.my.umbc.edu/groups/health

Women's Center

The Women's Center advances gender equity from an intersectional feminist perspective through co-curricular programming, support services, and advocacy for marginalized individuals and communities. Located in the Commons

Initiatives for Identity, Inclusion & Belonging (i3b)

Initiatives for Identity, Inclusion & Belonging (i3b) co-creates opportunities for students of all social identities to learn in spaces where they are seen, heard, and valued for their full selves.

Physical Spaces include:

- The Gathering Space for Spiritual Well-Being (Religious spaces)
 - 103, Center for Wellbeing
- The Pride Center (LGBTQIA2+ spaces)
 - 101, University Center
- The Mosaic: Center for Culture and Diversity
 - 2B23, The Commons

Retriever Essentials

Retriever Essentials is dedicated to ensuring all students have access to sufficient food & essential goods. Their mission is to eliminate food insecurity in the UMBC community.

Retriever Essentials operates a food pantry located on campus as well as a designated collection point for pre-packaged food bags.

More information at

retrieveressentials.umbc.edu

Student Disability Services (SDS)

Student Disability Services (SDS) coordinates accommodations for UMBC students with documented disabilities, as well as those with temporarily disabling conditions and injuries, who experience barriers that may require accommodations in order to have equal access and participation in the University's classes, activities, and housing.

More information at sds.umbc.edu

STAYING SAFE

UMBC Police

Students on campus can call UMBC Police in case of emergencies. Contact them by dialing **410-455-5555**.



Blue Light call stations are located on campus for emergencies. Simply press the button to talk directly with UMBC Police.

E2 Alerts

UMBC uses the E2Campus emergency text-messaging system to send alerts about campus emergencies or weather-related campus closures.

To sign up for E2Campus alerts, see wiki.umbc.edu/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=5242958.

UMBC at Shady Grove alerts

UMBC-Shady Grove follows USG's campus alerts. Sign up for USG campus alerts [here](#)



Office of Equity and Civil Rights

You can report instances of non-emergent harassment, misconduct, or discrimination to the Office of Equity and Civil Rights by submitting this online form: ecr.umbc.edu/report. More information and additional resources are available at ecr.umbc.edu

Driving and the Law

A valid driver's license is required to drive in the US. If you receive a ticket for speeding or other traffic violations, you may need to pay a fine. Review the different types of traffic violations at peoples-law.org/traffic-citations.

Drinking and driving, or Driving Under the Influence (DUI), is illegal and may result in deportation.

Emergency Numbers

National emergency number: **911**

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: **988**

Keep emergency numbers saved on your phone for quick access!

Substance Use

Alcohol and Tobacco

The minimum legal age to drink alcohol or purchase tobacco products is 21. For international students and scholars, breaking this law can affect your visa status and result in deportation.

UMBC is a smoke free campus.

Drugs

Cannabis (marijuana) is legal to purchase in Maryland for adults 21 and over. However, cannabis is still illegal under federal law. Immigration laws are at the federal level, and as such international students and scholars can be deported or barred from entry for marijuana use or other recreational drugs.

SOCIAL EVENTS & CLUBS

Involvement Fest!

Are you looking to get involved on campus? Involvement Fest occurs at the beginning of the semester. Come meet the over 200 student organizations at UMBC. Preview the groups here: my3.my.umbc.edu/groups/studentorgs

Remember: You can also start your own group!



“Pick a thing that you like, message the club, they’ll be happy to guide you and welcome you to their practice/meetings/events.” -Sourab

Student Government Association

The UMBC SGA organizes undergraduate students to create community, support co-curricular and academic experiences, and gives a voice to students. sga.umbc.edu

Graduate Student Association

[GSA](https://gsa.umbc.edu) represents the interests and concerns of UMBC graduate students, by providing a forum for discussions and recommendations on matters involving graduate students & welfare. They also arrange events and sponsor the Graduate Experience, Achievements & Research Symposium (GEARS) gsa.umbc.edu

