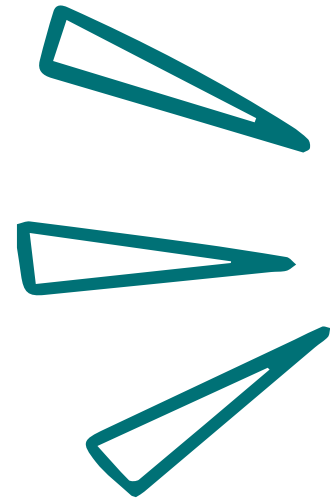
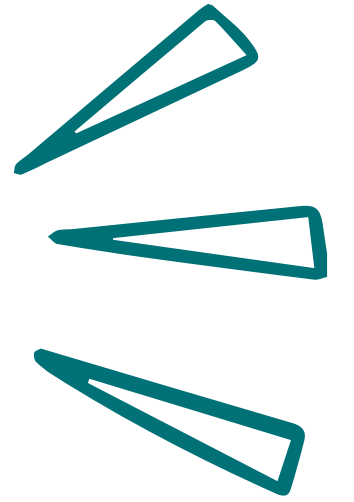


International Student General Info Session



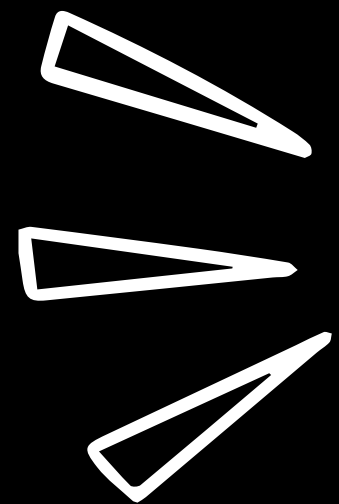


Please type questions in the chat!

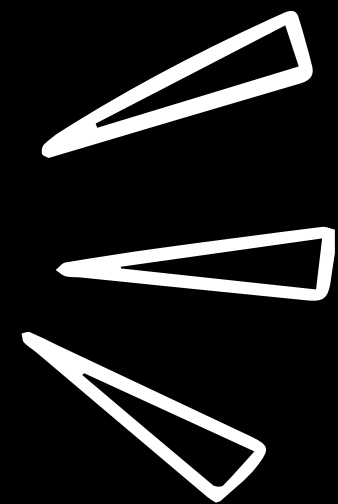


*You may type your questions into the chat at any point
during the presentation!*





Working with OISS



Center for Global Engagement

Office of International Students and Scholars

[Home](#) ▼[F-1 Students](#) ▼[J-1 Exchange Visitors](#) ▼[Int'l Employees](#) ▼[Families](#) ▼[Resources](#) ▼[ISSS Portal](#)

CPT: Off-Campus
Work Authorization



Social Security Numbers
(SSN)



Travel Outside the US



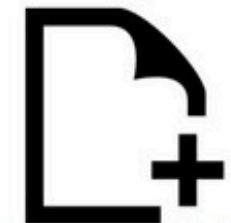
Applying for a Maryland
Driver's License or State ID



OPT: Post-Graduation
Work Authorization



STEM OPT Extension



Extend Your F-1 Program
(I-20)



Change of Immigration
Status



New Students!
Download the International Student
Arrival Guide



COVID-19: Spring 2022 Options for
New and Continuing F-1 Students



Something else?
See how to contact ISSS

**If you have a question, be sure to
check our website first!**

Here you can find:

- Step-by-step guides
- Information about your documents
- Work Authorization Checklists
- Link to the ISSS Portal
- and More!



How to contact OISS

Visit our Contact Us page!
issss.umbc.edu/contact



Help Ticket

Use the Help Ticket system to send and receive messages.



