

Navitas at UMass Dartmouth New Students Pre-Arrival Guide



Photo taken of the UMass Dartmouth campus by current Navitas student, Tushar Saha from Bangladesh

Congratulations on accepting your offer to begin your journey as a student with Navitas at UMass Dartmouth!!!

We are so excited for you to join us and we are looking forward to meeting you! This packet has been prepared to answer many of the questions you may have about studying with Navitas at UMass Dartmouth. If you need additional information, please contact our Student Services team at umassd.studentservices@navitas.com.

Arriving on Campus

All new Navitas students must check-in with the Navitas staff upon arrival to campus on **the designated check-in day** anytime from **9:00am-6:00pm**. Students living in residence halls on campus will be able to move into their assigned spaces between 5:00-8:00pm on check-in day.

IMPORTANT: If you are unable to arrive at UMass Dartmouth by the designated check-in day (day prior to orientation), you may be required to defer admission until a later semester. Please notify us immediately if you are unable to arrive by the scheduled check-in date.



Photo taken by Navitas student Wang Tou Kun from Macao at Dartmouth Orchard, Dartmouth, MA

International Student Orientation

All new students are required to attend the International Student Orientation program, in addition to the Navitas Orientation meetings. Please see checklist provided with your I-20 for dates of designated check-in and orientation. Orientation is about welcoming new students, introducing them to American culture, showing services and resources offered by the University, informing students on university policy, and reviewing important immigration regulations, and of course having fun and making new friends. One of the most important things covered during Orientation will be the requirements of your pathways program and the immigration regulations as an international student in the U.S with an F-1 visa. The orientation period also allows time for you to adjust to your new surroundings before classes start.

Travel Arrangements

Please make your travel arrangements as soon as you receive your visa! Please plan to arrive at **Boston Logan Airport or T.F. Green Airport** on or before **the designated check-in date**. We recommend looking at sites like Priceline, Kayak, Travelocity, Expedia, Orbitz, or Google when booking flights/hotels in order to find the best deals that fit your needs.

Important Note: If you arrive on campus prior to the designated check-in date or if you will arrive to campus later than 8:00pm on the scheduled move-in day, you will not be able to check in to your campus residence and will be asked to stay in a hotel upon arrival at your own expense. Navitas staff will not be available for residence check-ins past 8:00pm.

All students must fill out the Arrival Confirmation form as soon as travel arrangements have been made:
<http://www.umd.navitas.com/arrival-confirmation>

If hotel accommodation is needed, we recommend the [Regency Inn & Suites](#) or [Best Western](#), which are both located near campus. You can easily search hotel options online using sites such as Trip Advisor, or those noted above.

Airport Pickup

We can arrange transportation from the airport to the UMass Dartmouth campus for students who arrive in Boston or Providence, if requested ahead of time. The approximate cost of this service is \$160 (subject to vary depending on total number of scheduled pickups).

Once you submit your Airport Pickup Request via the online Arrival Confirmation form, a detailed confirmation of your pickup will be emailed to you along with a PDF airport guide for you to carry during your travels to help you find the driver at the airport. The driver will meet you outside of the airport in the limo pick-up area with a sign with your name on it. *The driver cannot meet you inside the terminal.* If you have trouble locating the driver at the airport, please call the Student Services Officer.

IMPORTANT: If you have scheduled an airport pickup and you miss your flight or it is delayed, please e-mail our Student Services team at umassd.studentservices@navitas.com (or call the Student Services Officer at +1 (978) 337-1023) with your new flight information. If you are delayed after your flight lands by customs or delayed baggage, please call the Student Services Officer so that we can notify the driver that you have *arrived* but will be delayed. This is the only way that we can ensure that you will be picked up from the airport.

Students who arrive into Boston prior to the check-in day or after 6:00pm (on the designated check-in day) will be required to stay at a hotel in Dartmouth, at their own expense.

Lost Luggage

If your luggage is lost or delayed, you will need to complete a form at the Baggage Claim area in the airport. You should give the airline the address and phone number listed below in order to have your bags delivered.

