

Dear Graduate Student,

We at Boston University's Department of Economics are looking forward to meeting you at Orientation on Wednesday, August 27, 2014, 9:00 am, in STO B50, 675 Commonwealth Avenue. This is intended to provide you with information about registration procedures and other services offered by the University.

## **REGISTRATION**

The registration process for new Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Economics students will begin during Orientation, August 27. **\*Incoming Economics graduate students cannot register before Orientation.** Classes begin on Tuesday, September 2. *Detailed registration instructions and a Registration Form for the fall will be provided then. You will not receive this information through the mail.* A complete academic calendar for the 2014-2015 Academic Year can be viewed at <http://www.bu.edu/reg/dates/official-academic-calendar/official-academic-calendar-2014-2015/>

Semester Dates – Fall 2014:

<http://www.bu.edu/reg/dates/semester-dates/semester-dates-fall-2014/>

## **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Use the Student Link, [www.bu.edu/studentlink](http://www.bu.edu/studentlink), to view or print your student account and class schedule **after** you have registered during Orientation. A student enrolled in three to four-and-a-half courses (12-18 credits) will be considered full-time and will be charged full tuition and fees. You cannot pay your tuition and fees before you register.

**Tuition and fees are posted on our Orientation website.**

Student Accounts, <http://www.bu.edu/studentaccountingservices/>

Student Accounting Services is located at 881 Commonwealth Avenue, lower level, Tel: 617-353-2264. Payment deadline for the Fall 2013 semester tuition and fees is September 15, 2014. Payments must be received by close of business (5 p.m. EDT) on the day of the deadline.

<http://www.bu.edu/studentaccountingservices/your-bill/payment-deadlines/>

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## **REPORT OF MEDICAL HISTORY**

All entering Boston University students have pre-matriculation health requirements that must be completed prior to your first term at Boston University. If you do not submit these forms prior to the first day of classes, you must submit them within the first two weeks of the semester. **IMPORTANT!** Failure to complete the required health requirements will result in a registration hold on your Student Account. **An Immunization and Physical Form is required of all new students. Students must arrange to have this form completed by your physician before you register.** Information regarding this requirement is available at: <http://www.bu.edu/shs/resources/forms/crchealthform/>

If you need additional information, you may contact Student Health Services at <http://www.bu.edu/shs/contact/help/> or telephone at 617-353-3575.

## **MEDICAL INSURANCE**

\*Medical insurance coverage extends from August 24, 2014 through August 22, 2015. Coverage takes effect once registration has been processed. A more complete listing of the University's tuition and fees, as well as explanations of certain fees, or to waive the medical insurance, please see the Student Accounting Services website at <http://www.bu.edu/studentaccountingservices/your-bill/tuition-fees/>

## **FINANCIAL AID -- STIPEND PAYMENTS – PhD Students**

Information for students receiving Boston University financial aid will be provided at registration. Problems or questions concerning financial aid should be directed to the Graduate School Financial Aid Office, Suite 112, 705 Commonwealth Avenue (Tel. 617-353-2696 or email at [grsaid@bu.edu](mailto:grsaid@bu.edu))

Students awarded Graduate Stipends, Teaching Fellowships or Research Assistantships obtain their monthly stipend checks from their academic department office. These checks are normally available on the last Friday of each month.

By federal law, all employers must verify the employment eligibility of their new employees, including student employees. All entering graduate students who have been awarded a Teaching Fellowship, Research Assistantship or Graduate Stipend, or who plan to seek employment on campus, are required to provide documentation for payroll purposes. You will need to present the appropriate documents considered acceptable by the U.S. Congress for employment in the U.S. This documentation must be presented to the administrative assistant in your academic department. Documents must be verified within the first three working days of employment. You will be asked to complete an Employment Eligibility Form (Form I-9). If you are not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the U.S., please present the documentation, in person, to the university's International Students and Scholars Office.

**STUDENT LOANS** For students who wish to apply for federal student loans, you will need to complete a FAFSA using the following website: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. Boston University's title IV code is 002130. In addition to this form you will also need to complete a Loan Request Form which is available by contacting the Graduate School Financial Aid Office at 705 Commonwealth Avenue, Room 112, Boston, MA 02215 (Tel. 617-353-2696 or email [grsaid@bu.edu](mailto:grsaid@bu.edu)) Federal loan decisions are usually made in mid July for new graduate students.

For students who wish to borrow private loans, it is advised that you begin the loan process at least 6 to 8 weeks before the first day of classes. Following is a list of websites for various private loan options (please choose only one):

MEFA Loan (for Master's degree candidates only) <http://www.mefa.org>

Graduate Access Loan <http://www.accessgroup.org>

Citiassist Loan <http://www.citiassist.com>

Since private loans are credit based it is strongly suggested that each applicant be aware of his/her credit history. Adverse credit may mean a negative decision for your loan application.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Should you have any problems or questions about your visa status, please contact the International Students and Scholars Office at 888 Commonwealth Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02215 (Tel. 617-353-3565) or at <isso@bu.edu> before coming to the Graduate School. You will not be allowed to register unless you have been cleared for admission by the International Students and Scholars Office.

The Graduate School Admissions Office is open from 9 AM to 5 PM EDT, Monday through Friday. The current Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Bulletin can be accessed at <http://www.bu.edu/academics/bulletin/>

Following is a list of additional links that may be of interest to you as a new graduate student at Boston University. Best wishes for a successful academic experience at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

## **MISCELLANEOUS QUICK LINKS**

-- A campus map can be found at:

<http://www.bu.edu/maps/>

--Information regarding Boston's rapid transit system (the MBTA, or simply, the T) can be found at:

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

-- Boston University is located at several stops along the Boston College branch (B Line) of the Green Line:

[http://www.mbta.com/schedules\\_and\\_maps/subway/lines/?route=GREEN](http://www.mbta.com/schedules_and_maps/subway/lines/?route=GREEN)

-- If you plan on biking, driving or taking the BU Shuttle to classes, you should take a look at the Parking & Transportation Services website at: <http://www.bu.edu/parking/>

-- Information about the city of Boston can found at:

<http://www.boston-online.com/visitors/>

-- The Educational Resource Center provides students with the services and resources for developing personal and academic skills:

<http://www.bu.edu/urc/>

-- Information regarding campus safety can be found at the BU Police Department's website at:

<http://www.bu.edu/police/>

-- The Department of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (PERD) offers programs and facilities for numerous forms of physical activity:

<http://www.bu.edu/perd/>

-- Boston University houses a number of libraries on campus and you'll make use of at least one of them

during your time here:

<http://www.bu.edu/library/>

-- The Office of Information Technology provides general-access computing and communications facilities for the entire University community:

<http://www.bu.edu/tech/>

-- The Geddes Language Center provides a wide range of instructional media services to the University community:

<http://www.bu.edu/geddes/>

-- The Boston University Counseling and Wellness Center offers a number of counseling services to students, faculty and staff:

<http://www.bu.edu/cwc/index.html>

-- The University's bookstore is located within the Barnes & Noble Bookstore on campus:

<http://bu.bkstore.com/>

-- The Graduate Student Organization (GSO) is a student-run advocacy group for Graduate School of Arts and Sciences students:

<http://people.bu.edu/gso/>