



**Veteran Student Life**  
**University of Maryland**  
**0110 Stamp Student Union**  
**College Park, MD 20742**  
**[www.veterans.umd.edu](http://www.veterans.umd.edu)**  
**(301) 314-0073**  
**(301) 405-9605**

## **PREPARING FOR COLLEGE**

The transition from military to college life can be a challenging endeavor. The following are some items to be mindful of when making this change: prepare for transition, be open to a new mindset, seek out other veterans and be interactive with your classmates, and practice patience.

For newly admitted or prospective student veterans, please read carefully the following pieces of information. They are designed to help you make a smooth transition into the university.

### **□ ACCEPTANCE OF ADMISSIONS OFFER**

- If you choose to confirm your enrollment with the University of Maryland, please refer to your admissions decision letter on the [application portal](#) for next steps and to the [Undergraduate Admissions page](#) for additional information on completing your enrollment. Please allow up to 48 business hours for your confirmation to be processed and posted to your record before you can register for Freshman or Transfer Orientation.
- Upon acceptance of your offer of admissions, you will be required to submit a deposit to confirm your enrollment. If you are using the GI Bill, the amount of the deposit will be credited to your account once payment from the VA is applied to your student account. Additionally, this deposit can be deferred if it poses a financial hardship. Contact Taylor Duvall in admissions at [tduvall1@umd.edu](mailto:tduvall1@umd.edu).
- **Admission to UMD does not necessarily mean admission to certain majors or colleges.** For example: There are Limited Enrollment Programs (LEPs), which have different and specific requirements to be met before admission. Often, transfers from other institutions do not qualify for certain LEPs because they are entering with too many credits or have to take certain required courses before being granted admission. You may find out more about LEPs by going [HERE](#). Students who are admitted to UMD but not their preferred LEP major are placed in [Letters & Sciences](#).
- To graduate from UMD, all students must complete approximately 40-46 credits of [General Education requirements](#). Each degree program or academic major requires at least 120 credits. Track your plan [here](#).

- Check out the Four-Year Plan website for more information on each college's degree requirements and to plan out your time here at Maryland. Each student is required to complete a [Four-Year Plan](#) to assist in the successful completion of a degree program.
- **HESI 310 - Transfer2Terp Learning Community: Applying Your Strengths at the University of Maryland and Beyond** is for students to identify their strengths and learn how to apply them both in and outside of the classroom. Many of our past student veterans have found this course helpful with their transition onto campus. Students work side-by-side with the faculty, staff, and other transfer students in the Adele H. Stamp Student Union to learn about their strengths while applying them to leadership positions. This is a great opportunity to build a network of peers and mentors that will help support you throughout your time at the university. It will also plug you into the campus community so you can leverage your leadership experiences while you are here. You can search open sections of the course within [Testudo](#). *If you have questions, please email David at [dmreese@umd.edu](mailto:dmreese@umd.edu).*

□ **INFORMATION FOR TRANSFER CREDIT EVALUATION (if needed)**

- For those student-veterans who need/request evaluation of college credits, please contact the [transfer credit center](#). Note, for those interested in seeing for themselves, there is a [database](#) for determining credit equivalent.
- If your course is not listed, email [tccinfo@umd.edu](mailto:tccinfo@umd.edu) with the institution name, course title, course ID and semester you took the course, along with a detailed description of the course and course syllabus.

□ **CREATE UNIVERSITY EMAIL ACCOUNT AND DIRECTORY ID**

- Create your [Directory ID](#) and Set Up your University E-mail account. Once created, please set this account to forward to your most used email address.
- TERPmail is the university e-mail system which is operated through Gmail. Once you've setup your Directory ID and password, you can sign-up for [TERPmail](#). After your TERPmail account is activated, be sure to go to Testudo and update your preferred e-mail address.
- Check this account regularly because UMD faculty, departments and other students will be contacting you at this e-mail address before the beginning of the semester. If you need help setting up your account, visit [www.goingterpmail.umd.edu](http://www.goingterpmail.umd.edu)

□ **GETTING ACCESS TO VETERANS CENTER AND TERPLINK**

- The Veterans Center is located in Cole Field House, Room 1112 - this is your home away from home on campus. We have a computer lab with free printing, kitchenette with free coffee, conference room, and study space for you to use while you are on campus. You will be able to access the center using your student ID card. Usual access hours are 7:30 AM - 10:00 PM Monday through Friday and 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM on weekends. **We will be announcing updated hours and procedures to accommodate physical distancing for the Fall '20 semester.** To gain access to the Veterans Center, please go to [go.umd.edu/vetcenter](http://go.umd.edu/vetcenter). Fill out and submit the form along with your supporting

documentation. Please do this as soon as you can, as it can take up to 2 weeks for ID card access to be processed.

