

<jingoges> have departmental scholarships been decided on already?

<EHS_Sue> Some scholarships have been allocated and continue until funds are exhausted. Your application to the dept automatically considers you for these funds.

<Polina> How do you apply for these scholarships?

<Kendall_Adms> Which scholarships are you referring to Polina?

<nolawi> is it difficult to get on campus housing for grad students?

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Nolawi, I know people here who have on-campus housing. A lot of it is on North Campus, which is about a 10 minute bus ride from SPH

<HBHE_JackieC> This link will provide you with more information
<http://www.offcampus.housing.umich.edu/lt/>

<nolawi> thanks first year HMP IIZ

<FirstyearHMPLiz> you are welcome. To add to my last comment, the buses run about every 10 minutes to North Campus, so it is not a bad commute.

<nolawi> so the buses are networked .. to the off campus housing and shopping areas as well?

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Nolawi, there are two bus systems. Campus blue buses run about every 10 minutes from North Campus to main campus and the med campus. Ann Arbor has a city bus system that runs throughout AA and to Ypsilanti. U of M students can ride city buses for free

<HeoniaHillock_Biostat> Nolawi, the University bus line doesn't go too far off campus, but the Ann Arbor buses will take you anywhere you need to go in the area

<JannaS> okay, my biggest concern is how I'm going to afford UM and just want to make sure there are ways of not taking out massive loans to go to school there

<ICs_Peter> JannaS: Ah, you raise the question of balance! Between study, work, and life...

<JannaS> yes

<ICs_Peter> There are many ways to strike it. The clearer your goals in grad school, the easier it is to find the combination that works for you.

<Polina> If my acceptance letter did not mention anything about scholarships or grants does that mean that I am not going to be considered for grants?

<EHS_Sue> Polina, absolutely not. Awards are continually made each week so you just need to hang in there a little longer.

<Kendall_Admis> Scholarships, not grants.

<aestone> Overall, would you say the faculty members of the SPH view health as a fundamental human right?

<DeanKenWarner> aestone, I hesitate to answer for everyone, but I would be hard-pressed to think of anyone here who did not view health as a fundamental human right. That's a lot of what public health is all about.

<jingoges> are there any gsi positions still out there?

<SPHOAAConni> Jina - we have grads who interview and accept positions all over [the university].

<HBHE_JackieC> you can check the student employment website for GSI positions [teaching]... undergrad[uate] courses.

<HBHE_JackieC> Many will not be posted until this summer

<JannaS> Peter- what percentage of students are able to find those GSI positions that will help waive tuition within the first year of matriculating?

<ICs_Peter> There are many each year, and many of our students GSI at other schools at the university...

<ICs_Peter> the undergrad courses hiring GSIs often advertise over the summer. Check <http://www.studentemployment.umich.edu/>

<nicholep> What is the name of the school bus line?

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Nichole P, I don't know that it has a name, but if you look at the transportation section of the U of M website, the North Campus and South Campus Commuter bus line routes are described. That is probably what you would take to get around campus

<HeoniaHillock_Biostat> For bus info: <http://www.parking.umich.edu/>

<HeoniaHillock_Biostat> you can find out more information about the two bus systems here at: <http://theride.org>

<JannaS> I guess I'm more asking... even if they are posted and they exist, what are the chances of actually getting hired into one?

<ICs_Peter> JannaS: Few do their first term. But the number increases each term.

<JannaS> okay, thanks

<Polina> When will I receive my financial packet?

<Kendall_Admis> Once I get the list, I code them in and a letter is mailed out.

<Scot> question about undergrad GSI positions, are many of those already filled for next fall, or is there still hope in finding one?

<ICs_Peter> The chances ultimately depend upon your "fit" for the positions...

<Polina> How do you find GSI positions?

<ICs_Peter> Check <http://www.studentemployment.umich.edu/>

<jingoges> what time do the buses stop at night/weekends?

<Jackie_HMP> here is the link to the UM buses
http://www.transportation.umich.edu/transit/bus_routes/index_fw.html

<nolawi> when do on campus housing inform students of housing availability ?

<Kendall_Admis> As soon as they pay their enrollment deposit.

<Kendall_Admis> This link will provide you with more information (click on it)
<http://www.offcampus.housing.umich.edu/lt/>

<JannaS> Can we use the knowledge from our undergrad degree to find GSI positions in other departments, such as Psychology?

<Shelagh_Careers> Absolutely Janna!

