International Student Information Session
Thanks for Joining Us Today!

Mute your microphone

Type questions in the Q&A box to “All Panelists”

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
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
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 (3rd and 4th 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

- OPT = 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>Major</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Information Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
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<tr>
<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.
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: GRAD SCHOOL.UMBC.EDU
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](#)
- Immigration Ban Explanation
Student Chat - Cost Of Living

Student Representative: Ashlesha (M.S. Engineering Management)
Questions?

- Advisers are always available via email at ies@umbc.edu
- Our website: IES.UMBC.EDU - Information for Admitted Students
- Join our Facebook Group!

- See what we’re up to! @UMBC_IES
  #UMBCInternational
- Join our new Facebook Group!: facebook.com/groups/futureretrievers2020/

Join us at our next information session on Monday, May 4th at 10:00 AM EDT