Aaron Mayo
Navitas at UMass Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Road
Dartmouth, MA 02747
Cell Number: 978-337-1023

Tips While Traveling

You will be asked to present the following documents at the Port of Entry by U.S. Customs and Border Protection; make sure to have them easily accessible during your travels. **DO NOT pack them in your suitcase!**

- **Passport** with your F-1 visa in it
- **I-20 Form** (Certificate of Eligibility). If the U.S. Embassy returned your visa document in a sealed envelope only to be opened by a U.S. Official at the U.S. Port of Entry-**do not open it!**
- **UMass Dartmouth Admissions letter**
- **Original Financial documents** (the same that you provided to the U.S Embassy or Consulate)

Tip: Customs and Border Protection agents may not appear friendly, but do not be nervous. Calmly show the documents they request and answer any questions they ask you.

The U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) Officer, after reviewing your documents at the port of entry, will create an electronic arrival form I-94 from a scan of your passport during the admissions process. The CBP will no longer issue a paper Form I-94 to students and scholars. Passports will now be stamped with entry information: date of entry, visa class, and departure date.

The official at the port of entry will write "F-1" and "D/S" on your passport. Make sure they write this correctly before walking away. If they do not, politely ask them to do so according to your correct visa type.

Traveling to or within the United States

In the United States, cautiousness has increased since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Please be aware that all modes of transportation, not just airports, have increased their levels of security. Security and transportation personnel on the ground and in the air are extremely watchful for unexpected behavior.

Make sure to listen carefully to the instructions given by the security personnel and flight crew. You must follow their instructions or you could be considered a threat to the safety of the flight or others. Do not leave any baggage unattended in a public place. Do not accept a package from anyone you do not know or from anyone who is not boarding the plane. There are restrictions on bringing certain liquids on the plane in your carry-on luggage. Please refer to <http://www.tsa.gov> for the most current information. For additional information about what you can expect when entering the US, please refer to this website: <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/index.htm>

Traveling With Money

While traveling, it is not safe to carry a lot of cash. We recommend that you do not carry more than US\$300 in cash while you travel (the cash should include small bills). You may want to keep the cash in two separate locations, easily accessible to you. Be aware of your personal belongings at all times during your travel. You should bring enough money with you to cover your first month's expenses until you are able to transfer funds from abroad, this should be in the form of a bank card or travelers checks. This should be between \$1,500 - \$3,000 USD.

Check your home government regulations concerning transferring funds to the United States. Expenses may be heaviest when you first arrive in the U.S. During orientation, you will be given information about opening a bank account in the United States so that money can be wired or deposited into a local account.

Tip: Make two photocopies of any important documents. Have these copies notarized before leaving your home country. Leave one copy at home, and bring one copy with you, but keep your copy separate from the original. Critical documents, medicines, and other supplies should be carried in your carry-on luggage, this should also include at least one change of clothing.

What to pack and what to purchase upon arrival

It can be very expensive to transport a lot of belongings, so it can be better to buy most of what you need upon your arrival in the U.S. Most international flights allow each traveler a maximum of two piece luggage weighing 50lbs (22kg) each (22kg x 2). Make sure to write your name and UMass Dartmouth campus address on the labels of your luggage and check restrictions prior to your departure. Fees for extra bags or baggage exceeding the airline weight limit may apply.

What to bring with you:

- A heavy jacket for winter (there will be snow) and a light jacket for spring/autumn weather
- Formal outfits for important events (1-2)
- Traditional dress/outfit (There will be many opportunities to celebrate your culture)
- Shoes: slippers, flip flops, sneakers, dress shoes
- Hats & Gloves
- Bathroom needs: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, hairbrush, deodorant, etc.
- Medication & Prescriptions (You will need to carry a doctor's note for any prescription medicine)
- Laptop computer, backpack, school supplies
- Electrical convertors/adaptors (U.S outlets operate with a voltage of 110-120 volts, 60 cycles. If your equipment requires 220 volts, bring a converter and plug adapter)
- Camera
- Personal items from home: photos of family and friends, cultural items, etc.

The climate in New England changes with each season. Be prepared for a range of clothing such as lightweight materials for the summer and heavy winter jackets and sweaters for the winter. Students in the United States usually dress casually for most functions, including attending class (t-shirts and jeans). Pack clothes that you would normally wear. You want to be comfortable while attending classes and living in the United States.