Virtual Appointment

Schedule a 15 minute virtual advising appointment



Walk-In

In person meeting with an ISSS advisor



OISS Office



We are a part of the



CENTER FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

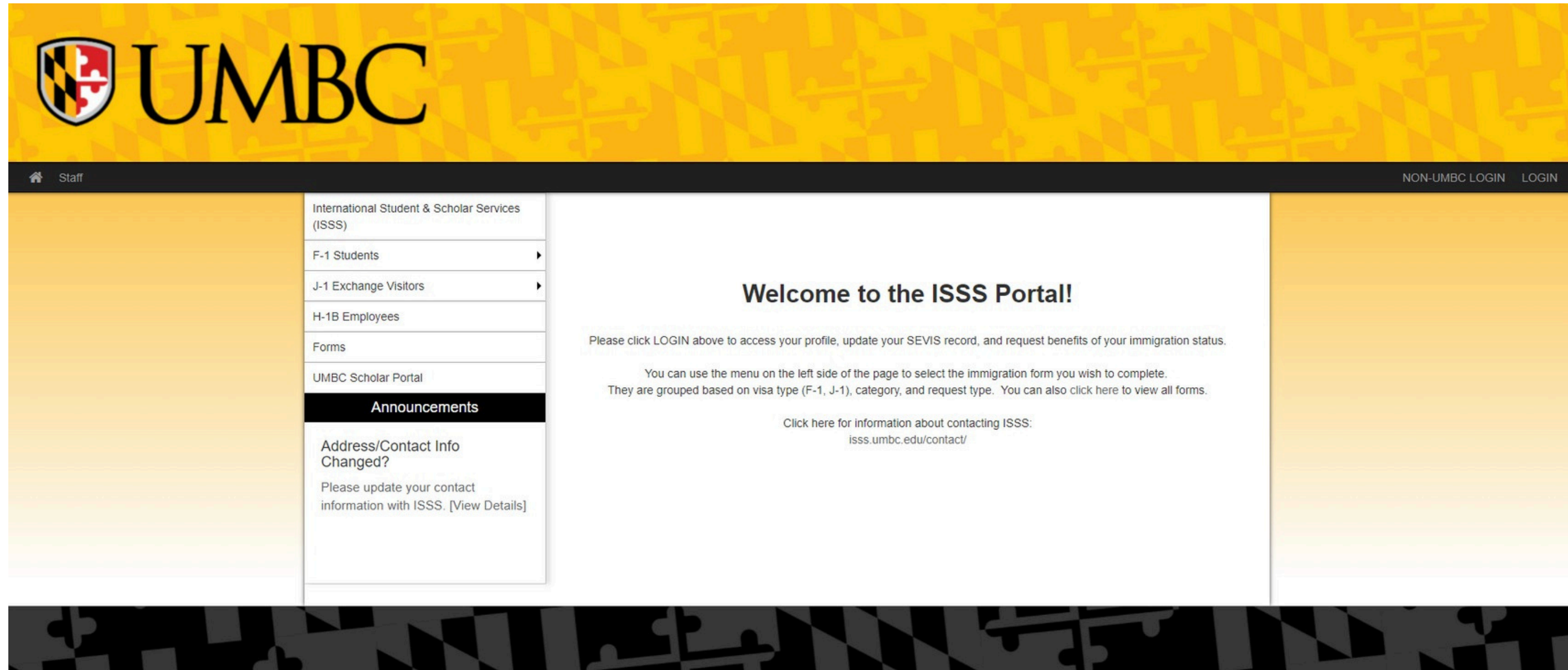
University Center, 207a

M-F 8:30-4:30



ISSS Portal

Complete all electronic requests via the ISSS Portal



The screenshot displays the UMBC ISSS Portal interface. At the top, the UMBC logo is on the left, and navigation links for "Staff", "NON-UMBC LOGIN", and "LOGIN" are on the right. A left sidebar menu includes links for "International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS)", "F-1 Students", "J-1 Exchange Visitors", "H-1B Employees", "Forms", "UMBC Scholar Portal", and an "Announcements" section. The main content area features a "Welcome to the ISSS Portal!" message, instructions to click "LOGIN" for profile access and SEVIS record updates, and a link to the contact page (iss.umbc.edu/contact/). The footer has a decorative pattern.

 **UMBC**

Staff NON-UMBC LOGIN LOGIN

International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS)

F-1 Students ▶

J-1 Exchange Visitors ▶

H-1B Employees

Forms

UMBC Scholar Portal

Announcements

Address/Contact Info Changed?

Please update your contact information with ISSS. [\[View Details\]](#)

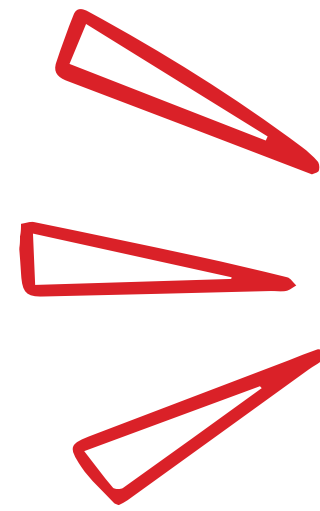
Welcome to the ISSS Portal!

Please click LOGIN above to access your profile, update your SEVIS record, and request benefits of your immigration status.

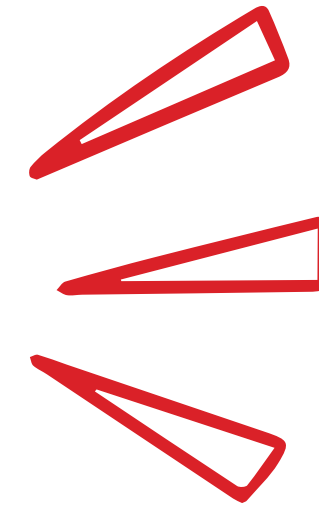
You can use the menu on the left side of the page to select the immigration form you wish to complete. They are grouped based on visa type (F-1, J-1), category, and request type. You can also click here to view all forms.

Click here for information about contacting ISSS:
iss.umbc.edu/contact/





Important



- **Always confirm your request's status is: "Submitted - Under review"**
If the status is "Pending" it is in draft form and we will not process it.
- We will contact you if there is an issue with your request. If you have any questions about the status, please submit a ticket!

Your patience is greatly appreciated!



Stay connected with OISS



myUMBC Group:
International Student and
Scholar Services (ISSS)



OISS website:
iss.s.umbc.edu

Answers to most of your
questions can be found here!



