



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK Academic Year 2016 – 2017



University of Maryland School of Public Health
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College Park, Maryland 20742

Visit www.sph.umd.edu

The purpose of this handbook is to provide a basic orientation to the School, the University and its surrounding area. It will also provide general information on the School of Public Health's academic programs. Due to the breadth of degree-granting units, please confer with your program of study for specific information regarding curriculum offerings; specializations; internships; capstone and thesis guidelines; graduation requirements; and advising. We hope these tools will help to facilitate a successful academic experience during your time at the University of Maryland School of Public Health.

The School of Public Health (SPH) at the University of Maryland College Park (UMD) reserves the right to change policies as deemed appropriate. This document should not be construed as a binding contract between the institution and current or prospective students. The SPH reserves the right to amend, revise or delete any information in this handbook.

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC HANDBOOKS

[Department of Behavioral and Community Health MPH Program Guidelines](#)

[Department of Behavioral and Community Health PhD Program Guidelines](#)

[Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics PhD Manual](#)

[Department of Family Science MS in Couple and Family Therapy Handbook](#)

[Department of Family Science PhD Handbook](#)

[Department of Health Services Administration MHA Student Manual](#)

[Department of Kinesiology MA Requirements and Procedures](#)

[Department of Kinesiology MPH Requirements and Procedures](#)

[Department of Kinesiology PhD Requirements and Procedures](#)

[Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health MPH Advising Packet](#)

[Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health PhD Advising Packet](#)

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HISTORY

In 1898, the Department of Physical Culture was established at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), eventually becoming the College of Health and Human Performance. With a century-long mission of promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities through education, research, policy, and practice, the College has made major contributions to the University of Maryland, the State of Maryland, and the nation.

As the University celebrated its 150th year, a unique opportunity existed to transform our College into a School of Public Health. New and continuing threats to our nation's health and security underscore the need for superior public health programs to train the future public health workforce, assess the health of individuals and their environments, and develop programs and policies that help our citizens to lead healthier lives. Guided by the vision of the dean, Dr. Robert Gold, the School of Public Health was founded in 2007 and received full accreditation by the Council on Education for Public Health in 2010. We are the only accredited school of public health at a public university in the Washington, DC/Maryland/Virginia region, offering an affordable education with outstanding professional development opportunities.

The School of Public Health (SPH) enables us to build on our tradition of excellence in public and community health, kinesiology, and family studies to include health services administration, biostatistics, epidemiology, and environmental health. The School of Public Health has also allowed us to enhance our graduate and undergraduate programs, increase our interdisciplinary research, broaden our community outreach, diversify our faculty and student body, and foster meaningful partnerships with the government, non-profit, and private sectors.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

ACCREDITATION AND REACCREDITATION

The School of Public Health began the Council on Education for Public Health accreditation process for the first time in the spring of 2007. The Council examined the school based on 27 criteria to establish our eligibility for accreditation in October 2010. As of 2015, the University of Maryland School of Public Health successfully completed the reaccreditation process and is CEPH-accredited through 2022.

Accreditation serves multiple purposes for a number of constituents, ranging from students and faculty to university administrators, from prospective employers to prospective funders including assurance of quality education standards, self-evaluation against organizational benchmarks and determination of eligibility for federal and other public funding.

DEPARTMENTS

The School of Public Health offers professional Master's, PhD and certificate programs in several departments.

Department of Behavioral and Community Health – Academic programs are designed to promote the development of professional health educators who understand the science, theory and practice of public health and can apply this knowledge toward the enhancement of health status in communities. Graduates will participate in both academic and applied training in program planning and implementation, program evaluation, public policy analysis, research and management.

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics – Students receive rigorous training in the fundamental sciences underlying public health practice to improve health and reduce health disparities. Epidemiology provides the conceptual and practical tools necessary to understand the distribution and determinants of the varying rates of disease, injuries, and other health states in human populations and design appropriate control measures. Biostatistics faculty empower students with the theory and techniques necessary to describe, analyze and interpret health data.

Department of Family Science – Academic programs equip students with superior therapeutic skills, ethical integrity, intellectual curiosity and a sincere commitment to working with families from diverse populations. Curricula focus on family theory, research methodology, programs and policy and clinical training and supervision.

Department of Health Services Administration – Students develop a strong knowledge base in health care management, policy and health services delivery systems to improve access to health care, improve health outcomes, eliminate disparities and enhance the ability of the health care system to respond to public health demands. Faculty members represent disciplines including health services, health management, economics, sociology, public health, public policy, organizational development and psychology.