ISSS Events

The Office of International Students and Scholars hosts social events for international students throughout the year. Come join us for apple picking, coffee hour, summer send-off and more! Follow us at my3.my.umbc.edu/groups/ies or on instagram @umbc_iss

Student Events Board (seb)

([seb](https://seb.umbc.edu)) plans undergraduate campus events, including live music, movie nights, trips, and more, Give yourself a break and enjoy time with friends. ([seb](https://seb.umbc.edu)) provides the UMBC community with opportunities to create and shape campus life into an active and enriching environment. seb.umbc.edu

Annual Events

UMBC holds annual events that you won’t want to miss including, but not limited to:

- Welcome Week
- Involvement Fest
- Homecoming
- Alternative Spring Break
- Graduation

Keep up with the campus events calendar at my.umbc.edu/events

Club Sports and Intramurals

While some Club Sports practice informally once or twice a week, others seek to compete at the regional or national level. Certified instructors and coaches work with these clubs to hone skills and build competitive teams. Check out the teams at recreation.umbc.edu/club-sports and recreation.umbc.edu/intramurals

Education Abroad

Go abroad as a UMBC student! It’s a great way to acquire global and intercultural skills. Take advantage of the opportunity to earn credits towards your major, minor, and GEP requirements while also engaging in what many students call the most meaningful experience of their education. studyabroad.umbc.edu

THINGS TO DO ON CAMPUS

The Commons

The Commons is the hub of student life. Situated in the middle of campus, it is the place to go before, between and after classes. Eat, study and relax here.

"The commons is my favorite spot on campus, you get to sit with friends, work on projects, watch sports games in the sport zone, eat and so much more." -Praise



UMBC Dining

In addition to the True Grits dining hall, UMBC has many delicious places to eat on campus. Pick up a favorite or try something new!

- Starbucks
- Chick-fil-A
- Einstein Bros. Bagels
- Halal Shack

The Gameroom

A favorite spot to socialize for many UMBC students! Take a break and have some fun. There's billiards, tvs, ping pong, board games and more! It's a great way to meet people!

Retriever Activities Center (RAC)

The RAC is UMBC's fitness and recreation facility. Activities include: workout spaces (cardiovascular and weights), group fitness, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, indoor track, basketball/volleyball/badminton courts, outdoor tennis courts, and more! Check it out at recreation.umbc.edu

"I like to go work out in the RAC. It helps me stay fit, social, and focused" -Sourab



Bookstore

Found right in the heart of campus, buy or rent books, sell your old books, and find UMBC-branded apparel, coffee mugs, dorm supplies, and more. bookstore.umbc.edu/home

Trails

UMBC has two nature trails on campus that you can explore for a taste of the outdoors. Checkout:

- The Herbert Run Greenway- hrg.umbc.edu
- CERA Trail - ges.umbc.edu/cera

UMBC Athletics

Come cheer on the UMBC Retrievers at one of their home games! Many games are free or low cost for students and are held on campus.



Find events to attend at tickets.umbc.edu

Arts at UMBC

Many performances and exhibits are free or low cost to students including:

- Theatre
- Dance
- Music
- Galleries

Find events to attend at tickets.umbc.edu or on myUMBC.

Observatory

The UMBC Observatory houses a research-grade telescope and lives right on top of the Physics building! They host free events open to the community.

my3.my.umbc.edu/groups/observatory

EXPLORE AROUND CAMPUS

Arbutus

Arbutus is less than 1 mile away from campus and a great place to go out to eat, shop, or see a movie. Be sure not to miss the annual Arbutus Arts Festival usually held in late spring. arbutusartsfestival.com

OCA Mocha

A coffee shop, multi-use space, and event center. OCA Mocha is a catalyst to create genuine symbiotic relationships between UMBC and its surrounding communities. ocamochoa.com

Historic Catonsville

Less than 2 miles away from campus, and accessible via UMBC Transit, downtown Catonsville is a chill place to visit shops, restaurants, services, and more. They often host community events as well, check out their calendar for more information www.catonsvilleartsdistrict.org