ISSS Portal:
iss.s-portal.umbc.edu



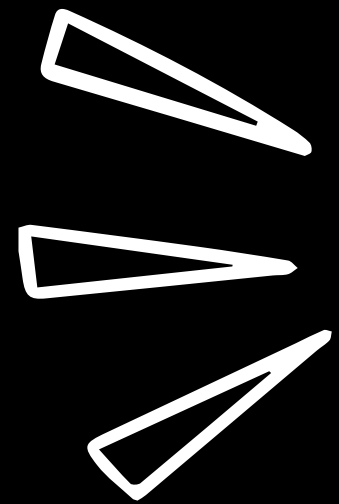
Contact Us:
iss.s.umbc.edu/contact



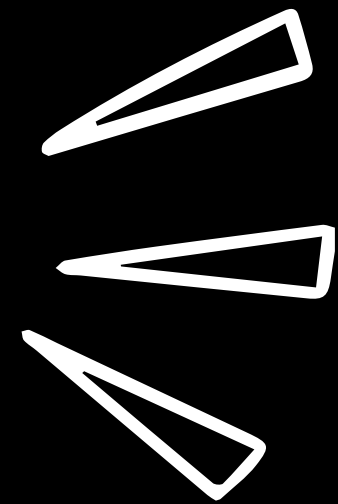
Instagram:
[@umbc_iss](https://www.instagram.com/umbc_iss)

Check your personal and UMBC email frequently for updates!

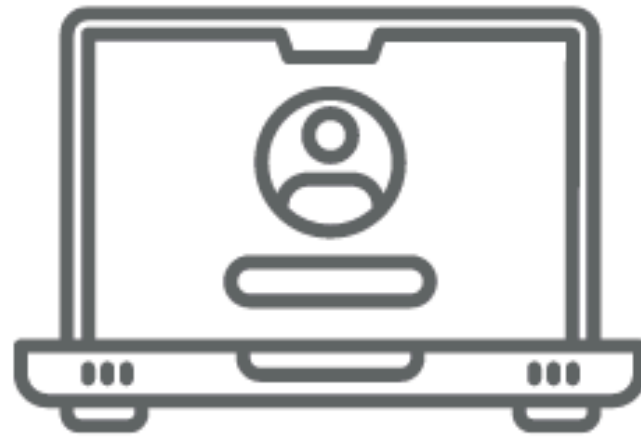




Requesting an I-20



Requesting a UMBC I-20



1

Log-in to the ISSS
portal with your
myUMBC credentials

There is no cost to request a UMBC I-20

- Activate your myUMBC account
- Visit issportal.umbc.edu
- Select "Log in with myUMBC"





LOGIN

International Student & Scholar Services
(ISSS)

F-1 Students



J-1 Exchange Visitors



H-1B Employees

Forms

UMBC Scholar Portal (J-1 ONLY)

Announcements

Current Processing Times

Please allow 7 business days for
your ISSS Portal request to be
processed. [View Details]

Welcome to the ISSS Portal!

If you are an F-1 or J-1 student, click LOGIN above to access your profile, update your SEVIS record, and request benefits of your immigration status.

You can use the menu on the left side of the page to select the immigration form you wish to complete. They are grouped based on visa type (F-1, J-1), category, and request type. You can also click here to view all forms.

See here for information about contacting ISSS: iss.s.umbc.edu/contact/

If you are a J-1 researcher or visiting scholar, or a faculty/staff member making a request on behalf of a *J-1 employee*, click the button below to access the UMBC Scholar Portal.

UMBC Scholar Portal Login





User Login

If you are an admitted or enrolled UMBC student in F-1 status, or UMBC faculty/staff, click the myUMBC log in button. If you are a student on OPT or STEM OPT, or you are an admitted or enrolled UMBC student who is in the U.S. and plans to change from a different immigration status to F-1, click the ISSS Portal log in button.

Log in with myUMBC

Log in with ISSS Portal account



Requesting a UMBC I-20



2

Select “New
F-1 Student
Request”

- Click “Search Forms”
- Then select “New F-1 Student Request”
- Select Start Term
 - Fall = August Start Date
 - Spring = January Start Date
 - Term is listed on your admissions offer



User Home Page : Sarah Wong - My Home Page

[Search Forms](#)

Records

Fall, 2026

New Arrival Documentation Check-in (ID 159144)	Withdrawn: Pre-decision Reinstate
---	---

Fall, 2025

New F-1 Student Request (ID 137651)	Withdrawn: Pre-decision
--	--------------------------------

Request, 2025

Letter Request (ID 140369)	Withdrawn: By Staff
Letter Request (ID 131073)	(Complete) Withdrawn: By Staff

Request, 2024

Letter Request (ID 102968)	Withdrawn: By Staff
-------------------------------	----------------------------

Fall, 2023

Profile

No Image

Sarah Wong
swong3@umbc.edu

Campus ID: 31400372

[View All](#)

[Edit profile](#)

Messages

[View all Messages](#)

Date/Time	From
09/08/2026	iss@umbc.edu

International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS)

F-1 Students ▶

J-1 Exchange Visitors ▶

H-1B Employees

Forms

UMBC Scholar Portal (J-1 ONLY)

Announcements

Current Processing

Please allow 7 business days for your ISSS Portal request to be processed. [View Details]

Forms

Below is a list of forms for the International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) office that can now be completed through our ISSS Portal.