- Terp Link is an application that will help you stay informed of and sign up for upcoming events and opportunities across campus including applying for the University of Maryland Veterans Scholarships. TerpLink is a gateway where students can find and get connected with student groups matching their interests. You will need your directory ID and password in order to [sign up](#) for TerpLink. Go to our Office page at <https://terplink.umd.edu/organization/veteranstudentlife>, then make sure to click the “Join” button. You can also join the Student Veteran Organization’s page here: <https://terplink.umd.edu/organization/terpvets-student-veteran-organization>

#### □ REGISTER FOR FRESHMAN/TRANSFER ORIENTATION (NOT STUDENT VETERAN SPECIFIC)

- After you have set up your Directory ID, you are ready to register for Freshman/Transfer Orientation. The Orientation Office holds an orientation specifically for transfer students. All new students to the University of Maryland must complete an orientation regardless of if they completed one at their previous institution. Please read all of the following information before registering via the link at the bottom of this section.
- There is a program fee that covers all costs associated with the program including breakfast, lunch, staffing, materials and logistics. The charge is a per-person fee for all participants. Orientations at the University of Maryland include a program fee because the Orientation Office receives no funding from the university or the state. The fees associated with the program are charged directly to your student account. If you are using GI Bill, this fee will be refunded.

#### *Before You Register*

- When registering, you should know any conflicts you have that will prohibit you from attending orientation. When you register online or call the orientation office (listed below), you will be informed of all available orientation dates.
- **These dates are based on space availability for college advising. Programs fill quickly, so be sure to register online or call as soon as possible for the greatest availability.**

#### *When You Register*

- You can register for orientation by calling 301-314-8217, Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM or you can [register online](#).
- **All Freshman/Transfer Orientations will be virtual for the Fall ‘20 Semester.**

#### □ REGISTER FOR THE VETERAN & MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT ON-CAMPUS ORIENTATION

- Join us on **Saturday, August 1, 2020 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM** for our **Veteran & Military-Connected New Student Orientation**, which will be **virtual through Zoom**. Your attendance is highly encouraged, as much of this information is not discussed at the Freshmen/Transfer Student Orientation. Please [RSVP](#) for the Student Veteran

Orientation by Saturday, July 25, 2020. **This is not a substitution for the required Freshman or Transfer Orientation.**

- The orientation will cover topics such as health insurance, veteran benefits, scholarships, academic support services, recreational activities, and professional development. Additionally, this is a great way to meet other incoming student veterans going through the same transition as you and current student veterans who just made this transition recently. Our orientation is planned and led by veterans for veterans.
- We also in the process of planning **transition sessions** that will take place within the month of August that will focus on other topics of interest, such as learning about the physical campus, navigating the TerpLink and ELMS/Canvas websites, meeting staff from other departments around campus, and fun, social opportunities to get to know other incoming students. Keep an eye out for those!

#### **STANDARDIZED PLACEMENT TESTS**

There are two placement tests at The University of Maryland: Math and Foreign Language test.

- The Math placement exam can be taken online. We have created an online guided study video designed to help those who are taking the required mathematics placement test but would like to brush up on key concepts. You can access the video by going to: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=59&v=AtRPP4TzcTs&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=59&v=AtRPP4TzcTs&feature=emb_logo).
- Not everyone has to take these exams, please review the criteria to decide if you have to take [math](#) or [foreign language](#) placement exams. ALL transfer students are encouraged to take the Math Placement Test **before** coming to New Student Orientation (so you can register for appropriate classes & make an accurate academic plan with your advisor).