Department of Kinesiology – Focusing on the interdisciplinary study of physical activity and its complex role in human health, kinesiology brings together teachings from physiology, sociology, communications, history, engineering, education and neuroscience.

Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health (MIAEH) – The quality of our air, water, food and soil quality all have direct impacts on human health. MIAEH students are introduced to relationships between environmental exposures and health, applying and translating research findings and developing sound environmental health policies.

DEGREE PROGRAMS

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Behavioral and Community Health
Epidemiology
Family Science
Health Services
Kinesiology
Maternal and Child Health
Toxicology and Environmental Health

Master of Public Health (MPH)

Behavioral and Community Health
Biostatistics
Environmental Health Sciences
Epidemiology
Health Equity
Health Policy Analysis and Evaluation
Physical Activity
Public Health Practice and Policy (online with limited residency)

Master of Health Administration (MHA)

Health Services Administration

Master of Arts (MA)

Kinesiology

Master of Science (MS)

Couple and Family Therapy

Certificate

Principles of Public Health (Post-Baccalaureate)
Gerontology (Graduate)
Global Health (Post-Baccalaureate)
Physical Education – PE MCERT (Masters)

MPH & MHA CURRICULUM

Public Health Core Courses

All MPH and MHA students are required to complete a course series in training around the five foundational areas of public health (Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Environmental Health and Health Policy and Management) called the “Public Health Core” consisting of the following:

- EPIB 610: Foundations of Epidemiology
- EPIB 650: Biostatistics 1
- HLSA 601: Introduction to Health Systems
- HLTH 665: Health Behavior 1
- MIEH 600: Foundations of Environmental Health

All students are encouraged to take their core courses early in their degree programs. You should talk with your advisor about the course sequencing before you prepare your first semester schedule.

Core Competencies

The core courses provide essential grounding in and illustrate the relationships between and among the core public health disciplines, and lay the foundation for the series of cognate courses each student will complete in his or her chosen concentration/discipline.

As a result, upon graduation, students completing the MPH and MHA degrees will be able to:

Core Public Health Competencies for the Graduate Professional Public Health Degrees (MPH/MHA)

Epidemiology Competencies

- Identify vital statistics and other key sources of data for epidemiological purposes.
- Describe a public health problem in terms of magnitude, person, time and place.
- Discuss the principles and limitations of public health screening programs.
- Comprehend basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use and dissemination of epidemiologic data.
- Explain the importance of epidemiology for informing scientific, ethical, economic and political discussion of health issues.
- Apply the basic terminology and definitions of epidemiology.
- Calculate basic epidemiology measures.
- Communicate epidemiologic information to lay and professional audiences.
- Differentiate among the criteria for causality.
- Draw appropriate inferences from epidemiologic data.
- Describe epidemiologic study designs and assess their strengths and limitations.

Health Services Competencies

- Identify the main components and issues of the organization, financing and delivery of health services and public health systems in the US.
- Describe the legal and ethical bases for public health and health services.
- Explain methods of ensuring community health safety and preparedness.
- Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.
- Apply systems thinking for resolving organizational problems.
- Apply basic principles of ethical analysis to issues of public health practice and policy.
- Apply the principles of program planning, development, budgeting, management and evaluation in organizational and community initiatives.
- Apply principles of strategic planning and marketing to public health.
- Apply quality and performance improvement concepts to address organizational performance issues.

Biostatistics Competencies

- Describe the role biostatistics serves in the discipline of public health.
- Describe basic concepts of probability, random variables, and commonly used statistical probability distributions.
- Distinguish among the different measurement scales or types of variables and select appropriate descriptive statistical methods for summarizing public health data.
- Select appropriate inferential statistical methods to answer research questions relevant to public health research.
- Conduct descriptive and inferential statistical analyses that are appropriate to different basic study designs used in public health research.
- Interpret results of statistical analyses found in public health studies.
- Critically review and summarize statistical analyses presented in public health literature.
- Perform appropriate sample size and power calculations to ensure that the study is sufficiently powered to achieve the scientific aims.
- Use a basic software package to describe, explore, and summarize data as well as perform the basic conventional statistical procedures.