Shipping Items:

If you plan to have items shipped to campus, prior to your arrival, please include the following mailing address to ensure that you receive your packages.

YOUR NAME
c/o Aaron Mayo
Navitas at UMass Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Road
Dartmouth, MA 02747, USA

Things you should purchase in the U.S.:

Purchasing the following items after you arrive will save you space and weight in your luggage. Navitas at UMassD will organize a shopping trip during orientation where you will be able to purchase needed items.

- Bedding/linen, pillow, blankets (your residence hall will not supply bedding)
- Clothing (warm coat and shoes/boots for winter), toiletries
- Laundry supplies to wash clothes
- School supplies (pens, pencils, paper, etc. In the U.S. the standard paper size is 8.5 x 11)

Navitas Pre-Master's Program (Business):

During the Pre-Master's MBA Program with Navitas at UMass Dartmouth, all students will take the following five courses that will help to build a strong foundation for your studies in the MBA program with the Charlton College of Business:

NAV 501: Academic Skills for Graduate Students
ACT 500: Financial Accounting
FIN 500: Economic Concepts Managers
POM 500: Statistical Analysis
MGT 650: Advanced Organizational Behavior

The 500 level courses are foundational courses that do not count towards the 30 credit requirement for the MBA program, but they are important pre-requisites which will ensure you have the fundamental knowledge required for success in your core MBA courses. MGT 650 is a core course from the MBA curriculum. After completion of the Pre-Master's Program, you will need to complete 6 additional core courses, and 3-4 electives to complete the MBA program. In addition to the lectures, there will also be support tutorials provided for each class, as well as GMAT tutorials.

Progression Requirements: To progress from the PMP program into the MBA program, you must obtain at least a **3.00 GPA** in all your courses and pass the **GMAT** with a score of **400** or greater by **the end of the PMP semester** (note: the GMAT requirement can be waived with GPA of 3.50 or greater during the PMP program).

The GMAT is an important piece of your admission into the MBA program at UMass Dartmouth, so **we encourage you to take the GMAT before the start of your program**, so that you don't need to worry about it once you get here.

If you do not have a GMAT score of 400 or higher when you arrive, you should plan to take the GMAT at least 5 weeks prior to the semester end date and you will have only *one opportunity* to take it again if you are not successful on the first attempt. If your GPA is below 3.50, you will be required to provide an **Official GMAT score of 400** or better by **the end of the semester** to be admitted into the MBA program and continue your studies at UMass Dartmouth in the next semester.

Although a GMAT score of 400 is very reasonable, for some students it is more challenging than they expect it to be. Students should take their preparation for the exam very seriously and not wait until the last minute to study. Remember, you will also be busy with your other academic courses during the PMP program, and you may find that there is not much extra time to study for the GMAT once you get here.

Course waivers are not allowed during the Pre-Master's program, regardless of previous educational background. For more information on the MBA curriculum at UMass Dartmouth, please visit:

<http://www.umassd.edu/charlton/programs/graduate/mba/curriculum/>

Navitas Pre-Master's Program (Engineering):

Students in the Pre-Master's Program, pursuing admission into the following graduate programs: **Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering** or **Physics** will be enrolled with Navitas for two (2) semesters. Students will take 3 foundational courses in the first semester and up to 3 graduate level courses in the second semester, accompanied by Navitas support courses in both semesters. Students will earn up to 9 graduate credits during the Pre-Master's Program, which can be counted towards the graduate degree program (please note only grades of B or better can count towards the graduate program).

Progression Requirements: Students must earn at least a 2.70 during the first semester, with no grades below a C, in order to continue into the 2nd semester. At the end of the second semester, students must have a **cumulative GPA of 3.0**, with **no grades below a C**, and **no more than 1 grade below a B-**.

Students in the Pre-Master's Program, pursuing admission into the department of Computer & Information Science will be enrolled in a one semester PMP program, during which they will take five courses, which include 2 foundation courses, 1 graduate level course, and 2 Navitas academic skills building courses. **Progression Requirements:** To progress from the PMP program into the Computer & Information Science graduate degree program, you must obtain at least a **3.00 GPA**, with **no grades below a C**, and **no more than 1 grade below a B-**.

