Welcome to

Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program
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Welcome Incoming Students!

We have put together this packet of information to help you get settled at UCSD.

While we have tried to anticipate as many of your questions as we could, there are always more things you may want to know, so please do not hesitate to ask us anything. If we don’t know, we will help you find somebody who does!

Feel free to get in touch with us; our contact information is on the next page. We have made a Facebook group for your incoming class, so send one (or all) of us a friend request and we can add you to the group! (See the next page for all the contacts and social media information you’ll need.)

You made a great decision by picking UCSD and the BMS program, and we can’t wait to see you in the fall!

Stay classy!

Alanna Koehler, Alex Jones, Josh Baumgart, and Noorsher Ahmed
BMS Welcome Liaisons

P.S. - Great website for grad students: http://grad.ucsd.edu
Important BMS Contacts

Chair:
Arshad Desai, abdesai@ucsd.edu
CMME 3052, Phone: (858) 534-9698, Fax: (858) 534-7750

Vice Chair:
Asa Gustafsson, abgustafsson@ucsd.edu
PSB 3266, Phone: (858) 822-5569, Fax: (858) 822-7558

Director of Program and Student Affairs:
Gina Butcher, gbutcher@ucsd.edu
5012 BSB, Phone: (858) 534-1823, Fax: (858) 534-0006

Student Affairs Coordinator:
Leanne Nordeman, lnordeman@ucsd.edu
5008 BSB, Phone: (858) 534-3982, Fax: (858) 534-0006

Program Affairs Coordinator:
Patricia Luetmer, pluetmer@ucsd.edu
5008 BSB, Phone: (858) 822-2001, Fax: (858) 534-0006

BMS Welcome Liaisons:
Alanna Koehler, akoehler@ucsd.edu
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/alanna.koehler1

Alex Jones, acj004@ucsd.edu
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/alex.jones.56884761

Josh Baumgart, jbaumga@ucsd.edu
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/jbaumgart1

Noorsher Ahmed, noa001@ucsd.edu
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/noor2all

BMS Web and Social Media:
Website: http://biomedsci.ucsd.edu
Twitter: https://twitter.com/ucsdBMS
Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/UCSDBMS/
All Students Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/117399715037735/
Class of 2018 Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/173986819962904/
Finding a Place to Live

The first question we are usually asked is “How do I find somewhere to live? Where are the good places?” Well, here is some information to try to make your search a little easier!

On Campus:

- [http://hdh.ucsd.edu/arch/pages/](http://hdh.ucsd.edu/arch/pages/)
- ARCH Centralized Leasing Office phone: (858) 534-2724

THE FIRST THING YOU SHOULD DO ONCE YOU ACCEPT AT UCSD IF YOU WANT TO GET INTO ON-CAMPUS GRAD HOUSING IS SIGN UP ON THE HOUSING WAIT LIST!

2018-2019 Rates:

**Single Grad Housing** (basically dorms)
4BR furnished apartment: $531/person
(Includes campus ethernet, cable, electricity, water, trash, and gas)

**Rita Atkinson**
2BR: $1167 or $583.50/person
(On campus; parking not included)

**Coast Apartments**
Studio: $786 (320 sq ft – VERY SMALL)
1BR: $1065 (490 sq ft)
2BR: $1485 or $742.50/person (651 sq ft)

**One Miramar Street (OMS)**
2BR: $1269 or $634.50/person (701 sq ft)

**Mesa Nueva**
Studio: $801 (275 sq ft - REALLY SMALL)
1BR/1BA: $1134 (720 sq ft)
2BR/2BA: $1587 (950 sq ft)

Per Room:
- Bedroom #1: $780
- Bedroom #2: $807 (Private Bathroom)

3BR/2BA: $2352 (1315 sq ft)

Per Room:
- Bedrooms #1&2: $774
- Bedroom #3 $804 (Private Bathroom)

**Central Mesa**
1BR: $1071

2BR: $1182 or $591/person (838 sq ft)

3BR: $1371

**South/West Mesa**
2BR: $1368 or $684/person (984 sq ft)

* Rates include water, trash, and gas. Cable and internet will be provided for Mesa and Miramar residents. Residents in two bedroom apartments pay for electricity. Refundable security deposit is $100.

Apply here: [https://hdh.ucsd.edu/ARCHWaitList/Default.aspx](https://hdh.ucsd.edu/ARCHWaitList/Default.aspx)
- Coast and Mesa will have longer waitlists, and it is unlikely that you will get an offer this year for these locations. If you want to move into on-campus housing as soon as possible, **be sure to rank OMS and Rita!**

- You can live in these grad student residences with a non-UCSD student, but you must show proof of “committed couple status”. See the ARCH handbook for more details: [http://hdh.ucsd.edu/arch/pages/FAQ.html](http://hdh.ucsd.edu/arch/pages/FAQ.html) or contact the Welcome Committee for more information.