Social and Behavioral Science Competencies

- Identify basic theories, concepts and models from a range of social and behavioral disciplines that are used in public health research and practice.
- Identify the causes of social and behavioral factors that affect health of individuals and populations.
- Identify individual, organizational and community concerns, assets, resources and deficits for social and behavioral science interventions.
- Describe steps and procedures for the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, policies and interventions.
- Describe the role of social and community factors in both the onset and solution of public health problems. Apply evidence-based approaches in the development and evaluation of social and behavioral science interventions.
- Apply ethical principles to public health program planning, implementation and evaluation.

- Specify multiple targets and levels of intervention for social and behavioral science programs and/or policies. Identify critical stakeholders for the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, policies and interventions.
- Describe the merits of social and behavioral science interventions and policies.
- Describe the roles of history, power, privilege, and structural inequality in producing health disparities.
- Cite examples of situations where consideration of culture-specific needs resulted in a more effective modification or adaptation of a health intervention.

Environmental Health Competencies

- Describe the direct and indirect human, ecological and safety effects of major environmental and occupational agents.
- Describe genetic, physiologic and psychosocial factors that affect susceptibility to adverse health outcomes following exposure to environmental hazards.
- Explain the general mechanisms of toxicity in eliciting a toxic response to various environmental exposures. Specify current human health risk assessment methods.
- Develop a testable hypothesis to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental hazards.
- Specify approaches for assessing, preventing and controlling environmental hazards that pose risks to human health and safety.
- Describe federal and state regulatory programs, guidelines and authorities that control environmental health issues.
- Discuss various risk management and risk communication approaches in relation to issues of environmental justice and equity.

Practical and Culminating Experiences

All graduate professional public health degree students will develop skills in basic public health concepts and demonstrate the application of these concepts through **a practical experience** that is relevant to students' areas of specialization. A planned, supervised and evaluated practice experience is an essential component of a professional public health degree program. These opportunities can take place in a variety of agencies and organizations and should include local and state public health agencies to the extent possible and appropriate. These opportunities are managed by each department and have included partnerships with local, state, national and international non-governmental agencies and organizations.

SPH graduate students will also demonstrate their public health skills and integration of knowledge through a **culminating experience**. Each department has distinct expectations for a culminating experience and may include a written or oral comprehensive exam, applied practice project, major written paper such as a thesis or applied research project, development of case studies and capstone seminars. Please check program specific guidelines for more information.

GRADUATE POLICIES

Transfer Credit

Students may be eligible to transfer up to six credit hours earned from another institution prior to enrolling in their SPH graduate degree-granting program. When moving from non-degree seeking status at UMD, Advanced Special Studies students may transfer up to 12 graduate credits to the degree program, subject to the approval of the Graduate Program. Courses taken while enrolled through inter-institutional arrangements are not considered under the transfer credit policy. Please visit the [UMD graduate catalog](#) for specific policies governing the College Park campus.

Inter-institutional Registration

Any graduate student enrolled in a degree-seeking program with the approval of their Graduate Program Director (other than students enrolled in the MPH in Public Health Practice and Policy and those enrolled in certificate programs) may enroll in courses on their non-home campus. MPH and MHA students, in particular, can take up to 9 credits on their non-home campus. These could be any of the basic core curriculum courses or an elective course.

Important notes on Inter-institutional Registration -

- Registration for courses is on a space available basis
 - Visiting students are expected to meet prerequisites or other criteria set by the host institutions
 - Students must comply with the host institution's registration periods, deadlines, and policies. If students do not comply they may be at risk of failing grades or other academic actions.
- *For University of Maryland College Park Students taking a course at the University of Maryland Baltimore:*
1. Read all policies and restrictions of the inter-institutional registration program. Students are responsible to abide by the policies and restrictions of the program. Policies can be found at: <http://registrar.umd.edu/current/registration/inter-institutional.html>
 2. Contact the department(s) offering the course(s) at the institution you plan to take the course(s) to determine if special permission is needed. If so, you will need to obtain written permission. This can be in an email or on department letterhead.
 3. A list of the courses and online request for enrollment form can be found here. <http://sph.umd.edu/content/inter-institutional-enrollment>
 4. Follow the directions to submit the electronic request, follow up with your department graduate director and the SPH graduate coordinator to ensure successful processing.

You can find complete policy information on concurrent inter-institutional registration for Graduate Students (<http://www.usmd.edu/regents/bylaws/SectionIII/III241.html>).