Course Selection for all PMP Engineering programs: each student's schedule is individually selected by the relevant Graduate Program Director following a review of your undergraduate transcripts. Course schedules can only be requested from the department once you have paid your initial invoice and confirmed enrollment with Navitas at UMass Dartmouth, therefore it is important that your payment is processed in a timely manner.

Please note that admission is valid only for the department which you have applied and is not transferrable to other programs within the College of Engineering or UMass Dartmouth.

Navitas University Pathway Program (Undergraduate studies):

The Navitas University Pathways Program (UPP) provides a supportive pathway into an undergraduate program of study at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. The UPP program consists of three consecutive semesters, completed during a calendar year (12 months, including a summer term) and allows students to earn credits towards a bachelor's degree while adjusting to the U.S. classroom and cultural environment.

Navitas classes are taught in a small classroom environment with other international students, caring faculty and extra time in each class for tutorials, group work and skills building. Students in University Pathways Programs will also take Navitas academic skills building courses as part of the UPP Program which will allow you to develop stronger writing skills, math skills and university study skills. Students admitted into the UPP program with a condition to take the Mixed English course during the first semester will take one academic class in their first semester, along with English and Academic Skills Development courses, and will be required to pass English assessments to progress with the standard UPP curriculum in the following semesters (program completion may take 3-4 semesters).

All undergraduate students of the University must complete University Studies requirements, as well as distribution requirements, by completing approved courses in a number of areas outside of your major. As part of the Navitas University Pathway Program, many of the courses you take in your first year will be courses that meet University Studies requirements as part of your degree program. This will allow you to build your English language skills in the classroom, develop skills and interests in different disciplines, and by the time you reach your second year of your degree program, you will have many of the general education requirements completed, allowing you to focus more on your chosen major.

There are five Clusters in the University Studies Curriculum, and each cluster has a set of required courses.

1. Foundations for Engagement Skills for the 21st Century
2. The Natural World: Scientific Inquiry and Understanding
3. The Cultural World: Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding
4. The Social World: Humanity and Society
5. The Educated and Engaged Citizen: Integrating the UMD Experience

Below is a *sample* curriculum outline for a student in the Navitas UPP Program pursuing a business major at UMass Dartmouth:

Semester One	University Studies Requirement
MUS 101 Introduction to Music	3b
SOA 101 Introduction to Sociology	4b
NAV 098 Academic Skills Development (study skills)	Navitas core course
NAV 101 Academic Skills Development (literacy skills)	Navitas core course
Semester Two	
ENL 101 Critical Reading and Writing I	1a
HST 103 World History	4c
MIS 101 The Business Organization	1e
CHM 130 Chemistry and the Environment	2a
Semester Three	
ENL 102 Critical Reading and Writing II	1b
MTH 146 Finite Math	1d
PHL 110 Logical Thinking	4a
PHY 162 Science, Technology, and the Environment	2b

** semester course offerings are subject to change*

IMPORTANT: If you plan to major in Science or Engineering at UMass Dartmouth:

UMass Dartmouth will administer Math placement testing **on arrival** to ensure proper placement in courses for students wanting to study Business or Engineering. Students who test below a calculus level will likely need 4.5+ years to finish their Engineering degree at UMass Dartmouth. You should also email us with your preferred major in Engineering (computer, computer science, mechanical, electrical, civil or undeclared) so that we can plan your course schedule appropriately.

If you have questions about your academic program of study, please contact our Academic Manager, Ms. Chandra Leenheer, for more information: umassd.studentservices@navitas.com.

Housing

All **University Pathways Program (UPP)** Navitas students are **required** to live on campus during the University Pathway Program. You will need to complete the **12 Month Navitas UPP Housing Contract**. Please be sure to complete this and email it back to us, at least one month prior to your arrival, so that we can make necessary arrangements for your housing on campus.

Undergraduate students will live with other UMass Dartmouth undergraduate students in the traditional first-year dormitories while in the UPP program, which is generally a double room, occupied by two students.

