

Frequently Asked Questions for First-Year Graduate Students

First Week on Campus

You will be required to be here the week before classes start. TA training begins on the Monday of that week and continues for three days. On Thursday and Friday, you will meet with Brenton DeBoef, the head of the graduate advising committee, who will help you choose your courses for the first semester. On Friday, you will receive your TA assignment and will attend a welcoming lunch. You will also receive safety training before classes commence.

How do I register for classes?

After meeting with the head of the advising committee, visit the URI e-campus website (<http://www.uri.edu/ecampus/>). There you will be able to register for courses, view your term bill, check your lab section rosters, find your final grades in a class and update your home address. The link to this website can be found at the bottom of the URI home page if you ever forget. Log in under the **student administration**. There is a link posted on the left column of this screen for FAQs, which will instruct you how to log in to the site. If you have further questions, ask someone for help.

Where do I get my student ID?

In the Memorial Union on the first floor there is an office called “The Access Office”. Here, they will take your photo and print your student ID. In this office and at a few machines around campus, you can put money on your RAM account. When your ID is swiped at a variety of places, such as the library to pay for copies/printing, the money will be taken from your RAM account. Don’t forget to get your ID activated at the front desk of the library as well, allowing you to request books online through the Interlibrary Loan.

Student Fees

While your tuition is paid in full, you are required to pay 80% of your “Required Fees” (about \$600/semester). Included in these fees is a gym membership, including swimming facilities. Just show your ID at the entrance of the Mackal Fieldhouse and you are free to go to the cardio room, track, weight room and pool. Hours for the gym can be found on the REC center website listed below.

Parking

Parking passes are paid for you as part of your assistantship. You can apply for your permit by going to <http://www.uri.edu/parking/index.html>. From here you can read up on information on the passes and obtain a decal. The fee of \$160 will be waived as you are applying, but you will not be approved for the decal until your name appears on the TA list (so hold off on applying for a bit). Upon approval, the decal will be sent to you. In the meantime, print the temporary pass to post in your car. Don’t forget to activate the pass on the website once you receive it!

Health Insurance

The health insurance provided to you is once again paid for you by your assistantship. This coverage cannot be waived and must act as your primary insurance. If you are still on your parents insurance, move that to your secondary insurance. We encourage you to

retain your parents' health insurance, if possible; the student health insurance has limitations. The student plan does not include dental coverage, so retain dental insurance with your parents, if possible.

Housing

The University has a limited supply of on-campus housing for graduate students (The Graduate Village, <http://housing.uri.edu/info/graduate-housing.php>). Most graduate students live off-campus in apartments that they find using craigslist (search: URI). The URI commuter website also contains a searchable database of apartments near the Kingston Campus (http://www.uri.edu/commuter_housing/).

For International Students

Many of our international graduate students find it helpful to have a contact from their home country here at URI. The majority of our international students come from China and India. If you are from another country, please contact us; so we can attempt to find someone to help you.

Indian Student Association

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/206287469381980/>)

Chinese Student Association (www.uri.edu/cssa)

Helpful Links:

REC center/gym	http://www.uri.edu/athletics/recservices/
Health Services	http://health.uri.edu/
Graduate School	http://www.uri.edu/gsadmis/

For other questions, please contact Brenton DeBoef (bdeboef@chm.uri.edu, 401-874-9480).