Registration Procedures

Academic calendars do differ between various campuses. Please refer to the academic year (*Appendix B: Academic Calendars*) if you considering taking a course on a non-home campus. Students must comply with the host institution's registration periods and deadlines.

- UMD deadlines can be found at the [Office of the Registrar](http://registrar.umd.edu/current/Policies/deadlines.html) (<http://registrar.umd.edu/current/Policies/deadlines.html>)

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to meet the highest standards of academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, falsification or abetting the academic dishonesty of another may result in sanctions including academic dismissal. Any of the following acts, when committed by a student, constitutes academic dishonesty:

- **CHEATING**: intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in an academic exercise.
- **FABRICATION**: intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- **FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**: intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this code.
- **PLAGIARISM**: intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

Enrolled students are held to the policies of their home campus. However, when taking a course on the non-home campus students must adhere to the academic policies that govern the campus on which the course is being offered. University policies and academic integrity resources are available online.

Academic Integrity Resources

UMD Office of Student conduct	http://osc.umd.edu/OSC/AcademicDishonesty.aspx
UMD Library Resources	http://lib.guides.umd.edu/content.php?pid=176901&sid=4974247
Avoiding Plagiarism : created by University of California, Davis	http://www.life.umd.edu/grad/MLfsc/plagiarism.pdf
Plagiarism: created by UNC Chapel Hill	http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/plagiarism/
How to recognize plagiarism: University of Indiana	https://www.indiana.edu/~istd/
Purdue Online Writing Lab	https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/1/

Grading

The available letter grades and corresponding quality points used for grade point average calculations are as follows:

Letter Grade	Quality Points
A+	4.0
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7

TUITION AND FEES

Beginning in Spring 2013, the University of Maryland School of Public Health implemented differential tuition rates for in-state students enrolled in the professional Master of Public Health (MPH) and Master of Health Administration (MHA) programs. These funds are specifically designated to support the delivery of these programs, which due to their practical, hands-on nature require additional resources to ensure we are able to continue offering a high quality educational experience to all MPH and MHA students. It is important to note that this differential applies only to the cost-per-credit hour tuition rate; there are no differential student fees. All graduate students pay the mandatory fees established by the University of Maryland for part-time and full-time graduate students.

Tuition rates are subject to change each academic year. The 2016-17 rates can be found here <http://sph.umd.edu/content/tuition-and-fees>

Bursar's Office

The Bursar's Office (www.bursar.umd.edu) handles and can assist students with most billing inquiries, including:

- Sending student account invoices
- Receiving and processing tuition and fee payments to student accounts
- Posting financial aid and some scholarships toward student tuition and fee charges on student accounts
- Authorizing and distributing tuition and fee refund checks
- Invoicing third-party sponsors for tuition and fee payments
- Handling tuition payments that were paid with bad checks
- Assessing late-payment fees on accounts not paid in full by due date
- Monitoring students with unpaid tuition and corresponds with them to ensure payment
- Placing tuition and fee holds on student records and enrollment
- Hearing appeals of late-payment fees

Financial Assistance

Financial Aid

Financial aid checks made payable to the university will be applied directly against the student account without intervention by the student. Financial aid funds will be applied against any outstanding tuition and fee charges according to financial aid eligibility requirements. Any remaining funds can be sent via direct deposit, or will be mailed to the student at their current mailing address.

Graduate Assistantships

There are numerous assistantships offered to students within various programs that are appointed as teaching, research, or administrative assistantships. Graduate assistantships across departments are posted on the web at www.ejobs.umd.edu. Select “Graduate Assistants” to see all currently available assistantships throughout campus. It is also a good idea to keep in contact with your advisor and program directors, who can provide information about assistantship openings, letters of reference, and contacts beyond those listed on the job center website.

Fellowships

The [fellowships listserv](#) frequently sends emails regarding various external fellowships, so keep an eye on these to see if you find something that interests you. Some of the external programs that may be of interest are:

- Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools: www.hshps.org/programs
- Association of Schools of Public Health: <http://www.aspph.org/study/fellowships-and-internships/>
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.: www.cbcfinc.org/fellowships.html
- National Institutes of Health: www.grants.nih.gov/training/F_files_nrsa.htm
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/fellowships/StudentInternships.html
- National Cancer Institute: www.cancer.gov/researchandfunding/cancertraining/atnci

Additionally, many professional organizations have fellowships, awards, and paper awards, so it is recommended that you speak with your advisor and colleagues for information regarding any availability in your field.