Pre-Master's (PMP) students are strongly encouraged to live on campus during the program, although it is not required for graduate students. If you decide to live on campus, your housing arrangements will be made once you return the **PMP Academic Year Housing Contract**. Please complete this at least one month before your arrival, so that we can make the necessary housing arrangements. PMP students most often share apartments with other students, which have four single bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a common kitchen, and living area. Please note that while the PMP program may be a one semester program, UMass Dartmouth does not offer a one semester housing contract for students starting in the Fall, and you will be committed to the full academic year on campus (Fall + Spring semester).

Tip: It is important that you send your contract in by the deadline, even if you have not received your visa! It will be more difficult for us to secure your housing, if you wait to send in your housing forms. Please also understand that room assignments are made based upon space availability and you may not receive your first choice or preferred housing assignments.

Please visit the UMass Dartmouth Housing website for more information on student housing:
<http://www.umassd.edu/housing/livingoncampus>

Your dorm room will come with a bed and mattress, but it will not have linens and bedding when you arrive. You will need to purchase the following items: pillow, pillow case, flat sheet (Twin XL), fitted sheet (Twin XL), blanket/comforter, bath towel, hand towel. If you arrive during the day on check-in, our orientation leaders will be able to take you to the local stores to buy these items when you first arrive using the orientation shuttles. You may also order these items online ahead of time, and have them shipped to our address (listed above). Residence Hall Linens may be a good place to order them: <http://www.rhl.org>. Target and Walmart are also popular stores.

Dining

During the Academic Year all resident students may select a meal plan of their choice (Platinum Meal Plan required for all students living in the first year traditional residence halls). *Please note that meal plan changes will only be allowed during the first week of the semester. Cancellations will only be allowed 2 weeks prior to enrollment. **Meal plans cannot be cancelled or decreased once your enrollment has been processed and are in effect for the full academic year (no changes/cancellations between semesters are allowed).*** We recommend that PMP students do not sign up for a meal plan until you have arrived on campus and can see what your dining needs will be based on your schedule and lifestyle.

Each meal plan includes **meal swipes, Corsair Cash, and guest passes**. Meal swipes can be used at The Marketplace (UMass Dartmouth's all you can eat dining facility), Academic Carts, and Birch Grill. The Corsairs Cash is used just like cash and allows you to enjoy all the exciting dining options offered on campus. Each meal plan also comes with guest passes, so a friend or family member can dine with you.

For more information on university meal plans, visit:
<http://www.dineoncampus.com/umassd/show.cfm?cmd=residents>.

Off-Campus Housing (Pre-Master's students only)

We understand that many graduate students prefer the independence of living off-campus; however we strongly recommend that you consider living on campus during the first year until you are able to know the local area better and find a place that suits your needs. If you decide to live off-campus, please research transportation options to and from campus, and be aware that PMP and graduate courses may start as early as 8:00am and may end as late as 9:30pm, and public transportation is very limited in the local area.

The University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth provides this link to off-campus housing listings which we recommend you take a look at <http://www1.umassd.edu/housing/offcampus/>.

Weather in Massachusetts

The months of November through March bring winter conditions that include cold winds, snowstorms, and ice. Spring weather is from March through May and summer weather can be expected from the end of May through September. Temperatures can reach the 33 degree range (Celsius) in the summer, with humidity making it feel even hotter. Please be prepared for a dramatic change in weather from your home country as taking care of your health will be important for your success when in your classes.

Health Services

All international students are **required** to purchase medical insurance from the University, there are **NO** exceptions. The university health insurance, provided through Blue Cross Blue Shield, will provide you with pro-rated insurance coverage from the start of your program through July 31st and will be renewed for 12 month coverage beginning August 1st for each Academic Year that you enroll in the University. Medical care is expensive in the U.S, and this requirement is for your own protection in the event of serious illness or accident. Unlike some countries, health care is not socialized in the U.S, therefore, even with health insurance coverage you may still have to pay a co-pay or deductible for hospital/clinic visits, prescriptions, or other medical care.