- You can also find and indicate a preferred roommate at the following website: [https://hdh.ucsd.edu/ARCHRoommate/](https://hdh.ucsd.edu/ARCHRoommate/). You will be offered an apartment only if you have an overlapping housing interest. This may take longer as it will require an entire apartment to be vacant instead of just one room.

**Off Campus:**

There are several neighborhoods off campus with grad student-friendly prices (see maps at the end of this packet). Here are a few of the major ones and the contact information of a BMS student who actually lives (or used to live) there!

**Beach communities:**

- **La Jolla** – This affluent city stretches from the grad student housing at UCSD down to North Pacific Beach. Some deals can be found on Craigslist for rentals near the beach, but most housing here is quite expensive. Downtown La Jolla is known for upscale boutiques, wine shops, and restaurants (Jack Houston jmhousto@ucsd.edu).

- **Del Mar/Solana Beach/Cardiff-by-the-Sea/Encinitas** – These small beach communities are just north of campus. They are clean, relatively quiet, and offer upscale local shops (similar to La Jolla). Some places can be found within budget, but there is significant traffic on the commute home (Hank Bradford w1bradfo@ucsd.edu, Kira Podolsky kpodolsk@ucsd.edu).

- **Pacific Beach (“PB”) and Mission Beach** – This beach community is just south of La Jolla. It has a college atmosphere with lots of cheap restaurants and a lively nightlife. Most housing is within budget, especially the farther east you are from the beach. However, traffic in and out is an issue during rush hour since there is only one freeway exit for all of PB (Helen Wedegaertner hwedegae@ucsd.edu, Paige Ferguson lpfergus@ucsd.edu).

- **Ocean Beach (“OB”) and Point Loma** – OB and Point Loma may have some good deals (especially if you want to live near the beach), but the commute is more difficult than the other beach communities. This area offers a unique blend of surfers, hippies, and environmental activists. (Shanna Newton snewton@ucsd.edu).
Inland:

- **UTC/University City** – This is the area directly south and southeast of campus. Most of the apartments are on the pricey side. However, it is very close to campus, making for a very convenient commute using either the bus system or a bike. This area doesn’t have much of a nightlife so students often travel to other areas of the city for entertainment (Carter Palmer capalmer@ucsd.edu, Chris Park chp031@ucsd.edu, Tim Baffi tbaffi@ucsd.edu).

- **Clairemont** – South of University City, this area is primarily residential. There are many great houses and apartments for cheap, but there are a few not-so-great areas (check out the place before you commit). It’s close and easy to get to school! (Ryan Geusz rgeusz@ucsd.edu).

- **Hillcrest and North Park** – These trendy urban neighborhoods are just north of downtown and have a lot to offer. They are primarily populated by young 20’s/30’s, and have lots of popular bars, breweries, eateries, and events. Since this area is the farthest from UCSD, the commute can be longer especially during rush hour (Gabriela Goldberg gagoldbe@ucsd.edu (Hillcrest), Spencer Brightman sbrightm@ucsd.edu (North Park), Valerie Sapp vsapp@ucsd.edu (Hillcrest)).

- **Carmel Valley, Sorrento Valley, Mira Mesa** – These suburban neighborhoods are located north and east of UCSD. Housing prices tend to be more affordable in Carmel Valley, Sorrento Valley, and Mira Mesa, but these neighborhoods are also a little farther from UCSD. Mira Mesa is home to Ballast Point and many other restaurants and breweries. There is less traffic during rush hours (4pm-7pm) but significant lack of public transportation to this neighborhood (Christine Liu csl022@ad.ucsd.edu (Carmel Valley), Nina Gao njgao@ucsd.edu (Sorrento Valley), Tiani Louis tlouis@ucsd.edu (Mira Mesa)).

See what the City of San Diego says about the neighborhoods: [http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/](http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/)

Resources from UCSD for searching for an off-campus place: [https://students.ucsd.edu/campus-services/housing/offcampus/index.html](https://students.ucsd.edu/campus-services/housing/offcampus/index.html)
When to move to San Diego

Summer Rotation
We currently are not conducting a summer rotation program.

Fall 2018
Students should plan to move to San Diego in September 2018. All students need to come by the BMS office (BSB 5008) on Monday, September 17th to fill out new-hire paperwork and pick up an orientation schedule. BMS Orientation begins on Tuesday, September 18th and continues through Wednesday, September 26th. Classes will begin on Thursday, September 27th.

The Graduate Division will also hold their All-Grad Orientation on Wednesday September 12th. Please note that this is a separate orientation from BMS and is not a part of our scheduled activities.