Extend Beyond Campus

Many local businesses have special deals for UMBC students and families throughout the year. We encourage you to explore beyond the campus and see everything our broader community has to offer ogrca.umbc.edu/extend-beyond-campus

Old Ellicott City

More than just a historic and shopping district, Old Ellicott City feels like home, even when it's your first time visiting. Fall in love with the architecture, river, hills and eclectic community full of artists, shop keepers, restauranters and residents. visitoldellicottcity.com

Patapsco State Park

Patapsco Valley State Park encompasses 16,043 acres and eight developed recreational areas which include hiking, fishing, camping, canoeing, horseback and mountain bike trails, as well as picnicking for individuals or large groups in the park's many popular pavilions. There are 70 miles of maintained trails. The park is open to the public, but there is a small entrance fee that changes with the seasons. dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands

Baltimore City

Accessible by UMBC Transit, downtown Baltimore boasts museums, dining, theater, historical sites, and more. Some popular events include:

- Baltimore Ravens games (football)
- Baltimore Orioles games (baseball)
- International Edgar Allan Poe Festival
- Artscape
- Maryland Film Festival
- Baltimore Running Festival
- And much more!

Learn more at: baltimore.org/events

Washington DC

Washington DC, is the capital city and federal district of the United States. You can take UMBC transit to the Halethorpe station and then travel straight to DC via MARC train. There is so much to do in the city including:

- Smithsonian Museums
- Visit U.S. historical sites
- Dining and Nightlife
- Annual Cherry Blossom Festival
- Cultural and holiday celebrations

Learn more at: washington.org

GROCERIES AND DINING

Grocery Stores Near UMBC

Many of these stores are very close to off-campus housing and accessible via UMBC transit.

- Giant
- Safeway
- Shoppers
- Weis
- Aldi
- Lidl

There is a large selection of the international grocers in the area:

- H-Mart (Korean)
- Orchard Market & Café (Persian)
- SuperFresh Halal Meats & Grocery
- Patel Brothers (Indian)
- Great Wall Asian Supermarket (Chinese)
- Lotte Plaza (Asian) (Halal meat)
- Heritage International Foods (African)

Local Farmers Markets

Want farm fresh produce from local vendors? Visit one of the area's farmers markets. Some markets have limited hours or open certain months. Check websites for hours.

- Catonsville Sunday Farmer's Market
- Baltimore Lexington Market
- Baltimore Farmer's Market & Bazaar
- Cross Street Market in Baltimore's Federal Hill

Food, banks, and local services at USG

UMBC at Shady Grove Students refer to page 24 - 26 for more information on shopping and service in the Rockville area



"The Commons has microwaves to warm up for food if you are bringing it from home." -Nastaran



Online Food Ordering and Delivery:

Want to order your groceries online or have a meal delivered? Use one of the websites/apps below. *Delivery drivers expect to be tipped!*

- Instacart
- Uber Eats
- Door Dash
- Seamless
- Grubhub

Grocery & Food Delivery Services

Many online grocery & food services offer discounts on first orders & contactless delivery. Don't forget to tip the driver!



Dining Off Campus

There are many restaurants near campus. Some have seating and others offer take away.

Here are a few tips for eating out:

- It is expected that you will tip servers at sit-down restaurants. 15% or more is customary.
- Other places will sometimes ask for tips, it is at your discretion if you would like to tip.
- Many restaurants have apps that offer deals or lower prices.
- Some restaurants in Arbutus offer discounts for UMBC students.

SHOPPING

Everyday Goods

There are a numerous large retail stores where you can purchase household necessities, furniture and supplies. For larger and longer distance trips, a car is recommended.

Everyday goods and some furniture:

- Target, Walmart, Big Lots, Dollar Tree

Furniture & decor:

- IKEA, HomeGoods, TJ Maxx

Hardware:

- Ace Hardware, Home Depot, Lowes

Electronics:

- BestBuy, Target, Walmart

Pharmacies

Visit a pharmacy for health, medicine and wellness products. Some large grocery stores will also have a prescription pharmacy inside.