#### **UPLOAD YOUR IMMUNIZATION RECORDS**

- **Proof of current or previous active duty status (DD214) in the U.S. Military will be accepted by the Health Center and waives the necessity of having a physician signing off on your UMD vaccination record.**
  - o Go to [Myuhc.umd.edu](http://Myuhc.umd.edu)
  - o Click on "Forms" on left side
  - o Then, click link that says "Immunization Uploading" (See screenshot below)
  - o Upload your DD214

UMD University Health Center

- Home
- Profile
- Health History
- Appointments
- Referrals
- Handouts
- Messages
- Letters
- Forms**
- Insurance Card
- Survey Forms

If this is your first visit to the Health Center, the **PATIENT CONSENT, ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES** must be acknowledged before you can see your provider.

- \*Immunization Uploading
- \*Tuberculosis Risk Screening
- Consent for Telemedicine
- Gender Identity Related Questions
- Notice of Privacy Practices
- PATIENT CONSENT, ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**Prior to opening these pages to complete your health requirements, gather your health history, and family history.**

Click on the links below to access the forms.

Form Name
*Immunization Uploading
*Tuberculosis Risk Screening
Consent for Telemedicine

- A military immunizations form (**DD Form 2766C**) will also be accepted as proof of vaccination. If you need to get a copy of your DD 2766C, you can request it through the VA using form [VHA 10-5345a](#). If you submit your DD-214, you do not need to submit DD Form 2766C.
- **For questions**, please call (301) 314-8114 or **for appointments** call (301) 314-8184 or [request online](#).

**FRESHMAN/TRANSFER ORIENTATION ATTENDANCE AND LOGISTICS**

- Now that you have completed the previous steps you are ready to attend orientation. You should have already registered for your orientation date. **During the orientation program you will meet and get to know your Orientation Advisor (OA), meet with an academic advisor to discuss your course schedule, and register for classes.**
- Prepare for Orientation - As you begin your preparation of attending orientation, remember that you are an active participant and the most important player in your educational success. Come ready to ask questions of our staff and students. Remember to do some research on your major requirements and keep a checklist of the things you still need to complete or offices you need to visit.

**IDENTIFICATION CARD**

- The identification card for the University of Maryland, College Park can be obtained on the first floor of the Mitchell Building. Due to closure of University offices because of COVID-19, we suggest calling the office first at (301) 314-8240. The area in which IDs are obtained is directly to the left of the main door front entrance. Students can use the photo ID card for admission to most athletic, social, and cultural events, to borrow books from the library, and as a general form of identification on campus.

## □ RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION

- The offices of undergraduate and graduate admissions determine your state residency classification for tuition purposes. The [residency classification office](#) is the entity that handles requests for change of residency status for in-state tuition purposes. Honorably discharged veterans living in the State of Maryland regardless of length of residency qualify for in state tuition. Active-duty members stationed in Maryland (including those on terminal leave) or members of the Maryland Army National Guard, may also qualify for in-state status.

## □ MILITARY EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

- For those interested in initiating their VA educational benefits, please refer to our [website](#) for detailed information on the various educational chapters.
- If you will be using the Post 9/11 GI Bill (i.e., Chapter 33 benefits), you will need a certificate of eligibility. It may take some time to obtain (1-3 months). We strongly advise getting this ASAP - if you run into any problems please come talk with us. The form to request a certificate of eligibility can be completed [online](#). You should complete this form if you are applying to use your GI Bill Benefits for the first time or if you are transferring to a new university or starting a new program.

## □ APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS – typically open in April – May for the academic next year

- **If you are interested in applying for financial aid or scholarships your first step should be to complete the [Free Application For Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#).** You can also learn more about financial aid at the [UMD Financial Aid Office website](#). If your current financial situation has recently changed substantially and your financial aid package does not reflect your current situation, you can appeal your financial awards offer due to [special circumstances through the financial aid office](#).
- Scholarships are available for the at-large student population through the [University of Maryland](#) and through the [State of Maryland](#) as well as [scholarships specifically for UMD student veterans](#). These competitive scholarships typically become available in April for funding to be utilized for the next Fall semester. **Our UMD veteran-specific scholarships application is still open until Tuesday, June 30, 2020.** Submit your application now by going to [go.umd.edu/VetScholarship](http://go.umd.edu/VetScholarship).

## □ OFF CAMPUS HOUSING

- If you are looking for places to live, visit the [off-campus housing service](#). They can also be reached at 301-314-3645, or by email at [och@umd.edu](mailto:och@umd.edu)