The BMS Retreat
We will all be going to the Omni Rancho Las Palmas Resort in Palm Springs from Wednesday, September 19th - Friday, September 21st, 2018. We will listen to student and faculty research talks, have a few meals together, and enjoy the southern California weather. The retreat will be a great opportunity for you to meet the rest of the program, both students and faculty, as soon as you arrive at UCSD. BMS will provide free transportation for all first years.
**Orientation**

There are several topics that will be covered during Orientation. These include:

- Lab safety training
- Mental Health Awareness
- Professionalism
- Short research talks from faculty members
- Meeting your SPAC Advisor (your advisor during the first year)

If you have any general questions about the BMS requirements, you can look up the guidelines here: [http://biomedsci.ucsd.edu/about/bms-guidelines-2017-18.pdf](http://biomedsci.ucsd.edu/about/bms-guidelines-2017-18.pdf).
### Academic Calendar 2018-2019

**Fall 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Quarter begins</td>
<td>Monday, September 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction begins</td>
<td>Thursday, September 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Day Holiday</td>
<td>Monday, November 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td>Thursday – Friday, November 22–23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction ends</td>
<td>Friday, December 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>Saturday – Saturday, December 8–15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Quarter ends</td>
<td>Saturday, December 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Break</td>
<td>Monday – Tuesday, December 24–25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year Holiday</td>
<td>Monday – Tuesday, December 31 – January 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 49 Days of Instruction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 60 Days in Quarter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Winter 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter Quarter begins</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction begins</td>
<td>Monday, January 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday</td>
<td>Monday, January 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidents' Day Holiday</td>
<td>Monday, February 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction ends</td>
<td>Friday, March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>Saturday – Saturday, March 16–23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Quarter ends</td>
<td>Saturday, March 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 48 Days of Instruction</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- 58 Days in Quarter</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Spring 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Quarter begins</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>César Chávez Holiday</td>
<td>Friday, March 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction begins</td>
<td>Monday, April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Day observance</td>
<td>Monday, May 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction ends</td>
<td>Friday, June 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>Saturday – Friday, June 8–14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Quarter ends</td>
<td>Friday, June 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement programs</td>
<td>Saturday – Sunday, June 15–16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 49 Days of Instruction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 58 Days in Quarter</td>
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Car Issues

Driver’s License
You are required to get a driver’s license within **10 days** of moving to California. Do it, and don’t wait until the last minute. Schedule a DMV appointment online to cut down on wait time. If you have a license from another state you will need to take a written test but not a driving test to receive your California license.

California Registration
You are required to register your car within **20 days** of moving to California. You might as well do it at the same appointment to get your driver’s license. It is a California state requirement to have a new Smog Certificate upon initial registration, so make sure you do it before you go to the DMV (~$50). It is easiest to make a smog check appointment a few days before your DMV appointment. If you live near campus, I recommend the Shell station/service center on the corner of Genesee and Governor (University City Service Center). The DMV website has more details: ([http://www.dmv.ca.gov/vr/smogfaq.htm#BM2535](http://www.dmv.ca.gov/vr/smogfaq.htm#BM2535))

Tips and Tricks
• If you don’t have a car you will probably want one. Many people attempt to live here without a car, and, while it is possible, it makes life pretty difficult. If you are thinking of buying a car, the best option would be to buy it once you arrive in San Diego (easier registration, taxes, etc).

• It is expensive to register a car in California. If you have NOT had your car (in your name) for a full year, you will be forced to pay taxes on the worth of the car. This is to try to keep people from buying cars out of state and driving them over the border to avoid California taxes. If you paid taxes on the car in another state, you will pay the difference between the CA sales tax, and the cost of sales tax where you bought the car (since California will most likely be higher!). You are not exempt if you get the car for “free” or if it is a “gift” from parents, etc. You still have to pay sales tax!

• If you want to figure out what your registration will cost, you can use the DMV’s handy calculator: [https://mv.dmv.ca.gov/FeeCalculatorWeb/index.jsp](https://mv.dmv.ca.gov/FeeCalculatorWeb/index.jsp)

• Find the DMV’s around San Diego and look up all the official rules here: [https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/dmv/offices](https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/dmv/offices)

• Make an appointment on the DMV website before you even get to San Diego! Appointments are scheduled 2+ weeks in advance, but making one will dramatically reduce your wait time at the office.

• Contact Alanna (akoehler@ucsd.edu) if you have any questions about bringing/shipping a car from out-of-state.
Parking on campus
Info on buying and using parking permits here:
https://transportation.ucsd.edu/parking/permits/

Be aware that spots fill up early in the morning. Here is a list of parking locations and the average time the lot was full in the mornings of Spring 2018:
https://transportation.ucsd.edu/parking/availability.html.