Note: If you have already started a specific online form, do not start a new one. Please go to your User Home Page to continue working on your online form.

NEW STUDENT/SCHOLAR PROCESSES

- **New F-1 Student Request** - All admitted F-1 international students must provide additional information for issuance of your Form I-20 and for any dependents (if applicable). Students enrolled at another school in the U.S. must also provide information about current F-1 status.
- **New J-1 Student Request** - All prospective J-1 international students must provide additional information for issuance of your Form DS-2019 and for any dependents (if applicable).
- **New Student Arrival Documentation Check-in** - All new students must provide copies of U.S. immigration documents upon entry to the U.S. for ISSS records.
- **New J-1 Scholar Request (Departments)** - This must be initiated by the UMBC hosting department to request to bring in a new J-1 short-term scholar, research scholar, or professor by submitting a **new Sponsorship Request** for ISSS to determine J-1 eligibility.

IMMIGRATION REQUESTS

- **Change of Education Level** - If you receive admission to a new degree program at UMBC.
- **Change of Financial Support** - If your sponsor changes while you are studying, you must submit new documentation to update your I-20.
- **Dependent Request** - If you plan to bring a spouse and/or dependent child (unmarried, under 21 years old) with you, after your initial I-20/DS-2019 has already been issued.
- **DS-2019 Reprint Request** - If your existing DS-2019 was lost or stolen, or if you require a DS-2019 for international travel.
- **I-20 Reprint Request** - If your existing I-20 was lost or stolen, or if you require a new travel endorsement on your I-20.

Financial Requirements for I-20



3

Upload required
documents:
financials + passport

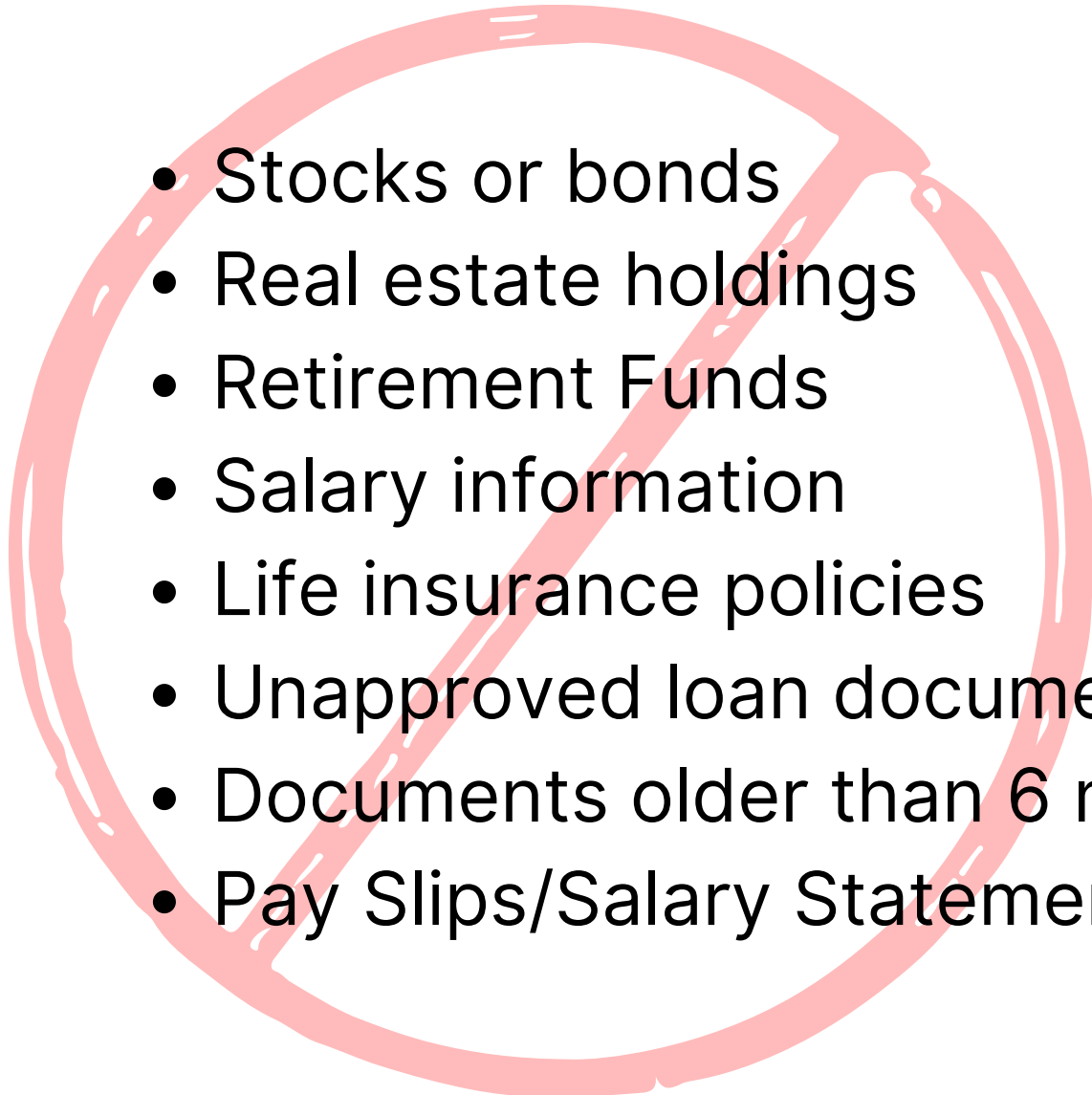
- Amount required is an approved estimate of expenses for one academic year (9 months) at UMBC
- For Spring 2027 Admission the amounts are:
 - Undergraduate: \$53,897
 - Graduate: \$52,643
- ***A Letter of Support is required for any financial document that is not in your name***