Pharmacies near UMBC campus include:

- CVS Pharmacy
- Rite-Aid Pharmacy
- Walgreens Pharmacy

“Take some time to explore the local area and identify nearby grocery stores, pharmacies, convenience stores, and other essential shops.” - Jervon



Malls

There are a number of shopping malls in the area including:

- Arundel Mills
- Columbia Mall
- Security Square Mall
- Mondawmin

Be sure to consult the transit map before planning your trip!

Bring Your Own Bag!

By law, stores in Maryland charge a small fee for paper and reusable plastic bags. Bring your own reusable bag to save your wallet and the environment!



Clothing Stores

Outlet malls are a large group of stores selling items made by particular companies at a lower price. Outlet malls will have stores from major brands, such as Nike, Levi's, and The North Face. Nearby outlet mall: Arundel Mills Mall

Discount stores sell items at a reduced price. Nearby stores: TJMaxx, Marshalls, and Ross.

Thrift stores sell second-hand items, meaning they have been used before. Thrift stores have a great variety of clothes and household items. Many items are in great to almost new condition. Neary stores: Goodwill, Finders Keepers, Value Village

Savings Tips

Make sure you check for specials, including student discounts, when making purchases, online or in-person.

- Grocery stores usually update their store specials on a weekly basis
- Create an account with your phone number for discounts at some stores.
- You can also look at online coupon websites or the Sunday newspaper for coupons to save extra
- Check out local student discounts at sga.umbc.edu/initiatives/student-discounts/

JOBS & INTERNSHIPS

F-1 Work Authorization

F-1 students have several work options available within the regulations. Visit the [ISSS website](#) for more details.

On-campus work

F-1 students are eligible to work on-campus without prior approval from the ISSS office. Students can work part time (up to 20 hours/week) during the fall and spring semesters. Students can work full time (more than 20 hours) during the summer and winter breaks.

Off-campus work

Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

F-1 students become eligible for CPT after completing two full academic semesters (fall and spring) in the US. Positions must be related to the student's program major. Students must receive approval from ISSS before working.

Optional Practical Training (OPT)

F-1 students who completed their program requirements are eligible to work for 1 year during OPT. Prior approval is required.

After OPT approval, students can work for multiple employers or change employers. Positions can be paid or unpaid. However, the job must be related to the student's program major. Students must also work a combined total of at least 20 hours/week during OPT.

F-1 students may also have the opportunity to extend their OPT an additional two years if they completed a [STEM-eligible degree](#). Talk to ISSS if you have more questions.

Check the Career Center's website for upcoming webinars, workshops, and career fairs! [careers.umbc.edu](#)



Career Center

The Career Center works with students at every academic level to provide students with skills and resources for work opportunities. [careers.umbc.edu](#)

Services include:

- Career advising
- Applied learning opportunities (internships, co-ops, and research)
- Networking events
- Career & professional skills education
- Recruiting
- Interviewing

"I highly recommend booking an appointment with the Career Center and get your resume reviewed to start applying for available on-campus jobs." -Kirthana



Taxes

International students are required to report their taxes every year. Taxes must be filed by April 15. The ISSS office will send out a newsletter in February about how to file tax returns and who to contact for questions. For more information, visit the ISSS ["Helpful Resources for Taxes"](#) web page.

The ISSS team are not tax professionals and therefore cannot provide tax advice. Please speak with a tax expert if you have specific concerns.

DISCOVER COMMUNITY AT UMBC

UMBC students are from over 100 countries! Connect with other UMBC International students before and after your arrival!



**Chat directly with current UMBC
Global Ambassadors on The
Ambassador Platform!**

globalstudent.umbc.edu/ask-a-student

**All admitted students are invited
to join a Buzz community group
on TAP to connect with other
students in their cohort.**

Check your email for more
information!



SHADY GROVE STUDENT INFO

What is UMBC - Shady Grove?

UMBC at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) is located in Rockville, Maryland. With select undergrad and grad programs available, USG offers the reputation of UMBC in a convenient location near Washington, D.C. USG has easy access to government agencies, contractors and major healthcare organizations. One of nine institutions at the Universities at Shady Grove, UMBC is part of a consortium of schools within the University System of Maryland (USM), which allows students to explore opportunities as they complete their UMBC degree.