The Health Services office on campus is available to all students during the fall and spring semesters. Health care professionals are available and can treat common issues such as sore throat, flu, cough, skin problems, birth control, orthopedic injuries, stress, and gynecological concerns. They can also help students with chronic health problems adjust to taking care of themselves while at college. For more information about the campus Health Services Office, please visit: <http://www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/health>

Health Forms & Immunization Requirements

You are required to have a physician fill out your immunization records on the second page of the Health Forms that have been sent to you. Please make sure all four pages are completed and returned to our staff **at least one month prior to departure** from your home country. These forms are mandatory and failure to complete them will prevent you from being able to register for classes and move in to residence halls on campus. You will not be able to attend the University without completing these forms along with the required immunization series.

Important:

Before returning your health forms, please be sure that the immunization records are accurate, complete, and that you have records for all of the following (provided from your doctor or health care facility):

1. **M.M.R.- Measles, Mumps & Rubella (2 doses are required at least one month apart)**
The first dose must be given at least 12 months from date of birth
2. **TDAP- Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (must be given within the last 5 years)**
TD and/or DTP vaccines are not acceptable in place of the TDAP vaccine
3. **Hepatitis B Vaccine (3 doses required)**
Dose 1 and Dose 2 must be at least one month apart
Dose 3 must be four months after dose 1 and at least two months after dose 2
4. **Varicella Vaccine- (2 immunizations required at least 28 days apart)**
Or positive history of disease (chickenpox) and recorded date
5. **Meningococcal Vaccine or signed waiver form**

If you answer yes to question 2, 3, or 4 on **page 4** of the health forms, it is required that you provide Tuberculin IGRA Blood Test results. The TB blood test must be done within the last 6 months, and **PPD skin tests cannot be accepted for International students**. Note: Students with a positive TB test must also provide an x-ray report and documentation that verifies a conversation has taken place with your doctor regarding recommending INH medication regimes.

**If you answer NO to all of the questions on page 4, you are still required to submit complete immunization records.*

Completed Health Forms and Immunization Records can be e-mailed to umassd.studentservices@navitas.com.

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q: When should I come to the United States?

A: You may enter the U.S. up to thirty days prior to start date found in "section 5" of your Form I-20, as long as you have a valid F-1 visa. Please plan to arrive by **the designated check in day** for the start of your program. Please notify us immediately if you will be unable to attend orientation, as this may affect your course registration.

Q: Where do I go when I first arrive?

A: Prior to arrival, be sure to check your e-mail frequently for information on the designated check-in location. If you have requested an airport pickup, the driver will bring you directly to our location on campus.

Q: How do I get around campus?

A: The campus map can be accessed from the link below and clearly identifies all buildings on campus. It is an easy campus to navigate around the loop, with campus shuttles to help you get around. All academic buildings are within the loop and for the most part, all residential housing is outside of the loop. <http://www.umassd.edu/campusmap/>

Q: What transportation options are there in the area?

A: The links below provide information regarding bus schedules (times and locations) for navigating around campus, to New Bedford, and surrounding areas (Boston, Providence and NYC).

Campus Transportation: <http://www1.umassd.edu/services/busschedule/>

Local Bus Transportation: <http://www.srtabus.com>

New Bedford to Boston: <http://www.dattco.com/scheduled-commuter-service/boston.php>

New Bedford to New York: <http://us.megabus.com/>

Q: Where will I be staying?

A: Navitas at UMass Dartmouth students typically stay in the on-campus residence halls. A room number and key will be given to you upon arrival. Most UPP students will live in Maple Ridge or Elmwood Hall, which are traditional dormitory style residences. Most Navitas PMP students will stay in the Woodlands Apartments residence halls with other upper-class and graduate students, while some may stay in the Cedar Dell townhouses.

Q: When will I get my class schedule?

A: All students will receive their semester class schedule during Orientation. If you have questions about your academic program of study, please contact our Academic Manager, Ms. Chandra Leenheer, for more information: umassd.studentservices@navitas.com

Q: Am I required to purchase text books?

A: Yes, you must purchase all required text books for your courses. You should be prepared to spend between \$100-\$250 per book. You will be able to easily find what you need in our Campus Book Store. You may also go online to Amazon.com, Abebooks.com, half.com, or other online providers for purchasing textbooks (please be aware of the liability of these online sellers however as they are not school supported websites). Target, Wal-Mart and other local stores also sell school supplies.

Q: Is there wireless internet access available on campus?