Convenient parking lots close to the School of Medicine are:

- **Gilman Parking Structure** at Villa La Jolla and Gilman Drive, B spots fill up by ~7:45am,
- **P102** near Revelle College and Scholar’s Drive South, B spots fill up by ~8:15am and it is about a 10 minute walk to SOM.
- **Osler Parking Structure** currently under construction expected to open August, 2018.
- There are also B spots at the **UCSD Medical Center La Jolla** (see right side of map) with shuttles to main campus/SOM.
- Contact Spencer Brightman (sbrightm@ucsd.edu) or Helen Wedegaertner (hweedegae@ucsd.edu) if you have any questions. Be advised that due to ongoing construction, parking is constantly in flux and may be different in Fall 2018.

For an up-to-date, interactive map of campus, including B parking spots and construction:
https://maps.ucsd.edu/map/default.htm
Student ID Card

All students enrolled for the Fall quarter are entitled to a Triton ID Card. This is your official university ID card, and you are issued just one active card.

Graduate students should have received instructions to submit their photo electronically through the Photo Tool at https://students.ucsd.edu/finances/campus-cards/photo-tool.html between May 1st and August 1st*.

If you make this deadline, the Biomedical Sciences office will be able to provide you with your ID card on Monday, September 17. If you need it earlier please contact Leanne Nordeman (lnordeman@ucsd.edu). You can also pick up your ID card from the Student Business Services Office on campus (see map).

If you missed the August 1st deadline for electronic photo submission, don’t worry! You can get your photo taken and your Triton ID card at the Student Business Services Office. More information about this can be found at https://students.ucsd.edu/finances/campus-cards/index.html.

*This year, the Campus Card office is having a Photo Tool Giveaway Contest, where you can potentially win an Apple Watch or a Polaroid Instant Camera. Please check https://students.ucsd.edu/finances/campus-cards/photo-tool.html for details.

The campus ID card has many perks and uses:

- Check out books and materials through UCSD libraries
- Use it as a debit card at various campus dining facilities
- Use your ID to purchase a rec card or gain access to recreation classes and facilities
- Get discounts or free admission to sporting events through the UCSD Box Office
- Get free rides on public transportation
- Show your affiliation, if needed, on UCSD shuttles
- Get employee discounts on attractions, electronics, education, movies, and more

Questions? Contact Campus Cards
(858) 534-6606
campuscards@ucsd.edu
Alternative Transportation

There are many free shuttles and bus lines provided by UCSD. In order to use these services, you must get your campus ID card stickered.

Electric Vehicle Leasing/Sales Program:
- UCSD has expanded its exclusive electric vehicle leasing/sales program.
- Available for EV models from BMW, Ford, Mercedes-Benz (Smart), and Nissan.
- Program offers additional rebates and discounts on top of California state rebates and tax incentives for purchasing an electric car.
- Campus has 133 EV charging stations (available at almost every parking lot).
Details can be found here: [https://rmp.ucsd.edu/strategic-energy/ev.html](https://rmp.ucsd.edu/strategic-energy/ev.html)

Public buses:
- After you get your campus ID, go to the Parking Services Office in second floor of the Gilman parking structure (or the Hillcrest parking office) to get your sticker that allows you free access to several public bus lines in San Diego (U-Pass). You can also pick up the U-Pass at UCSD’s general graduate student orientation.
- During the first week of classes, UCSD Parking Services will have a booth on Library Walk where you can get your U-Pass sticker within 5 minutes. Very convenient so don’t miss out!
- Alternatively, you can also use the U-Pass Cloud app to have your U-Pass on your phone as an app. For information on using the U-Pass Cloud App, follow this link: [https://transportation.ucsd.edu/alternatives/transit/u-pass.html#Get-U-Pass-Cloud-App](https://transportation.ucsd.edu/alternatives/transit/u-pass.html#Get-U-Pass-Cloud-App)
- Details can be found here: [http://u-pass.ucsd.edu](http://u-pass.ucsd.edu)

Free UCSD Shuttles:
- In addition to the free public buses, UCSD has a network of shuttles. These run from various housing complexes to campus, and also include several routes around the campus itself.
- An up-to-date map of shuttle routes can be found here: [http://ucsdbus.com/m/routes](http://ucsdbus.com/m/routes). Please note, routes are liable to change between quarters and over the summer.
- Most shuttles are equipped with bike racks for those who bike.
- More information and live shuttle tracking can be found on the UCSD Transportation Services website: [http://blink.ucsd.edu/facilities/transportation/shuttles/index.html](http://blink.ucsd.edu/facilities/transportation/shuttles/index.html)

Biking:
- Many people bike to campus. To follow regulations at UCSD, you need a bike registration sticker on your bicycle. You can get this from the UCSD Bike Shop located in Student Center A, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration fee is $6.
• [http://blink.ucsd.edu/safety/emergencies/security/bike.html](http://blink.ucsd.edu/safety/emergencies/security/bike.html)

• If you bike for most of your commute to UCSD and are registered with the state of California, then you can join the Pedal Club. The Pedal Club allows you 10 complimentary days for parking your car per quarter with an Occasional Use permit. You also can get maintenance discounts at the UCSD Bike Shop among other benefits.