The Universities at Shady Grove (USG) Student Services

USG's Student and Career Readiness centers support students from all of USG's nine partner universities. Service centers include the following:

Center for Career Development:

- Services: resumes, cover letter, mock interviews, job search, career coaching. [More info here](#)

Center for Counseling and Well-being:

- Services: personal & career counseling, individual, couples, & group counseling, and workshops. [More info here](#)

Macklin Center for Leadership & Communication:

- Services: academic coaching, disability support, student organizations, and leadership development and support. [More info here](#)

Center for Scholarships

- USG scholarships and financial support, financial wellness, emergency financial assistance, and food access. [More info here](#)

USG ID Card

A USG ID Card is required for all USG students to access USG campus services. Policy requires all students obtain and carry a USG ID card anytime they are on campus. **Request your USG ID card [here](#).**

USG Logon

Your USG Logon ID is the username used to access computers and other computer services at The Universities at Shady Grove. Please see more information regarding how to claim your USG Logon ID [here](#).

- If you need help accessing USG self-service portal or technical support, contact USG OIT (in Building III) contact info [here](#).

Dining and Grocery

- Dawson's Market at USG provides fresh food service in the café on the first floor of Building III (Monday-Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.). Their menu includes a variety of hot and cold food options, sweet treats, and beverages.
- Dawson's Market coffee shop serves coffee, tea, specialty drinks, and grab-n-go food items (Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
- The two Micro Market locations on campus - the first floor of building III and the first floor of building IV (BSE) - have snacks, beverages, microwavable foods, and coffee for purchase. Micro Markets are open whenever the campus is open.

There are several grocery store options near the USG campus including: Giant, Safeway, Trader Joe's, H Mart, and Lotte Plaza.



SHADY GROVE STUDENT INFO

USG Local Housing Resources

While USG does not offer on-campus, residential housing for students, there are rental options and opportunities available in the surrounding local community.

- Off-Campus Housing Guide: [Link here](#)
- Nearby suburbs: Gaithersburg, Rockville, Germantown, North Potomac, Derwood

Parking at USG

To park on the USG campus, students must purchase a parking permit, pay by the hour, or pay the daily visitor rate. Purchase permits and learn more [here](#).

- Student parking is located in the Shady Grove Garage and Parking Lot 1 during day hours.
- Students may park on level 2-6 of the Traville Gateway Garage only between 4 pm-6 am and all day on the weekends.
- Disabled parking is available in Lots 2, 4 and 5.

Course Sharing

Full-time UMBC students at USG are eligible to take part in course sharing through the other institutions at USG. [Click here](#) to learn more.

- If you find a “course shared” course that you want to register for, you must contact your Advisor for approval and complete the necessary paperwork (IIR form).
- The credits and grade earned will count as resident credit appear on the student transcript and count toward GPA calculations.

USG Priddy Library

UMBC students use their library code at Shady Grove for library reservations and to access UMBC’s Library online to print articles. You can find this number on your USG Campus ID Card. Please [visit USG’s Library website](#) to learn more.

- UMBC-Shady Grove students can access services offered through UMBC’s Albin O. Kuhn Library [here](#).

Don't forget: USG Campus ID required for UMBC-Shady Grove students

A USG ID Card is required for all USG students to access USG campus services. Request your card [here](#).



Transportation

Students can access public transportation in the area including Montgomery County’s Ride-On Bus System and Metrorail and Metrobus systems. Transit info and directions using the RideGuide found [here](#). More info regarding transportation options and services found [here](#).

Bank Locations Near USG

Local banks include:

- PNC Bank ATM (located inside Giant) 3 minute walk from campus
- Citibank ATM: 6 minute walk from campus (located near Trader Joe's grocery)



SHADY GROVE STUDENT INFO

Office of Information Technology

For IT-related needs and services at USG, please visit OIT [here](#).

