

More information to help you make a smooth transition into Boston:

MBTA-Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

This is information regarding public transportation in and around the Greater Boston Area.

Traveling to and from Logan Int'l Airport

Cabs will cost approx: \$30-35.00 from the airport to the residence hall on your campus.

Emmanuel **24 hr.** Residence Hall at:

Boston, MA 02115

Mass Art **24 hr.** Residence Hall at:

Boston, MA 02115

Mass College of Pharmacy and Health Services **24 hr.** Residence Hall at:

Boston, MA 02115

Simmons **24 hr.** Residence Hall at:

255 Brookline Ave.

Boston, MA 02115

Wentworth **24 hr.** Residence Hall at:

Boston, MA 02115

Wheelock **24 hr.** Residence Hall at:

Boston, MA 02115

(Please make note of above address for the college you will be attending so that you can access the Residence Campus 24 hrs. a day.)

Useful Information provided by Logan International Airport.

Communication with Home

It will be important for you to maintain communication with friends and family around the globe throughout the year. You have a number of options for doing so.

Telephone

Please let me know how this works on your campus.

If you are living on-campus, you have the option of purchasing the college's telephone plan which includes local and long distance service. Each student is provided with a telephone jack or connection in their room and must provide their own phone. If you are living off-campus, you will be able to select your own long distance carrier. There are many options, so be sure to shop around for the best prices.

Dialing Instructions

On-campus dial 9 for outside calls

To dial long distance within the U.S.

1 + area code + number

To dial overseas from the U.S.:
011 + country code + city code
+ local number

See [Country Calling Code](#) list

For directory assistance
within your local area:

411

long distance: 1 + area
code + 555-1212

Prepaid calling cards

are available for sale in the **Campus Bookstore (is this true for all of your bookstores?)** and at many local stores. These cards provide a specific number of minutes of long distance calling. Instructions on use are printed with the card.

Mobile phones

There are a wide variety of mobile phone services. Be sure to shop around and compare prices and plans. Some services include the cost of the phone, others do not. Some are a monthly contract with a minimum timeframe with penalties for early cancellation of the service. Some are prepaid phone service, with the option to purchase additional minutes when needed. Be sure to check for the international rates if you intend to use your cell phone to make international calls. Some of these rates are extremely expensive.

Internet phone service

is a relatively new option. Some services/programs such as [MSN Messenger](#) or [Skype](#) allow for free or relatively inexpensive voice and video communication between computers that have the software installed or for computer-to-telephone communication.

Mail

- You have a few options for mailing that may differ depending upon the destination and content of your letter or package. Consider the following when planning to mail letters or packages:
 - Express mail: There are various options through the U.S. Post Office or a number of private companies. Simmons uses DHL Worldwide Delivery and TNT Worldwide Mail Fast for overseas mail. Be sure to price delivery before mailing. Express mail can be very expensive.

- Standard air mail: less expensive than express; however, depending upon the destination, delivery time involved can be significantly longer. Be sure to label mail as AIRMAIL otherwise it may be sent via surface mail.
- Certified Mail: Once you are living in the U.S. **all mail** you may send to INS or USCIS relating to your nonimmigrant status should be sent certified mail or via a service that allows you to track the mail (such as FedEx or DHL). Certified mail, which is available at any U.S. Post Office, provides registered receipts with each item being mailed. The receipt enables you to trace the document through the mail in the event that it does not reach its destination.

For more information about US Postal Service, postage rates; post office locations, etc., see www.usps.com.

E-mail

All students have e-mail accounts. See your College's Technology Department.

Local Weather

You probably traveled with the essentials and will need to purchase some clothing, bedding, etc. once you arrive. It is often said, "If you don't like the weather in New England, wait a minute and it will change." While you will experience various kinds of weather during the year, there are some basics you should purchase for each season. Dress on the whole is very casual. A warm, heavy winter coat, hat, gloves, and insulated boots are a **must** for winter. An umbrella is also recommended.

Average temperatures:

September, October

65°F(18°C) – 75°F(25°C) typically pleasant, sunny weather

November, December

40°F(4°C) – 65°F(18°C) more rain, occasional snow

January, February

0°F(-18°C) – 30°F(-4°C) snow, ice, sleet storms common

March, April

30°F(-4°C) – 50°F(10°C) very rainy

May, June

50°F(10°C) – 75°F(24°C) gradual warming, occasional rain

July, August

80°F(27°C) – 95°F(35°C) very warm and humid

Boston Cab Company

Tipping your cab driver a couple dollars above the price of the trip is common practice.

617-536-5010

Q & A on Obtaining an International Driver's License

Map a Location To and From Your Destination

Local Banks

1. [Bank of America](#)
2. [Citizens Bank](#)
3. [Sovereign Bank](#)

*Click on Branches/ATMs in the upper right-hand corner.

Off-Campus Housing

There are a number of apartments located near Simmons. Given the large student population in Boston there is a fair amount of turnover each year. Typically early summer is the easiest time to find an apartment; however, given time you will be able to find an apartment at anytime of the year.

If you are interested in finding roommates, the Roommate Assistant web site will be a good resource for listings of open rooms or for posting your own roommate listing. The home page is located at <http://www.roommates.com/>

Working with a realtor can enable you to see a large number of apartments quickly. However, most realtors charge a finder's fee ranging from one half to one full month's rent. If you have the time, the local [newspapers](#) publish apartment listings so that you can find an apartment without using a realtor. Another resource that is popular in Boston is [Craig's List](#). **Please Note: Many Craig's List listings are posted by the occupant of the apartment and not a Boston Licensed Real Estate Agent. Use good judgment when meeting potential roommates and whenever possible go directly through the Property Manager or Management Company.**

Landlords may require first and last month's rent at the time of signing the lease plus a security deposit which will be returned to you when you move out. Often they require a social security number on the renter application. While it is illegal to require that a social security number be provided, it is common practice to request that it be included on the renter's application. If you do not plan to obtain a social security number, your passport, student identification card and proof of a local bank account should suffice.

Rent in the Boston area can range from approximately \$600-\$850 per bedroom. This figure does not always include utilities (heat, electricity, water, telephone).

Most buildings are equipped with alternating electrical service (110V/220V), an adapter will be needed for any electrical appliances you bring with you from home.

Local Grocery Stores

International Grocers Included.

Local Restaurants

Boston offers a wide range of fun and interesting places to eat. Prices vary considerably from \$6+ per person. Most menus have a range of items so that you should be able to find a meal that will fit your budget. Many people find it helpful to check meal prices before being seated. Some menus are posted at the front entrance

of the restaurant. If a menu is not posted, do not hesitate to ask the host/hostess to see the menu before being seated. Many restaurants become very busy on weekends where it is not uncommon to wait for a table. Some restaurants allow you to make reservations in advance.

Always leave a tip equal to or greater than 15% of the bill on the table. Leaving less indicates that you were displeased with the service. Most wait-staff are paid low hourly wages and rely on tips to make a respectable living. The tip is not typically calculated into the bill, unless you are dining with a large number of people. In the case that gratuity is added to the bill, it will be indicated with the tax and total at the bottom of the bill.

Local Places of Worship

Places of Worship can be sorted by distance and religion.

Events in and around Boston

<http://www.searchboston.com/happenings.html>

<http://www.exploitboston.com/>

http://www.boston.com/ae/theater_arts/

***Make sure to keep your Student Identification card with you off campus. Some venues will give student discounts with proof of ID.**