PUBLIC HEALTH CERTIFICATION

The Certified in Public Health (CPH) credential is offered by The National Board of Public Health Examiners. The CPH designation demonstrates that graduates from CEPH-accredited schools or programs of public health have mastered foundational competencies in public health. The credential – the only one of its kind for public health – demonstrates not only your knowledge of key public health sciences, but also your commitment to the field through continuing education focused on emerging and established public health issues. CPH professionals raise the bar and enhance the public health profession through their exemplary academic and leadership skills.

Becoming a Certified Public Health Professional has multiple benefits:

- Demonstrate commitment to public health beyond your academic training;
- Show public health expertise by evidencing mastery of the core sciences of public health
- Distinguish yourself from others;
- Advance cohesiveness and collaboration with your professional peers by starting from a common foundation;
- Elevate the profession of public health;
- Ensure high standards that better serve the health of the public;
- Assure the community that you serve/protect that you maintain a national, professional standard;
- Increase recognition of the public health professions;
- Raise the visibility of public health; and
- Measure and improve the competency and consistency of public health workers nationwide.

The Dean supports the cost of students who wish to take the CPH exam. Please watch the graduate student listserv and check with your advisor on how to register and take this important step in your professional development. For more information about certification please visit <https://www.nbphe.org/aboutthecph.cfm>.

SPH ACTIVITIES

Public Health Grand Rounds

Hosted on the UMD campus throughout the academic year, this series addresses cross-cutting public health issues of interest to our diverse school, our academic colleagues on campus, our community partners and practitioners. Each year, 3-4 leaders from across the country join us to present a lecture, have an informal discussion with students and other activities. Past speakers have included Dr. Donald A. Henderson, who led the successful global initiative to eradicate smallpox; Secretary Joshua Sharfstein, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and Dr. Georges Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association, among others.

Public Health Research @Maryland

Each spring, critical public health issues are highlighted at Public Health Research@Maryland Day. Sponsored by the School of Public Health and held in conjunction with National Public Health Week, this all-day event recognizes contemporary leaders in public health and introduces strategies to address issues including HIV/AIDS, cancer

prevention, tobacco control, physical activity, and the public health opportunities and challenges presented by the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act. Student research accomplishments are highlighted through a poster presentation and competition at the Adele H. Stamp Student Union.

Maryland Day

Annually, UMD sponsors a campus-wide celebration of innovation, creativity and academic excellence offering more than 450 family-friendly events and exhibits that teach and inspire future innovators. This is Maryland Day. The 2016 event showcased the School of Public Health's initiatives and commitment to improving health access and information in the Maryland community. The School of Public Health and its community partners offered more than 25 events and activities, including a gymnastics exhibition by Gymkana, strength testing and other fitness challenges and health screenings for BMI, blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, oral cancer and more.

GETTING ORIENTED

UMD, College Park is in close proximity to bustling metropolitan centers. The campus is nearby our state and national capitals and provide unparalleled opportunities for faculty and students to work with key government health agencies, non-profit associations, public policy organizations, and private corporations. Nestled within a public research institution, UMD provides students the opportunity to learn broad-based methods under a university umbrella.

We have a number of programs, services and other resources to assist graduate students with their academic, personal, and professional pursuits. Below are some of the resources and offices you should explore to help you start your studies on the right foot, to achieve your academic goals, and to get the most out of your time on campus.

[SPH Website](#)

The School of Public Health website provides up-to-date information about the School, the six academic units within the School (and their academic programs), our research and program centers, faculty and staff, student services, a calendar of current and upcoming events, and more.

[The Graduate Catalog](#)

This is the University of Maryland College Park Graduate School website, at which you can also find the Graduate Catalog. The Graduate School provides a great deal of critical information and resources you will both want and need during your program of study, including important academic deadlines for graduate students, the Graduate Catalog, the Graduate Student Handbook, tuition and fees, financial aid, required Graduate School forms, policies and procedures, and much more.

[Registration Guide](#)

The Registration Guide is updated each academic year and provides helpful information on academic deadlines, schedule adjustments, final exams and graduation information, among others.

[Testudo](#)

Testudo is your portal to the academic calendar, the schedule of classes, financial services, campus services, records and registration, and more. It is through Testudo that you will review course offerings by semester, register for your classes, update your personal contact information on file with the university, and request copies of your transcripts, among other things.