A: Wireless internet is available for you on the UMass Dartmouth campus, additionally there are designated routers to connect to the internet in the residence halls. If you plan on bringing a laptop please make sure you have the most recent Windows service pack uploaded to your laptop. You will need up-to-date virus software running on your computer as well. Please visit: <http://www.umassd.edu/cits/wireless/#router> for more information.

Q: What type of computer should I purchase?

A: There is no specific computer that we recommend purchasing. Most students bring their own laptop, but please keep in mind that the applications or systems you use in your home country may not match the systems used in the U.S. If you are unable to bring a personal computer, the university does offer a U\$ave program in which the university offers select laptops at a discounted rate. You can learn more here: <http://usave.umassp.edu/>

Q: Should I bring a cell phone?

A: Many students will choose to purchase a cell phone for use in the United States, or bring an unlocked phone from home and purchase a SIM card in the U.S. You can research plans and options online or use the website to locate a retail location nearby. Most students will choose a pre-paid or pay as you go plan from AT&T or T-Mobile. Generally, a phone plan with domestic service (within the USA) will be between \$40 and \$100 USD per month. Adding special features and international calling options will increase this cost. We recommend using Skype or other online communication methods to keep in touch with friends and family at home, as international calls from cell phones can be very expensive.

Q: What banking options will I have at UMass Dartmouth?

A: Most international students open a bank account when they arrive in Dartmouth. The most accessible option for UMass Dartmouth students is Bank of America, as there are ATMs on campus. In order to open a bank account, you will need your passport and funds for an initial deposit. You will have an opportunity to open a bank account during your first few days in Dartmouth. **Important!** It is quite common for banks to put a hold on large deposits. If you need access to certain funds, find out if and for how long a hold will be put on your funds. Also, before wiring funds to or from your home country, make sure to find out how much it will cost and how long it will take.

Q: Where will I get the essentials that I need when I arrive?

A: There are a many places within a reasonable distance from UMass Dartmouth where you can purchase what you need (bedding, kitchen supplies, toiletries, etc). Most household items can be purchased at Wal-Mart (www.walmart.com), or Target (www.target.com). Shaw's (www.shaws.com) and Stop & Shop (www.stopandshop.com) are supermarkets near the Dartmouth Mall area, easily accessed on local bus routes, where you can purchase groceries and other food items. There will be a chance to go on a shopping trip with a Navitas Orientation Leader during check-in day to allow you to purchase the basics you need to start out with.

Q: What if I get homesick?

A: Feeling homesick is a perfectly normal feeling when studying abroad in a different country away from your familiarities, family, and friends. There are resources and services available on campus, which will be discussed during orientation. The Student Services officer and Academic Manager are available to speak with you if you are feeling homesick and can provide insight and helpful resources to assist you with the transition.

Q: Can I work on campus during the Navitas program?

A: While enrolled in the Navitas program, you will have non-degree status, which means you are not eligible to work in the U.S. Once you successfully complete the Pre-Master's Program or University Pathways Program and enter your degree program, your status will be changed to degree-seeking which will allow you to work on campus within the realms of your visa. Not following the regulations for international student employment can have serious consequences for your studies and your visa status in the US. Students may only work off-campus (once in the degree program), if the employment opportunity meets the requirements for Optional Practical Training (OPT) or Curricular Practical Training (CPT).

Q. What if I do not pay my invoice before arriving?

A: All students should pay their initial invoice within 14 days of receiving their visa, and at least three weeks prior to arrival. It is important that we receive payment three weeks prior to your enrollment, so that we can secure your place in the program and begin the registration process. If you are unable to make a wire transfer from home, please contact our office to make arrangements. Payment in advance is needed in order to prevent delays in registration, as we cannot enroll students until full payment has been received. If your visa appointment is less than two weeks from your predicted arrival date, please contact our office to make individual arrangements.

Q: What should I do if I have additional questions?

A: Contact our Student Services team with any additional questions at umassd.studentservices@navitas.com; this team is here to help make your transition to life with Navitas at UMass Dartmouth as smooth as possible!

We are so thrilled and excited that you will be joining us! The Navitas at UMass Dartmouth team looks forward to spending time with you during orientation and answering all of your questions!

Travel safely,

The Navitas at UMass Dartmouth Team