USG Student Accommodations

UMBC-Shady Grove works very closely with UMBC's Student Disability Services (SDS) Office on the Catonsville campus to provide services for registered students with disabilities. Students with physical or learning disabilities who request accommodation services must register with SDS. [Applications and info here](#).

Weather & Emergency Alerts

UMBC-Shady Grove follows USG's campus closings, not UMBC-Main Campus. You can check on the status of closings by calling USG Student Services at 301-738-6000 or [sign up for campus alerts through E2Campus here](#).

Food Access

USG recognizes food insecurity can have a negative impact on physical, mental, and emotional health. USG offers on-site resource to increase food access and promote wellness. More info [here](#).

Student Life & Engagement

Students have many opportunities to be involved in student organizations and engage in activities on the USG campus. More info [here](#).

Campus Recreation Center (CRC)

The CRC provides students at the Universities at Shady Grove everything needed to maintain a healthy and fun lifestyle at an affordable price. The fitness center has a variety of resistance equipment along with an assortment of aerobic/cardio classes. Students can access strength training, free weights, cardiovascular & selected fitness equipment. Personal trainers are also available. [Learn more about CRC here](#)



Need more help? See below for important USG contacts

UMBC at The Universities at Shady Grove

- shadygrove.umbc.edu
- 301-738-6081
- Email: shadygrove@umbc.edu

Universities at Shady Grove

- shadygrove.umd.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus Contacts & Services

Find who to contact with your questions

Academic Advising (Graduate)

Search by program name and then go to department website for more information

<https://umbc.edu/admissions/graduate/graduate-degree-programs/>

- Grad student advising, credits & course loads, degree requirements

Academic Advising (Undergraduate)

Academic & Pre-Professional Advising (410-455-2729)
advising@umbc.edu advising.umbc.edu

- UG student advising, credit & course load info, degree requirements

Academic Advising (Undergrad) Pre-Medical, Pre-Dental

Academic & Pre-Professional Advising (410-455-2729)
<https://alliedhealth.umbc.edu>

- UG student advising for students in pre-professional programs

Adding or Dropping Courses

Registrar's Office (410-455-2500)
Sherman Hall B-Wing 221

registrar@umbc.edu registrar.umbc.edu

- Adding & dropping courses, enrollment, & pre-requisite policies

Billing, Tuition, & Fees

Student Business Services (410-455-2288)
Administration Building, 3rd Floor

sbs@umbc.edu sbs.umbc.edu

- Paying tuition & fees, payment plans & resolving financial holds

Campus Life, Clubs, & Organizations

Campus Life (410-455-3462)

campuslife@umbc.edu campuslife.umbc.edu

Community Service & Engagement

Shriver Center (410-455-2493)

shrivercenter.umbc.edu

- Service learning, leadership, community & civic engagement opportunities

Disability Services

Student Disability Services (410-455-2459)

sds.umbc.edu

- General info/accommodated testing: disAbility@umbc.edu Note-taking inquiry: sdsnotetaking@umbc.edu
- Test/exam accommodations, note-taking assistance, interpreting/transcribing services, alternate format for printed or inaccessible text, assistive technology, accessible housing

Office of Equity and Civil Rights

Office of Equity and Civil Rights (410-455-1717)

ecr.umbc.edu

- Report instances of non-emergency cases of harassment, discrimination, and hate

Emergencies

UMBC Police (410-455-5555) or 911

police@umbc.edu police.umbc.edu

English Language Support

English Language Institute, contact: eli@umbc.edu

eli.umbc.edu

Health Services

Retriever Integrated Health - Health Services

Location: The Center for Well-Being

(410-455-2542) rih@umbc.edu uhs.umbc.edu

- On-campus health clinic, medical services
- My Retriever Care: myretrievercare.umbc.edu/