• If you will be living in any of the Mesa housing complexes or OMS, there will soon be a pedestrian bridge crossing the I-5 freeway making biking to campus even easier.

• **Spin Bikesharing**: GPS-equipped bikes available all around campus and campus housing for your convenience. Download the Spin app to your phone.

• See website for details: [http://transportation.ucsd.edu/alternatives/cycling/pedal.html](http://transportation.ucsd.edu/alternatives/cycling/pedal.html)

**Ride-sharing:**

• UCSD is a participant in the Lyft FLEX flexible commute program

• Purchase Lyft FLEX credits at a discount and receive 5-10 days of free parking

• Details can be found here: [https://transportation.ucsd.edu/alternatives/lyft.html](https://transportation.ucsd.edu/alternatives/lyft.html)

*You can also ask Chris Park ([chp031@ucsd.edu](mailto:chp031@ucsd.edu)) if you have any questions regarding bus routes, or Jack Houston ([jmhousto@ucsd.edu](mailto:jmhousto@ucsd.edu)) if you have any questions regarding bicycling around campus.*

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**Proposals are being developed for changes to the transit subsidy and other alternative transportation and incentive programs.**
Setting Up Utilities

If you are living in UCSD On-campus Grad Housing, some utilities will be set up for you, while others you will be expected to handle. Check out your Residential Services Office for any discounts or deals.

Electricity
- San Diego Gas and Electric
  o [http://www.sdge.com](http://www.sdge.com)
  o (800) 411-7343

Water
- San Diego Public Utilities - Water
  o (619) 515-3500

Cable/Internet (There are a couple others but these are the main ones)
- Spectrum/Time Warner Cable
  o [https://www.spectrum.com/](https://www.spectrum.com/)
  o 1-888-892-2253
- AT&T UVerse/Internet
  o Note: Some locations will only let you install direct TV with ATT Internet. If you are in grad housing and have only this option, there is a good chance that you won’t be able to get a signal due to the trees around the neighborhood. However, all locations have access to Time Warner.
- DirecTV
  o (888) 795-9488
  o You can get $100 off if a friend or family member who also has a DirectTV account refers you.
- Cox Communications
  o [http://www.cox.com/](http://www.cox.com/)
  o 866-961-0027
Stipend and Taxes

- Paycheck amount – you are getting paid $33,000 a year beginning September 1. You must pay taxes on this money!

- UCSD pays you after you work (i.e. “in arrears”). Therefore, you will be officially listed on payroll as of September 17, 2018, but will not receive a paycheck until October 1, 2018. You can pick up your first paycheck from your folder outside of the BMS office.

- Entering Ph.D. students will receive a one-time BMS Transition Award in the amount of $1375 to use at their discretion (we recommend that the award be used for relocation expenses or for educational expenses, such as the purchase of a computer). You will receive the check for the Transition Award together with your first paycheck on October 1st.

- If you are getting paid through the BMS program (i.e. you don’t have outside funding), you will be receiving your paycheck from two sources — one is a salary that gets taxes deducted prior to reaching you, and the other is a scholarship that does not get taxes deducted. Because a portion of your pay is not automatically taxed, you will owe money to the IRS. It is important to put away some money every month to cover taxes at the end of the year!

- Instructions for setting up direct deposit for your salary can be found at [http://blink.ucsd.edu/finance/payroll/processes/enroll.html](http://blink.ucsd.edu/finance/payroll/processes/enroll.html), and for your scholarship via Students Direct Deposit, under the Financial Tools tab in TritonLink.

- **YOU MUST FILE YOUR TAX RETURNS AS A RESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA,** not of any other state. If you are filing in multiple states, be sure to indicate California as your primary residence on ALL, or your residence may be challenged. Disclaimer, this is not legal advice, but some people ran into a couple of issues when establishing residency because they made this mistake.
California Residency

If you are a citizen of the USA, you **MUST** become a California resident before the start of your second year. To do this, you need the following 12 things. Start collecting these in a folder ASAP!!! It’s **MUCH** easier if you start as early as possible. **YOU HAVE TO DO THIS!!!**

You will need (copied from online):

1. California driver's license or a California ID card as soon as possible but within a few months of arriving in the state. The DMV has very specific rules; see their [Information for persons new to California](#). Operating a vehicle in California that is not owned by you still requires you to obtain a California driver's license and proof of California car insurance.

2. Voter registration card or affidavit from Registrar of Voters. Contact Registrar of Voters at (800) 696-0136, or check status and apply online at the [County of San Diego Voter Registration website](#).

3. A copy of the first month's bank account statement with a California bank, or a bank statement showing when address was changed to California.