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Yes, Janna, you can apply for GSI positions in other departments

<EHS_Sue> JannaS, many of our students have been fortunate to find GSI in chemistry and biology since they have an undergrad program. They post their open positions in August.

<ICs_Peter> JannaS: yes. Searching in the field in which you have a degree is wise

<drneeta> I am interested in research work and would like to go for research assistantship, so I would like to the know the basic requirements for that

<DeanKenWarner> drneeta, there are no specific requirements for research assistantships; it depends on the specific research project. You'll need to consult with the faculty who have openings.

<drneeta> ok thanks

<nicholep> Any recommendations for apartment hunters out of state?

<ICs_Peter> www.craigslist.org

<Kendall_Admis> www.rent.com

<SPHDirectorMary> Nicolep and Janna, the housing site has great information also.

<SPHDirectorMary> This link will provide you with more information (click on it)
<http://www.offcampus.housing.umich.edu/lt/>

<aestone> How does the school view their role in combating negative economic and social situations that can be a main reason why people have poor health?

<epidNorma> aestone We have a very strong Social Epidemiology group. Among them, Dr. George Kaplan is the lead investigator on a multi-university study on the impact of social inequalities on health.

<nolawi> if you get financial aid package now.. and get a GSI position in August how does that affect your financial aid ?

<Kendall_Admis> Nolawi, if you don't, your loans will pay first. Then your GIS will come later and bump your loans. You end up with a large refund that is mainly loans...that you have to pay back

<Kendall_Admis> nolawi, please submit your GIS letter to Financial Office ASAP so they can estimate your financial aid package and have your loans pay accordingly.

<JannaS> is it possible to go through the whole renting process without visiting Ann Arbor this summer?

<HBHE_JackieC> JannaS... have someone look at the apt for you

<HBHE_JackieC> there are some dumps out there

<JannaS> okay, thanks

<HBHE_JackieC> just a word of caution on trying to find housing... always visit or have someone visit for you

<jingoges> is there any place to look for SPH roommates?

<EHS_Sue> There currently is no SPH Roommate site but the housing office site has roommate matching.

<LZolot> Can anyone describe the level of exchange between the SPH and U of M's med school? (It terms of joint research projects, classes in either school, etc.)

<FirstyearHMPLiz> LZolot, one opportunity to work with students from the med school is MedConsulting, which is an activity for students in the business school, SPH, and med schools. They work on projects that benefit U of M's health system

<DeanKenWarner> LZolot, there is lots of interaction between the two schools, most notably on research (loads) and post-doctoral fellowship programs; there are many joint appointments between the two schools; there are fewer students taking courses in the

"opposite" school, although we do get several med students each year who sign up for a dual degree program.

<epidNorma> Lzolat At the research level, there are many interactions between faculty in the medical school and public health. In some cases, medical school faculty have joint appointments in SPH, or vice versa.

<nicholep> What do I need to fill out for Financial Aid? Just a FA[F]SA?

<HBHE_JackieC> nicholep- just the FAFSA

<Kendall_Admsis> Yes.

<HBHE_JackieC> no need for FAFSA for SPH tuition awards

<HBHE_JackieC> just for true financial aid

<Kendall_Admsis>Just for loans through the government, not needed for SPH awards

<SPHDirectorMary> We're falling asleep here, more questions!!!! PLEASE?????

<Nicole> how do you apply for SHP tuition awards? Have they already been given out?

<HBHE_JackieC> Nicole- you will automatically be considered

<HBHE_JackieC> no need to apply for SPH tuition awards

<Kendall_Admsis> Your admissions application is your application for scholarships in SPH

<HBHE_JackieC> HBHE has made their first round of tuition award decisions. As admits decline the award and/or acceptance, the funds will be reallocated to those on the waitlist.

<Kendall_Admsis> Andi, yes and you can check with your department to see if you have been awarded a scholarship

<kitang> is health insurance required for students? what kind of health insurance is offered?

<JannaS> Have all of the HBHE tuition awards been given out for incoming students?

<Kendall_Admsis> Required for international students.

<Kendall_Admsis> health insurance that is

<nicholep> Are there any local lower priced car insurance companies that anyone would recommend?

<EHS_Sue> Health insurance is required for all international students. The University

provides limited health care with your enrollment. The University also provides a health insurance policy that you can purchase.

<Andi> Someone may have asked this already, but if we received our financial aid package and we didn't receive a tuition award, do we just remain in the running as people decline admission who may have received an award?

