International Student Information Session
Thanks for Joining Us Today!

- Mute your microphone
- Type any questions in the chat box
- This webinar is being recorded
Located in Catonsville, 15 minutes from downtown Baltimore

- Suburban location provides a safe environment to focus on studies
- Proximity to Baltimore for cultural events, entertainment, nightlife and work opportunities
- Supermarkets and other amenities walking distance from campus

Easy access to...

- Washington D.C.: 55 km/34 miles
- Philadelphia: 177 km/110 miles
- New York: 316 km/196 miles
Academics at UMBC

- 48 undergraduate majors
- 39 master’s degree programs
- 24 doctoral degree programs
- Ranked #3 among U.S. universities for global and economic impact
- An honors college with a research community
- Learning community with equally motivated and talented students
- Interdisciplinary approach to education that focuses on experiential learning
Campus Resources

- Student Organizations/Campus Life
- Academic Success Center
- Graduate Student Association
- Residence Life
- Off Campus Student Services
- UMBC Transit
- University Health Services
- International Education Services (IES) Office
- Career Center
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
  - Sri Lankan Student Association
  - Nepali Student Association
Academic Success Center: Academic Advocacy

- Available to all Undergraduate students
- Workshops on time management and study and research skills
- Writing Center
- Free tutoring services for many level 100 and 200 courses
- Academic resources geared towards undergraduate students
- Academic Advocates: help undergraduate students navigate any difficulties with their courses

Website: Academicsuccess.umbc.edu
• Connects Graduate students to graduate level specific resources on campus
• Writing Adviser appointments
• GEARS - research symposium
• Travel grants for conferences
• Graduate Assistant Advisory Council

Website: GSA.UMBC.EDU
On Campus Housing

Undergraduate On Campus Housing:

• **Residence Halls:**
Chesapeake, Susquehanna, Potomac, Patapsco, Harbor and Erickson Hall

• Apartments (3\textsuperscript{rd} and 4\textsuperscript{th} year only):
Hillside, Terrace, Walker Avenue and West Hill Apartments

UMBC Residential Life

Graduate On Campus Housing:

**Walker Avenue Apartments**

• utilities included
Off Campus Housing

- **UMBC Off Campus Student Services**
  - Resources for adult learners, commuters, transfer students and veteran students
  - Information on U.S. rental procedures, leases etc.

- **Off Campus Housing Website**
  - Lists local apartments and has a roommate finder

- Other apartments near campus: Westland Gardens, Maiden Choice Apartments
- Free!
- For UMBC students only
- **Transit Tracker App**
- Convenient connections to public transportation
- Helpful for thinking about housing options

Website: [UMBC.EDU/Transit](http://UMBC.EDU/Transit)
• Full range of clinic services directly on campus:
  - Diagnosis and treatment of illnesses
  - Routine physical examinations
  - Immunizations

• Health Insurance – **Insurance is mandatory.** All UMBC students are automatically enrolled in Student Health Insurance Plan

Website: [UHS.UMBC.EDU](http://UHS.UMBC.EDU)
International Education Services
(IES Office)

- Help International Students acclimate to the U.S. and UMBC campus through immigration advising and programming events
- OPT Workshops
- International Student Career Conference
- Website: ies.umbc.edu
- Student Portal: IES Portal
- Advise on maintaining F-1 status while at UMBC and through OPT/STEM OPT
- Available via email at ies@umbc.edu
- Instagram and Twitter: @UMBC_IES
Career Center

• Award winning services to prepare UMBC students for professional life

• Resume review services
• Career fair – generalized and program specific
• Trips to visit local businesses and potential employers
• Job search and job evaluation advice
• Interview preparation
• UMBCworks
• Website: [Careers.umbc.edu](http://Careers.umbc.edu)
Work Opportunities

- On campus work
- Off campus work
- Requirements
On Campus Work Opportunities

- Can begin working right away
- Positions on campus and paid by UMBC
- Apply through UMBCworks
- If you’re new to the US you’ll need a SSN after getting a job offer. IES will help you with that process
- How much can you work a week?
  - During semester: 20 hours
  - During summer/winter break: 40 hours
Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

- Off campus work opportunity during your studies
- Must complete 2 full time semesters to qualify
- Job must be related to major
- All majors are eligible
- 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

- 1 year full time work permission after graduation
- Any job in any U.S. location related to degree
- Up to 3 months unemployment
- 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
- IES guides students through the process of applying for OPT and STEM OPT
Example of STEM Eligible UMBC Majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer Engineering</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity</td>
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<td>Data Science</td>
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<td>Engineering</td>
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<td>Engineering Management</td>
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<td>Health Information Technology</td>
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<td>Information Systems</td>
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<td>Physics</td>
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<td>Systems Engineering</td>
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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
Accepting your admission

Upgrade Your myUMBC account

You will need your UMBC campus ID and birthdate.

Visit:
https://webadmin.umbc.edu

my.umbc.edu

Log in to myUMBC

Click Accept or Decline Admission

Allow at least 24 hours for change to register in your account
Requesting a UMBC I-20

Log in to the IES Portal with myUMBC credentials

Select “New F-1 Student Request” Form

Upload all required documents

Receive draft I-20 from UMBC and make shipping request

Pay SEVIS Fee

Schedule visa interview

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

Allow at least 24 hours for change to register in your myUMBC account
Requesting Your I-20: Finances

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

**Acceptable Sources of Funding:**

- 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 3 months
- Letter of Support/Affidavit

**Unacceptable Sources of Funding:**

- Stocks or bonds
- Real Estate Holdings
- Retirement Funds
- Life Insurance Policies
- Unapproved Loan Documents
- Documents older than 3 months
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

Website: 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

Website: GRADSCOLLEGE.UMBC.EDU
Arriving at UMBC

- Can enter U.S. up to 30 days before I-20 program start date
- Please have housing secured before leaving home country
- Know the earliest move in date for your housing choice

ORIENTATION
- Pre-Departure Orientation (Virtual): Mid-August
- Undergraduate Student Orientation
  - Mandatory
  - Select from multiple dates
  - Students register for classes during orientation
- Graduate Student Orientation
  - Optional Graduate School Orientation
  - Mandatory Departmental Orientation
- International Student Orientation
  - Mandatory Orientation – August 26th, 2020
  - Optional orientation events throughout the week
UMBC COVID-19 Response, Updates

- UMBC is carefully monitoring the ever-changing situation
- IES Office is still processing I-20s
- Electronic copies of signed I-20s will be sent to students via our IES Portal
- Visa Delays: Up to date information via our website - [Visa Delays](#)
Questions?

- Advisers are always available via email at ies@umbc.edu
- Our website: IES.UMBC.EDU - Information for Admitted Students
- See what we’re up to! @UMBC_IES #UMBCInternational

Join us at our next information session on Friday, April 24th at 10:00 AM EDT