[The UMD Office of the Registrar](#)

Located on the first floor of the Mitchell Building, is available to provide you with official transcripts, enrollment verifications, diplomas, grade reporting, course enrollment deadlines, and more.

[Course Materials](#)

Students will be able to access materials posted on [Canvas \(UMD\)](#). Students who are registered for a class will have access to materials as soon as the professor 'opens-up' the course in their respective system.

[Identification Cards](#)

The University of Maryland photo identification (ID) card provides a general form of identification issued solely for the purpose of accessing programs and services administered by the University of Maryland, College Park, and its legal agents. Authority to issue ID cards is delegated solely to the Office of the Registrar.

Students may use their ID cards to:

- Obtain transcripts, verifications, schedule printouts, graduation tickets,
- Access campus buildings such as residence halls and some classroom buildings,
- Access library and information services and as a photo copy card,
- Use your Dining Services meal plan points at campus dining halls and area eateries,
- Serve as your Terrapin Express debit card for on campus eateries and retailers,
- Obtain athletic tickets (using the barcode on the reverse of your card),
- And much more...
- [UMD Policies for ID Cards](#)

[IRB and Human Subjects Review](#)

An Institutional Review Board (IRB) is a committee that performs ethical review of proposed research to help assure the protection of the rights and welfare of human participants. The IRB approves the initiation of and conducts periodic reviews of research involving human participants. Investigators also share the responsibility for protecting human participants. The IRB requires all individuals engaged in human participant research at UMD to [complete CITI Training](#) every three (3) years. The IRB office has put together a

fantastic resource, [the Investigator Handbook](#), to serve as a quick reference guide for IRB-related issues, concerns and guidelines.

Information Technology

Students should select “eduroam” when choosing the wireless connection they want to connect to. You can then use your directory ID and password to sign into “eduroam” wireless.

[The SPH Solutions Center](#) at UMD is located at 2241 SPH Building and manages a ticketing system for IT, facilities, card/key access and other assistance. To submit a help request, visit <http://www.itsc.umd.edu/footprints/sph.html>. Log in with your UMD directory ID and password, then click on "New Request".

Library

Students will have access to materials on reserve at the library as well as full student library privileges. Some resources include interlibrary loan, equipment loan, and research services.

- UMD Libraries: <http://www.lib.umd.edu/>

Campus Safety

The campus is equipped with mass, urgent notification systems, comprised of a variety of methods (text, email, etc.) by which the University can notify students, faculty and staff of an active, major campus emergency. In order to receive these urgent notification alert messages, faculty, staff and students may register a mobile device number to receive text messages at the following website – [UMD Alerts](#).

Lactation Rooms

Within the School of Public Health there is a dedicated a lactation room. Anyone wishing to gain access should direct their requests to Mark Brenneman, Facilities Director – mbrenne3@gmail.com

Disability Services

The University of Maryland is committed to providing equal access and opportunities for qualified students with disabilities. Individuals who are offered admission and who need accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the [Disability Support Service](#) on the UMD campus.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Through the [Office of Graduate Student Life](#), **UMD students looking to get involved on campus** can find information regarding the various and frequent opportunities. Additionally, with the [graduate student life handbook](#), students have a ‘quick link’ through which they can get connected to the wealth of campus resources available, ranging from Health and Wellness to Multicultural Involvement to Income Tax Assistance.

Parking & Transportation

If you will be driving to campus, there are stringent policies regarding parking. Student parking permits are available for numbered lots, with registration available for Graduate Students first. For those who choose not to purchase a parking permit, there is also visitor parking available, utilizing Digital Pay Stations, accepting either cash or credit. A map of the various parking options can be found at www.transportation.umd.edu/maps&apps.html. UMD Parking Info: <http://www.dots.umd.edu/parking.html>

Once you arrive in the metropolitan area you will likely find that the options for transportation within and around campus are plentiful. Among the mass transit options for College Park are the [Metrobus and Metrorail](#), serviced by the by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

Campus Maps

An interactive campus map can be found here. <http://www.chem.umd.edu/aboutus/umds-new-interactive-public-campus-map/>

This source can be used to locate classes across campus, as well as layer, building amenities, dining services, and transportation options.

Academic Calendars

The current and previous academic calendars can be found here.

<http://www.provost.umd.edu/calendar/>. Similarly important dates and deadlines can be found <http://www.registrar.umd.edu/deadlines.html>. Always confirm upcoming deadlines and processes with your advisor and graduate director.