4. California car registration and car insurance card as soon as possible, but within a few months of arriving in the state. The DMV has very specific rules; see their [Information for persons new to California](#). Operating a vehicle in California that is not owned by you still requires you to obtain a California driver's license and proof of California car insurance.

5. Federal and all state tax returns for the past year, or W2s only if you did not file in any state. Your residency will be questioned if, during the period you are claiming to be a California resident, you file a full-year resident tax return in another state or file a full-year nonresident California state tax return. If you filed a California Part-Year Resident return (Form 540NR), be sure to include your [Schedule CA 540NR](#). Black out all social security numbers on all tax documents. If you did not keep copies, call Franchise Tax Board for copies of state tax return and the IRS for your federal tax return at least 90 days before you submit your packet.

6. Evidence of financial independence (you must meet ONE requirement). You:
   - Are a single undergraduate under age 24 and were not claimed as a dependent for tax purposes by either nonresident parent or any other individual for the current and 2 tax years immediately preceding the quarter for which you request classification as a resident, and you can demonstrate self-sufficiency for the current and 2 preceding years. Single undergraduates under 24 must submit, for the applicable quarter a petition is being filed, a budget worksheet form. Use this sample as a guide to what you will provide with your own worksheet, and you must label each income document. [Sample Budget Worksheet](#)
Document all sources of income listed on the worksheet, and include your own and your parents' prior 2 tax years of state and federal tax returns, or

Are financially dependent on a California resident parent who meets the University’s requirements for residence for tuition purposes (eligible to establish residence, one year physical presence showing intent to remain in the state); student would submit the 12 items for the parent(s) claiming to be a resident(s) and for the student his/herself, or

Will be at least 24 years old by Dec. 31 of the calendar year for which classification as a resident is requested (student would submit copy of driver's license), or

Are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, or

Are a ward of the court or both parents are deceased, or

Have a legal dependent(s), or

Are a married student who was not claimed as an income tax deduction by either parent or any other individual for the tax year immediately preceding the term for which classification as a resident is requested, or

Are a graduate or professional school student who was not claimed as an income tax deduction by either parent or any other individual for the tax year immediately preceding the term for which classification as a resident is requested (submit copies of parents' federal and state tax returns for the prior tax year), or

Are a graduate or professional school student who is employed at the University of California 49 percent or more time (or awarded the equivalent in University-administered funds) during the quarter for which classification as a resident is requested (submit letter from graduate department stating as such), or

Reached the age of majority (18) in California while your parents were residents of California, and they left the state to establish a residence elsewhere, and you continue to live in California after their departure.

7. Proof of physical presence in California for the summer immediately prior to the change of classification request:

Employment verification from California employer, or from your major department attesting to physical presence in the state, and

Either bank or credit card statements, whichever one indicates dates/location activity on them for June, July, and August. If there are other names on the account in addition to the student's, the only statements that can be provided must be in the student's name only.

If absent from the state, provide airline tickets.
If on an out-of-state research appointment, provide a letter from your department endorsing your absence.

Do not submit store receipts as proof of your physical presence.

Summer actions count! A student's actions during the entire year, including the summer, affect the determination made regarding residence status for tuition purposes. A student who is in California solely for educational purposes is not eligible for California residence for tuition purposes regardless of the length of his or her stay.

If a student returns to his or her former place of residence (outside California), he or she will be presumed to be in California solely for educational purposes and only strong evidence to the contrary will rebut this presumption.

A student seeking to establish California residence who accepts employment or conducts research outside of California will be questioned regarding his or her attempts to find employment and/or conduct research within California. Leaving the state for a unique research opportunity or for special circumstances (such as a medical emergency) may not preclude the student from being classified as a resident, but the burden will be on the student to provide convincing evidence that leaving the state was not inconsistent with his or her claim of permanent residence. See Residence for Tuition Purposes: Temporary Absences.

8. Copies of all your housing contracts, monthly rental agreements, lease or proof of property ownership for the past year, or verification in writing from property owner of housing agreement.

9. Proof of credit and memberships with CA merchants, e.g. stores, supermarkets, video clubs, fitness clubs, public library, magazine subscriptions, and religious affiliations.

10. Proof of your belongings moved into California such as a moving van bill of lading, U-Haul moving van receipts, etc.

11. Proof of utilities in your name, e.g. phone, gas, electric, TV, cable, Internet, water, etc. Submit the first and the latest statements only.