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus Contacts & Services

Find who to contact with your questions

Fitness, Sport & Recreation

RAC (Retriever Activities Center)
(410-455-8888) recreation.umbc.edu

- Gym, sports clubs, intramurals, group fitness

Food Insecurity

Retriever Essentials retrieveressentials@umbc.edu
retrieveressentials.umbc.edu

- Access to essential food and goods for emergency situations

Gender Equity Support & Resources

Women's Center (410-455-2714)
womenscenter@umbc.edu womenscenter.umbc.edu

- Programming, support, & advocacy for marginalized communities

Graduate Student Association (GSA)

Graduate Student Association (410-455-2773)
gsa@umbc.edu gsa.umbc.edu

- Grad student orgs, research, writing support, GEARS

International Student Support

International Student & Scholar Service (ISSS)
issss.umbc.edu Contact: issss.umbc.edu/contact/

- Support, programming & services for UMBC's international community

Inclusion & Belonging

i3b: Initiatives for Identity, Inclusion & Belonging
i3b@umbc.edu i3b.umbc.edu

- Culture & diversity resources, LGBTQ+ support, religion & spirituality resources

Jobs, Internships, & Career Planning

Career Center (410-455-2216)
careers@umbc.edu careers.umbc.edu

- Resources, workshops & career planning services

Library

Albin O. Kuhn (AOK) Library 410-455-2232
aok@umbc.edu library.umbc.edu

- Access books, databases & materials, study space, technology rental

Mailing Services

Retriever Card Center & Mail Services
(443-612-2273) campuscard.umbc.edu

- Postage & shipping services

Mental Health & Wellbeing

Retriever Integrated Health - Counseling Center
(410-455-2472) counseling@umbc.edu
counseling.umbc.edu

- Free, confidential counseling services, mental health & wellbeing support for students

Off-Campus Housing

Retriever Support Services (410-455-2770)
<https://studentaffairs.umbc.edu/student-support/retriever-support-services/mission/>

- Finding off campus housing; leasing info, housing policies

On-Campus Housing

Residential Life (410-455-2591)
reslife@umbc.edu reslife.umbc.edu

- Campus housing, residence halls & apartments

Parking

Parking Services [Request Help](#)
(410-455-2551) parking.umbc.edu

- Parking permits, parking rules, regulations

Printing & Design Services

Commonvision (410-455-1884)
commonvision@umbc.edu
commonvision.umbc.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus Contacts & Services

Find who to contact with your questions

Registration & Enrollment

Registrar's Office (410-455-2500)
registrar@umbc.edu registrar.umbc.edu

- Enrollment, registering for classes & pre-requisite requirements, graduation progression

Scholarships

Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships
(410-455-2387) financialaid.umbc.edu

- Administration & information about UMBC scholarships

UMBC at Shady Grove Information

UMBC at The Universities at Shady Grove:
(301-738-6081) shadygrove@umbc.edu
shadygrove.umbc.edu

- Support for UMBC students attending the Universities at Shady Grove campus

Student Identification Cards

Retriever Card Center & Mail Services
(443-612-2273) campuscard.umbc.edu

- Getting a student ID card, lost or damaged campus card, meal plan info

Study Abroad as a UMBC student

Education Abroad (410-455-8175)
educationabroad@umbc.edu
studyabroad.umbc.edu

- Education abroad opportunities for current UMBC students

Technology Support

Technology Support Center (410-455-3838)
doit.umbc.edu

- Assistance with email accounts, software, campus network, lab use, Blackboard

Transcripts

Registrar's Office registrar@umbc.edu
(410-455-2500) registrar.umbc.edu

- Requesting transcripts & transcript evaluation

Tutoring & Academic Support (Undergrad)

Academic Success Center (410-455-2444)
academicsuccess@umbc.edu
academicsuccess.umbc.edu

- Peer tutoring services for 100-300 level courses, academic policy information & placement testing

UMBC Transportation

UMBC Transit (410-455-3974) transit@umbc.edu
umbc.edu/transit

- Campus and surrounding shuttle service

24 Hour Study Spaces (including printer & computer access)

Retriever Learning Center (410-455-2232)
aok@umbc.edu library.umbc.edu

- Computers, printing services, study rooms, tutoring centers, whiteboards

Source: [Undergraduate New Student Orientation & Advising Guide](#)