I-20 Funding: Account Type Matters



- Checking/savings account bank statements
- Approved or sanctioned loan documents
- Scholarship awards
- Graduate Assistantships
- Fixed deposits Account (only if it's noted that you can withdraw the money at any time)

- 
- A large, light red prohibition sign (a circle with a diagonal slash) is positioned behind the list of disallowed documents.
- 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

Documents CANNOT be more than 6 months old
Letter of support needed if the documents are not in the student's name



Requesting a UMBC I-20



4

Receive signed
electronic I-20

- **Click “Submit” when the request is ready for review**
Status becomes "Submitted - Under Review"

*Requests with a status of "Pending" are in draft form
and will not be processed*

- Typical processing time is 5-7 business days
- Next steps:
 - Print your I-20
 - Sign with **BLUE INK**
 - Keep your I-20 safe!



Applying for your F-1 visa



5

Pay SEVIS fee and
schedule visa
appointment

- Pay I-901 SEVIS Fee
- Complete DS-160 (visa application form)
 - Use the SEVIS ID from your I-20
- Schedule your visa interview and biometrics appointment(s)



Applying for your F-1 visa

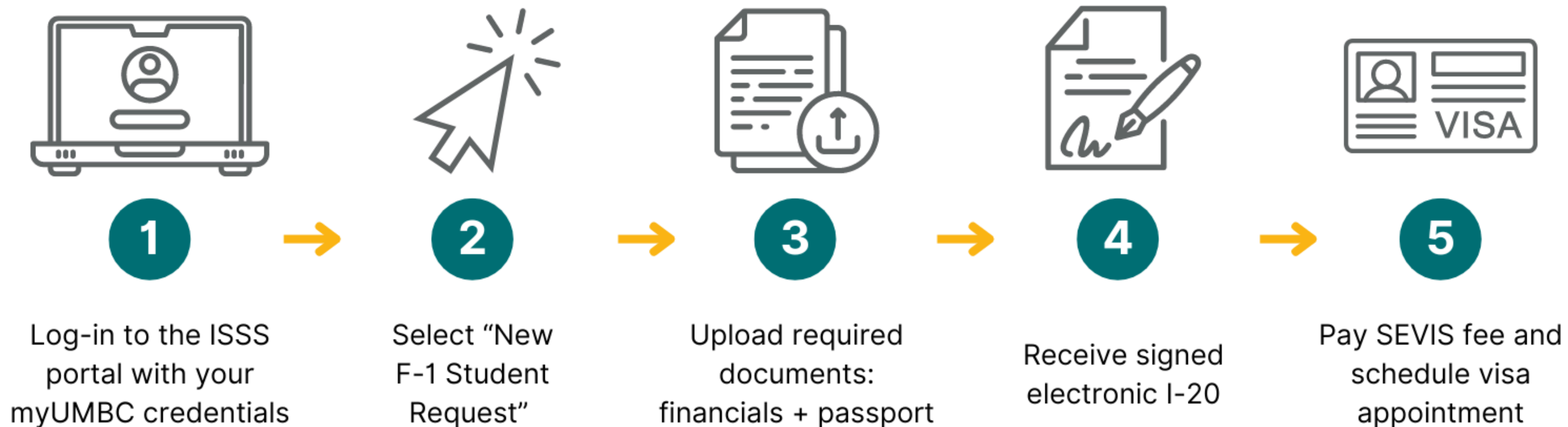
All US consulates and embassies have their own scheduling practices.

The best source of information is the post itself.

[Travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) shows estimated current wait times



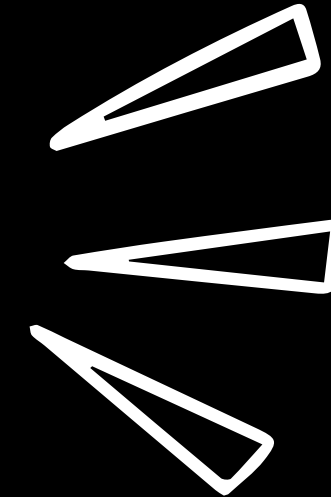
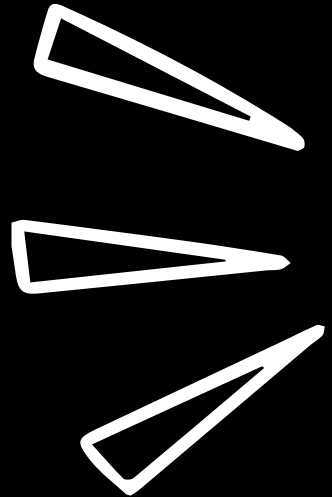
How to request your I-20



Review the F-1 Visa process: issss.umbc.edu



Special Considerations



Things To Consider for Spring 2027

- The earliest you can arrive in the US is 30 days before your I-20 program start date
 - Must enter by the first day of classes - January 25
- Orientations are usually the week before classes start so try to arrive a bit early!
- Be informed of travel restrictions and vaccine requirements in your home country as well as in the U.S.
- Renew your passport if needed so that it is valid for your complete program dates



Things To Consider for Spring 2027

Transferring your SEVIS record to UMBC

- Transfers can be limited depending on your education level
- Extension of stay application may be required in some situations

If you are planning to transfer in a SEVIS record, please submit a ticket so an OISS advisor can review your situation and provide more information.

[**isss.umbc.edu/contact**](https://isss.umbc.edu/contact)



Recent Immigration Policy Updates

UMBC will continue to monitor US immigration policy updates.

You can view information and guidance at:

issss.umbc.edu/updates



Funding Your Studies

Undergraduate

- Merit scholarships are awarded based on your application materials
- Scholars Programs - speak with your admissions counselor (fall intake only)
- Explore scholarship opportunities on Scholarship Retriever
 - scholarships.umbc.edu/retriever

Graduate

- Funding in the form of Graduate Assistantships (RA,TA)
 - Not guaranteed and very competitive
 - Contact your department for more information!



Education Loans

- Make sure you understand the loan terms including
 - Payback timeframe
 - Interest rate
 - Payment details



UMBC does not offer direct loans so if you are looking for a loan, you will need to do your own research to find the product that is right for you!



Budgeting

Exact expenses will depend on your individual situation

- UMBC Tuition Calculator
 - select "Out of State" for residency
- What are your living arrangements?
- What will you use for transportation?
- Understand the details of your scholarship or GA contract



Full-time Enrollment



- **All F-1 students must be enrolled full-time**
 - **Undergraduate: 12 credits**
 - **Graduate: 9 credits**
- UMBC offers in-person, hybrid and online courses
- Only ONE online course can count toward your full-time enrollment. All other classes must be in-person or hybrid



Full-time Enrollment



- Undergraduate students enroll in classes with their academic advisor.
 - Make sure you sign up for an orientation and registration session when you receive the link.
- Graduate student enrollment opens on December 1, 2026.



Deferring Your Admission

Undergraduate Students:

- Contact UMBC Undergraduate Admissions for assistance
 - admissions@umbc.edu

Graduate Students:

- Submit a Deferral of Admission Form
 - gradschool.umbc.edu/students/forms/
- Graduate Admissions: **gradschool@umbc.edu**
- Graduate Assistants (RA, TA etc)
 - Work directly with department on updating your GA offer



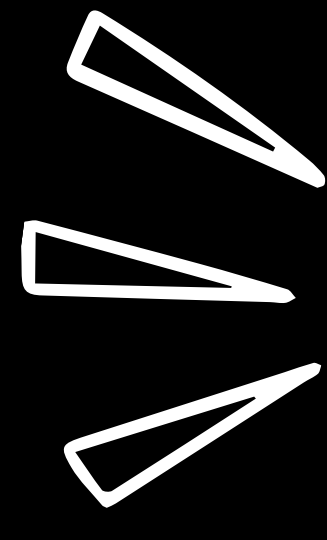
After Deferral

You will need to request an updated I-20

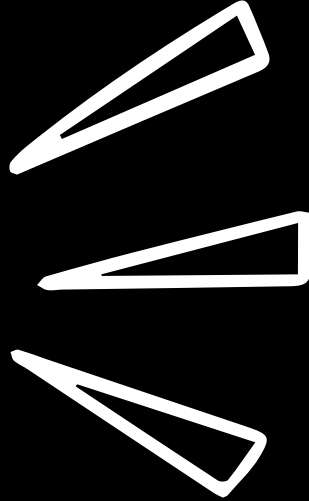
- Submit a “New F-1 Student Request” for your new start term
- Be sure to upload your passport and updated financial documents
- Your SEVIS fee is valid for at least one year

Reminder: Your deferral must be processed by your admissions team before you request a new I-20.





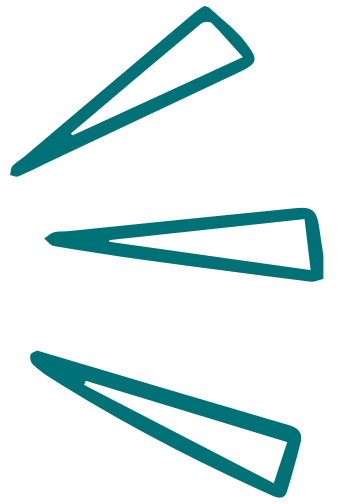
F-1 Work Options



Employment is limited under F-1 status



Please type questions in the chat!