12. If you are a permanent resident through the INS, copy of your alien registration card.

Note: Attach a written statement as to the circumstances of any missing or late-dated documents. Make copies of all documentation to keep for your records.
International Students

The International Students and Program Office is located in the Student Center B off of Mandeville Lane and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. 
https://ispo.ucsd.edu/_files/newofficelocation.pdf

All Information for Newly Admitted International Graduate Students can be found at https://ispo.ucsd.edu/new-students/graduate-students/index.html#Take-Pre-Arrival-Webinars

When you Arrive:

Step 1: Complete ISPO’s iTriton Online Training Program

All new international students are required to complete ISPO’s iTriton Online Training Program prior to starting classes at UC San Diego. Information for this training program will be posted soon https://ispo.ucsd.edu/new-students/orientation/itriton.html If you have any questions of concerns regarding this training program, please contact istudents@ucsd.edu.

Step 2: International Center Document Check

After arrival into the USA, complete the International Student Document Self-Check within 15 days of your program start date at UC San Diego.

Options for Fulfilling Document Self-Check

Please choose only ONE of the following options to complete your document self-check:

- **OPTION 1:** Complete the document self-check on your own by following the Document Self-Check Steps
- **OPTION 2:** Bring your documents to International Student Orientation where we will walk you through the document self-check.
- **OPTION 3:** Visit ISPO’s Welcome Lounge in the Small Conference Room September 17-21. More information on exact opening times on these dates will be posted on the ISPO website soon.

*Note: There is no need to notify International Students & Programs Office when you complete document self-check unless you have questions or if you believe there is an error in your visa status. While it is not required to bring documents to International Student Orientation, failure to complete the document self-check may result in the loss of your F-1 or J-1 status, especially if your documents were processed incorrectly at the port of entry and you do not get them fixed. Please remember that maintaining your visa status is your responsibility but ISPO is here to help with any questions.*
Step 3: International Student Orientation

You are strongly encouraged to attend an **International Student Orientation**! If you have NOT completed document self-check OR have any questions, bring the following:

- Original or copy of Form I-20 (F-1 Students) or DS-2019 (J-1 Exchange Visitors)
- Copy of electronic I-94 arrival / departure card (accessible at [https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov](https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov) only after arrival to the U.S.)
- Original or copy of passport
Health Insurance

- Please note, you will NOT be covered by the UC Student Health Insurance Plan (UC SHIP) until September 10th so you will want to be certain that you are covered by your own health insurance if you choose to move in during the summer. If you let your health insurance coverage lapse you may not be covered later for any conditions deemed “pre-existing” and might end up paying a lot of money to get treated for something simple. Again, MAKE SURE you are covered by your own health insurance over the summer!

- Details on the UCSD Student Health Insurance Plan:
  - [https://wellness.ucsd.edu/studenthealth/Pages/default.aspx](https://wellness.ucsd.edu/studenthealth/Pages/default.aspx)
  - [http://grad.ucsd.edu/degrees/student-health-services-and-insurance-plan.html](http://grad.ucsd.edu/degrees/student-health-services-and-insurance-plan.html)
  - Download the mobile app for UC SHIP once your coverage starts: [https://wellness.ucsd.edu/studenthealth/insurance/Pages/UC-SHIP-Mobile-App.aspx](https://wellness.ucsd.edu/studenthealth/insurance/Pages/UC-SHIP-Mobile-App.aspx)
  - UC SHIP coverage is provided by Anthem BlueCross/BlueShield. If you receive care at a location other than Student Health Services (on campus), you can view your claims here: [https://www.anthem.com/health-insurance/home/overview](https://www.anthem.com/health-insurance/home/overview)
When and how to start looking for a rotation

- Don’t freak out! You do not need to have your rotations set in stone before you get here! You will have plenty of opportunities to hear about the research going on at UCSD once you start Orientation, and you are not expected to start in a rotation lab immediately. **However, it may be to your benefit to e-mail a few professors during the summer and set up meetings for once you get to San Diego.** The first rotation is often the hardest to set up as not all labs will be willing and able to take rotation students in the fall because of grant deadlines, conferences, or because they would rather you rotate when you’re not adjusting to a new place. So plan accordingly and be prepared to reach out to more than one person.

- **Email the PI you would like to work with and set up an in-person meeting.** Make sure to mention “BMS rotation” somewhere in the subject heading (or it may fall through the cracks). Try your absolute hardest to meet with professors before you agree to a rotation. The personal interaction you will have by sitting through a face-to-face meeting with your prospective PI is really important! Meet with as many professors as you can and pick the rotation that is the best fit for you. We have a large number of amazing faculty, so don’t be discouraged if a rotation doesn’t work out or someone you were interested in turns out not to be a great fit.

- **Be persistent!** Sometimes professors don’t answer email or they say they don’t have space or funding, but, if you follow-up and are persistent, you can find out more!

- **Try to meet with the post-doc/grad student/technician** you would be working with on a day-to-day basis during your rotation. A poor mentor can make for a miserable rotation – even if you like the professor and the work.

- **Ask the PI important questions:**
  - Do you have funding? This may feel awkward, but it is perhaps the most important initial question. This will not offend him or her.
  - Do you have space and time for another graduate student?
  - What sort of projects would I work on for my thesis?

