

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

UMBC offers day-time bachelor's degree programs in psychology and social work for transfer students at the Shady Grove Center in Rockville, Maryland.

UMBC

AN HONORS UNIVERSITY IN MARYLAND



A NEW CONCEPT IN ADVANCED EDUCATION

Frequently Asked Questions

Are there differences between the UMBC academic programs offered at Shady Grove compared to those offered at the main campus in Baltimore?

The UMBC programs offered at the Shady Grove Center have the same academic requirements as those offered on campus at UMBC. By attending UMBC @ Shady Grove, you will benefit from having small class sizes and personal relationships with faculty, staff and your fellow students. Program and graduation requirements, admissions criteria, faculty and academic policies are the same; however, only UMBC's upper-level courses are available at the Shady Grove Center. You must complete the lower-level course requirements at a local community college or at UMBC in suburban Baltimore.

What are the admission requirements for the programs at Shady Grove?

The admissions requirements for Shady Grove are consistent with those for all UMBC transfer students. The admissions committee will evaluate your application on the basis of academic achievements at previous institutions. Cumulative

grade point average, academic performance trends, strength of curriculum and performance in courses related to the intended area of study are considered. Although each student's profile is unique, those presenting at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA are most competitive for admission.

How do I apply for admission to the UMBC programs at Shady Grove?

Applications for admission are available at the Office of Student Services at the Universities at Shady Grove, on our Web site at www.umbc.edu/undergrad/pdf/shady_grove.pdf, or an application can be mailed to you. For best admission consideration, you should apply prior to May 31 for the fall semester. Applications received after this time will be considered on a space available basis. If you wish to be considered for scholarships, you must apply prior to March 15. All applications, transcripts and other supporting documents should be mailed to:

*UMBC Admissions
c/o USG Office of Student Services
9630 Gudelsky Drive
Rockville, MD 20850*

Are my grades from the community college counted in my GPA at UMBC?

Although grades are used for decision-making regarding a student's acceptance, GPAs from prior coursework are not posted on the UMBC transcript.

When will I find out what courses will transfer into UMBC from my previous institutions?

UMBC's programs at Shady Grove maintain approved recommended transfer programs. This is your "road map" of what courses are transferable to UMBC. Shortly after receiving your notification of acceptance to UMBC, you will receive an official evaluation of your previous coursework indicating transferability to UMBC and the applicability to your program.

How many credits can be transferred to UMBC from my previous institution(s)?

Up to 60 academic credits are transferable from a two-year program or institution. You may transfer up to 90 credits from all previous four-year institutions.

Am I eligible to apply for financial aid or scholarships for the UMBC programs of study offered at the Universities at Shady Grove?

Yes. Provided you are a degree-seeking student, meet all UMBC admissions criteria and federal eligibility criteria, you may apply for financial assistance as a UMBC student at Shady Grove. Financial assistance includes several scholarships as well as federal grants and loans.

How do I apply for financial aid and scholarships?

To apply for financial aid, you must complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) listing UMBC's Federal School Code 002105, to the U.S. Department of Education. The FAFSA may be completed on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov. While completing online is preferred, the form is also available at the Office of Student Services at the Universities at Shady Grove as well as at many community colleges. For priority consideration of limited need-based funding, valid FAFSA results (SAR) should be on file with the Federal Processor by March 1 prior to the upcoming academic year. If you wish to apply for a Federal Stafford or Parent PLUS loan, you must

complete a separate loan application available at online at www.umbc.edu/financialaid.

To be considered for academic scholarships, you must complete the scholarship essay in the admissions application and meet minimum GPA requirements.

When is financial aid credited to my student account?

Financial aid is credited to your account when all of the following conditions exist:

- The UMBC Financial Aid Office has received and verified all requested information, and your file has been processed accordingly, and
- Enrollment status is finalized based upon the end of the add/drop period.

What are the students like in UMBC's programs at Shady Grove?

While all students in UMBC's programs at Shady Grove attend classes in the daytime, they are a diverse group in age, race, ethnicity and educational/ personal background. Some are traditional aged students who began at the community college directly out of high school while others are career changers interested in new career fields. Most students attend Montgomery College prior to applying to UMBC's Shady Grove program, but students come from a variety of backgrounds including other local community and four year institutions as well as colleges and universities from across the country. While most call Montgomery County home, students also come from surrounding areas in the Washington, DC metro area. No matter their background, students in the degree programs form close bonds and offer support to each other throughout their time with UMBC @ Shady Grove.

Will I be able to participate in leadership opportunities, internships, and other activities during my time with UMBC @ Shady Grove?

As a student in UMBC's programs at Shady Grove, you will have a number of opportunities for involvement and leadership including the student organizations connected to each of the academic programs and the Phi Alpha (Social Work) and Psi Chi (Psychology) honor societies. UMBC also sponsors events throughout the year including workshops focused on international students and internships. In addition, you can participate in center-wide organizations including the Student Governance Association and Student Ambassadors and can attend events including International Day, Career Development workshops, and computer workshops to name just a few.

For More Information

Additional information can be found at www.umbc.edu/shadygrove or www.shadygrove.umd.edu, by calling 301-738-6023 or via e-mail at shadygrove@umbc.edu.

Directions to the Shady Grove Center

From Hagerstown/Frederick and Other Points West: Follow I-70 E to I-270 S and then follow the directions from I-270.

From Annapolis and Other Points East: Follow US 50 W to I-95 N/I-495 N toward Baltimore/Silver Spring. Merge onto Capital Beltway (I-495) and follow to I-270 N. Follow the directions from I-270.

From Baltimore and Other Points North: Take I-95 S toward Washington, D.C. Take the I-495 W exit toward US 1/College Park/Silver Spring. Merge onto the Capital Beltway (I-495) and then onto I-270 N and follow the directions from I-270.

From Washington, D.C. and Other Points South: Take I-95 N/495 N toward Baltimore/Silver Spring. Merge onto I-495 toward Silver Spring and follow to I-270 N and follow the directions from I-270.

From I-270: Take I-270 to Exit 8—Shady Grove Road West. Go 1.5 miles, cross over Route 28/Darnestown Road. Turn right onto Gudelsky Way and left onto Gudelsky Drive. Follow the road to the Shady Grove Center.