*You may type your questions into the chat at any point
during the presentation!*



Employment Overview

- On-Campus Employment
- Off-Campus Employment
 - CPT
 - OPT
 - Need-based employment



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



On-Campus Employment

- Can begin working on arrival
- Jobs on UMBC campus only
- Search for jobs on Handshake platform
- 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
- Must be authorized by ISSS, noted on I-20
- Only certain programs are eligible for CPT, contact your department or an OISS advisor for more information!



OPT and STEM OPT Extension

OPT: Optional Practical Training

- 12 months of work permission **after graduation**
- Work can be: part time, full time, paid or unpaid
- **Job must be related to your degree**

STEM OPT

- 2 year **extension** of work authorization
- Must have a STEM eligible major
- See if your major is eligible by searching the CIP code here

Our advisors will guide you through the process of applying for OPT and STEM OPT



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
- Required to pay an application fee to USCIS

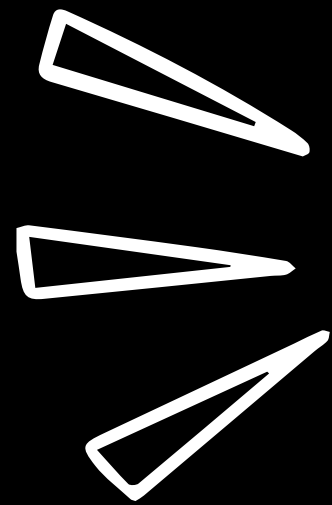
Don't rely on this option!



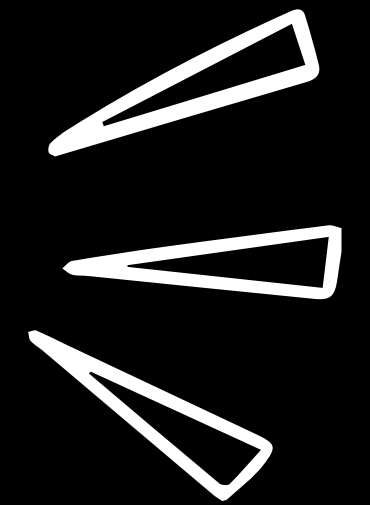
Career Support through the Career Center

- Handshake platform management
- Resume review
- Career fairs
- International Student Career Conference
- Job search and job evaluation advice
- Interview preparation
- UMBCworks
- careers.umbc.edu





UMBC Resources



How do I contact Admissions?

Do you have questions about:

- Admission requirements or status
- Program information
- Deferral

Graduate Admissions

gradschool@umbc.edu

Undergraduate Admissions

admissions@umbc.edu

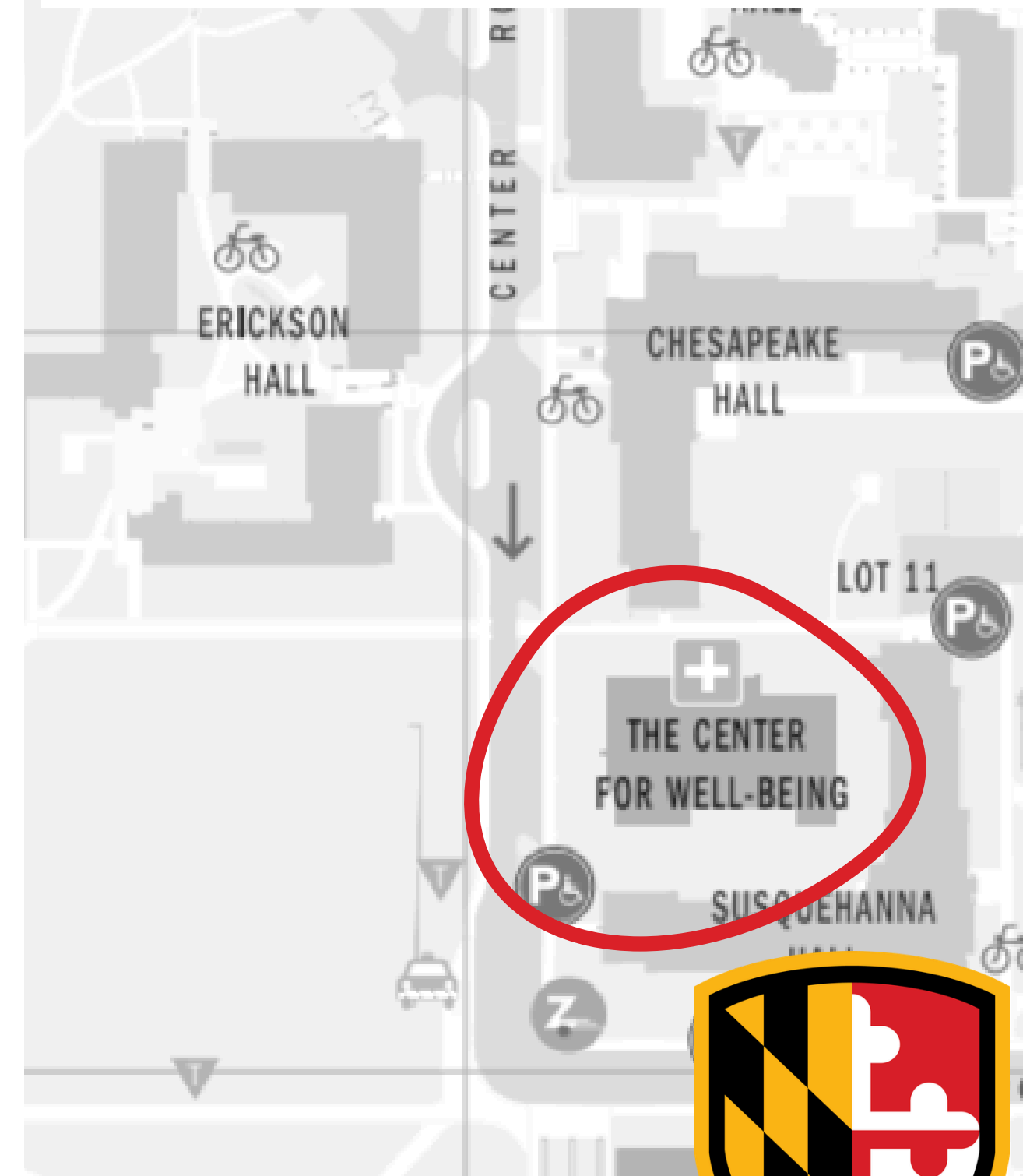


Retriever Integrated Health (RIH)

- RIH is UMBC's on campus student health services center. They provide:
 - Health requirement information
 - Health insurance information
 - On-site medical care
 - Vaccinations
 - Counseling services and support groups

health.umbc.edu

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



Housing

- Students are responsible for arranging their own housing
- All students can choose to live either off-campus or on-campus



**Ensure that you have some place to stay (at least temporarily)
prior to your arrival in the US**



Housing

Off-Campus Housing

- All students are permitted to live off-campus
- Off-Campus Student Resources through Student Affairs
 - Apartment or roommate search
 - US leasing practices and laws
 - Help identifying needs
 - ocss.umbc.edu
- Commuter Connections
 - Activities and support

On-Campus Housing

- Residence Halls (dorms)
 - **Undergraduate students only**
 - Apply ASAP at reslife.umbc.edu
- Walker Avenue Apartments
 - Open to undergraduate or graduate students
 - walkeravenueapts.com



Housing

**The Residential Life housing application
deadline is December 15.**

Please make sure apply and pay the deposit on
time to ensure you will have housing!



UMBC Transit

- Free for UMBC students and staff
- Convenient connections to public transportation
- Use this to plan off campus housing
- transit.umbc.edu
- Transit does NOT go to the Shady Grove campus



Student Belonging

Safe, welcoming, and inclusive spaces for students of all backgrounds.

- The Center for Religion, Spirituality, and Pluralism
- The Mosaic: Center for Culture and Diversity
- The Pride Center for LGBTQIA2+ Diversity
- Office of Graduate Student Life
- Commuter Connections



Student Organizations

- 200+ student organizations
 - Cultural or Spiritual
 - Sports
 - Career and Pre-Professional
 - Hobbies and Interests



Look for a complete list on my.umbc.edu

Groups → All Student Organizations



Accounts to Follow

Learn more about what's happening at UMBC!



Instagram:

@UMBCglobalstudent

@umbcgradschool

@umbclife

@umbcrec



Join a Future Webinar!

The complete admitted student webinar schedule will be updated regularly.

Join as many sessions as you like to connect with our team!

iss.s.umbc.edu/events-and-webinars

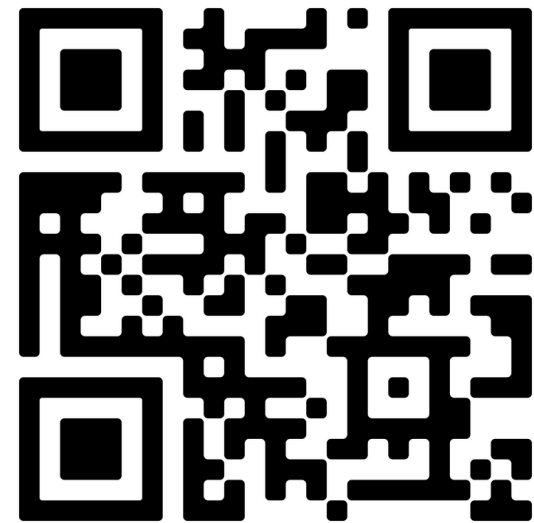


Chat with Global Ambassadors

Global Ambassadors can:

- Discover more about UMBC campus life
- Connect you with UMBC resources

**Chat with the
Ambassadors
here:**



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! *



Meet other admitted students on the TAP Community!



REGISTER NOW

***Create your account
and start connecting
today!
Link is in your email.***





Congratulations!

 **We look forward to seeing you this spring!** 