<HBHE_JackieC> Andi-if you are HBHE, you can email me and I will check where you are on the waitlist

<Andi> Ok, thanks Jackie

<HBHE_JackieC> Andi-HBHE will continue to make awards as money becomes available

<drneeta> i went through the letter you sent, but wanted to know about financial aid for international students

<SPHOAAConni> Hi Drneeta- it is expected that international applicants show proof of funding, it is difficult for international applicants to get funding through UMSPH

<drneeta> the tuition and living expense comes to a high amount ,so what kind of financial help in the form of job or such is available for international students

<JannaS> Jackie-what is your email? Can you check if I'm on the waitlist as well?

<HBHE_JackieC> jcornany@umich.edu

<Katie> if you purchase the health insurance policy, how long are you covered after you graduate? are you covered during breaks?

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Katie, if you purchase health insurance, you are covered for the year. I do not believe you are covered after graduation

<EHS_Sue> The following website provides my info in the domestic health insurance you can purchase. <http://www.uhs.umich.edu/insurbil/msa.html>

<travgilchrist> There is also a more comprehensive insurance program offered through Aetna called 'Chickering' or something like that. It is pricey but less expensive than doing cobra for your old insurance.

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Travgilchrist, the insurance I am talking about is the Chickering offering

<JINA> How many students get full scholarship? Is it also different based on dept?

<HBHE_JackieC> JINA-very few students receive full tuition awards

<cmj8580> I was unable to get off of work for the HBHE day. Is there anyway I can arrange to visit the school another day?

<Polina> When do you schedule biostats exam if you have already taken the course?

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Polina, the biostats exemption exam is offered at the beginning of the year before classes start

<Katie> **so you are covered during breaks?**

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Katie, you are covered for the summer break and Christmas, break etc. as long as you have paid your premium. Once you graduate, most people move on to another type of insurance. I don't know whether it is possible to stay on the insurance offered through the school

<Johnwedeles> **I know the topic of comparing schools has been touched on, but can anyone weigh in on differences between UM's and Columbia's program?**

<Katie> **i think there are a few people out there with questions about the Columbia program comparison**

<DeanKenWarner> Johnwedeles, each program has its virtues. UM is ranked higher than Columbia, but obviously there are lifestyle issues as well. If you're madly in love with NYC, we can't match that. We do offer a fabulous, culture- and athletics-rich environment.

<JINA> **what kind of culture rich environment?**

<ICs_Peter> After living in A2 for 10 years, I can say that the cultural amenities are one of the things that keep me here...

<ICs_Peter> Film festivals, art fairs, athletics (I participate in a triathlon club in town), ...

<ICs_Peter> For a city of 130k, we have the arts and community involvement of a city of million.

<ICs_Peter> This link will provide you with more information (click on it)
<http://www.annarbor.org/visitorsguide/>

<Shelagh_Careers> For a nice listing of cultural events take a look at
<http://www.med.umich.edu/annarbor/culture.htm>

<ICs_Peter> But aside from the obvious the people in Ann Arbor really add a lot...

<ICs_Peter> When I travel I always take an informal count of the number of smiles and eye contact I get walking down the street, and Ann Arbor has a significant lead. (The closest is San Francisco, and that is only certain neighborhoods.)

<nicholep> **Has the Epi program given out tuition award notices?**

<daveyuan> **is it possibly to apply for Michigan resident status after 1st year?**

<Kendall_Admis> Daveyuan, you will have to contact the Registrar's Office and ask for residency for those questions at 734-763-6280

<HeoniaHillock_Biostat> or visit their website for guidelines:<http://www.umich.edu/~regoff/resreg.html>

<HeoniaHillock_Biostat> That site has a list of criteria for residency that will give you insight as to whether or not you are eligible

<LZolot> Dean Ken Warner, for my reference, to what published ranking list are you referring?

<DeanKenWarner> LZolot, I'm referring to the standard US News and World Report rankings, which you can find on the Web.

<LZolot> Thanks

<daveyuan> Dean Warner, so is UM ranked #4?

<DeanKenWarner> daveyuan, I don't recall whether it's 4 or 5.

<Katie> what is the best way to find out information about Chickering?

<travgilchrist> <http://www.chickering.com/>

<jingoges> hmp is ranked first though correct?

<DeanKenWarner> jingoges, that's correct: HMP has been ranked #1 ever since rankings of health admin programs began. Every year.

<FirstyearHMPLiz> jingoges, HMP has been ranked first for healthcare administration

<chatuniversity> what are some of the options or work that students take up to earn in order to cover their expenses?

<cmj8580> are students with prior professional background ever able to get positions working at the hospital?

<FirstyearHMPLiz> cmj8580, some friends of mine are working on studies done through the hospital. It is possible, but something you need to look for

<chatuniversity> is the fees mentioned for mph for the complete duration of the program?

<FirstyearHMPLiz> The hospital and/or med school sometimes post positions on the University's job posting website

<LZolot> I currently live out of state. Can I claim Michigan residency during my second year of the program?

<DeanKenWarner> LZolot, I've answered this one previously: It's very difficult to establish residency unless you are a former resident of the state. Contact the University's Residency office.

<Jackie_HMP> you can't get residency tuition rates if your reason for moving to Michigan was to go to school here

<HBHE_JackieC> Each year the tuition and fees may go up. You can check out the current tuition and fees at www.umich.edu/~refoff

<Kendall_Admis> 734-763-6280 or www.umich.edu/~regoff/resreg.html for residency questions in detail.

<travgilchrist> In regards to Chickering insurance, how easily do they fill prescriptions?

<EHS_Sue> The UM Chickering website is: <http://www.uhs.umich.edu/insurbill/msa.html>

<FirstyearHMPLiz> Travgilchrist, you can get prescriptions filled at the university's health services pharmacy, which is centrally located

<FirstyearHMPLiz> This applies whether you are a Chickering member or not--anyone can use the pharmacy

<daveyuan> is a thesis required to complete the MPH?

<DeanKenWarner> daveyuan, the capstone requirements vary by dept. Please check with the dept. to which you're applying.

<epidNorma> Daveyuan Are you an IH applicant?

<daveyuan> so the capstone is project is akin to a thesis project then?

<daveyuan> yes I'm an IH perspective

<epidNorma> For IH, you will be required to do a data analysis project one-on-one with a faculty member. This is in place of a formal masters thesis.

<EpidFacAmr> IH capstones are also presented during the department poster session in October.

<epidNorma> Some Epid 659 analysis projects result in presentations or publications. All GE and IH students present posters on their internship projects.

<CaroleC> What is the class size of the human nutrition concentration?

<EHS_Sue> Human Nutrition has approximately 25 students in that program.

<JannaS> Peter- you mentioned about 65 students in the HBHE program- how many are MPH vs. PhD?

<HBHE_JackieC> JannaS there are typically 150 students total in HBHE. Around 35 are PhD

<aliza> Thanks everyone for your input- this was very helpful as someone who missed the visiting day.

<Kendall_Admis> That's what I wanted to hear Aliza...thanks

<Nicole> how many students are in the Women and Reproductive Health track?

<ICs_Peter> Hi Nicole: The RWHIC admits 15-20 students a year. But many other students are actively involved and focusing their studies on RWH

<daveyuan> will there be opportunities to present the capstone results at conferences?

<epid_Moh> yes

<drneeta> please can you tell me the way to cover up the tuition fees for international students

<Kendall_Admis> Apply for Citiassist Global Loan

<Kendall_Admis> drneeta, contact financial aid for an application for the Citiassist Loan

<Kendall_Admis> www.ofa.umich.edu

<Nicole> When will we be hearing if we were accepted to RWHIC?

<ICs_Peter> Nicole: I begin contacting student with decisions this week. It will depend upon when you were admitted to a dept, where in the queue you are.

<kitang> will we hear about IC decisions via email?

<ICs_Peter> IC decisions will be coming via letter, email, and maybe even a phone call.

<drneeta> sorry i wanted to ask for the Citiassist loan is it a compulsion that my guarantor has to be a us citizen?

<Kendall_Admis> You will need a sponsor. Ask financial aid if that is necessary. 734-763-6600

<drneeta> can my dad (not an us citizen) be a sponsor who guarantees the repay of loan ?

<Kendall_Admis> For international loan, you will need to contact the Financial Office for that answer

<cinthia> Hi, I was notified about receiving a tuition assistance and am eager to receive a copy of the offer in the mail... Do you know when those are being mailed out?

<Kendall_Admis> Letters are being mailed out on a weekly basis

<drneeta> Is there an email through which i can contact the financial office?

<Kendall_Admis> www.ofa.umich.edu

<Katie> how do we access the admitted student page?

<Kendall_Adms> Mary, can you answer this one?

<SPHDirectorMary> Katie, send me your email address at mkclark@umich.edu