- **Talk to current students.** Don’t hesitate to email and talk to students who have rotated in or joined the lab and get as many opinions as you can. Most students are more than happy to talk about their labs and research! And remember, the more opinions, the better informed you are when it comes to making a choice. On the BMS website you can search for a current student and see a list of their rotations and thesis lab: [http://biomedsci-db.ucsd.edu/student_index](http://biomedsci-db.ucsd.edu/student_index). You can also insert a professor’s name into this search engine and see which students are associated with each. Ask us if you need the name of students who know more about the lab you are interested in.
Visit the BMS Laboratory Rotation Projects Page (Password: Rocknroton) http://biomedsci-db.ucsd.edu/lab_rotation to get an idea of which professors indicated they were able to take rotation students last year and the projects they were working on. Faculty are currently updating their lab rotation availability throughout the summer. Please note that this is not a comprehensive list — not all faculty accepting students are listed here.

There is no perfect lab! You will never find a perfect lab, but there are many amazing labs at UCSD that have great people, are doing top-notch science, and would be fun to work in. Don’t get caught up trying to find the “perfect” lab and miss out on some of the great ones that are here. Be open to labs doing work that you know nothing about, or labs doing techniques that you’ve never heard of, or labs that do more computational modeling even though you can barely turn on your PC. Be adventurous and learn something!
Important Locations for when you move (closest to UCSD)

Ikea
2149 Fenton Parkway
San Diego, CA 92108-4739

Target
5680 Balboa Avenue
San Diego, CA 92111-2706

Wal-Mart
4840 Shawline Street
San Diego, CA 92111

Home Depot
4255 Genessee Avenue
San Diego, CA 92117

Costco
4605 Morena Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92117

Ralphs
8677 Villa La Jolla Dr
La Jolla, CA 92037-2354

Vons
7788 Regents Road
San Diego, CA 92122

Trader Joe’s
8657 Villa La Jolla Dr
La Jolla, CA 92037-8309

Sprouts
3358 Governor Dr
San Diego, CA 92122

Balboa International Market
5905 Balboa Ave
San Diego, CA 92111
Zion Market
7655 Clairemont Mesa Blvd
San Diego, CA 92111

99 Ranch Market
7330 Clairemont Mesa Blvd
San Diego, CA 92111

If you need any other locations or ideas of where to get certain things – don’t hesitate to get in contact with one of us.
List of Important Websites

Department/School sites
- http://biomedsci.ucsd.edu
- https://students.ucsd.edu

Housing
- http://hdh.ucsd.edu/arch/gradhousing.html
- https://hdh.ucsd.edu/ARCHWAITLIST/
- https://offcampushousing.ucsd.edu/

Transportation and Maps
- http://www.ucdbus.com
- http://transportation.ucsd.edu/shuttles/index.html
- http://transportation.ucsd.edu/
- http://www-act.ucsd.edu/maps/

Car
- https://mv.dmv.ca.gov/FeeCalculatorWeb/index.jsp
- https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/dmv/offices

Health Insurance
- http://studenthealth.ucsd.edu

Utilities
- http://www.sdge.com
- https://www.spectrum.com/
- http://www.att.com/
- http://www.directv.com/DTVAPP/index.jsp
- http://ww2.cox.com/

Establishing California Residency
- http://www.ucsd.edu/current-students/finances/fees/residence/status-change.html
- http://www.ucsd.edu/current-students/finances/fees/residence/criteria.html

What to do in your free time
- http://recreation.ucsd.edu/
- http://www.sandiegohikers.com/
• https://www.sandiegobrewersguild.org/
• http://www.westcoastersd.com/
• http://www.balboapark.org/
• http://sandiego.eater.com/
San Diego Neighborhood Map
Apartment Complexes Near Campus

Welcome to UC San Diego

LOCAL APARTMENTS
All apartments are located on the MTS Bus and UCSD Shuttle Line

1. Archstone Apartments
6500 Villa La Jolla
La Jolla, CA 92037
(619) 550-4599
info@archstoneapts.com
0.5 miles to campus
92 units
$1425 - $1915 average rent

2. Archstone UTC
7939 Avenida Nevada
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 220-0920
archstoneutc.com
2.3 miles to campus
128 units
$1600 - $1900 average rent

3. Canyon Park
6555 Genesee Ave
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 450-6915
canyonpark.com
2.5 miles to campus
221 units
$1600 - $1820 average rent

4. Costa Verde Village
6720 Coast Village Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92122
(858) 450-0809
costaverdevillage.com
1.4 miles to campus
1267 units
$1155 - $2250 average rent

5. La Jolla Canyon
9265 Genesee Ave
San Diego, CA 92121
(619) 278-8848
geneseeapts.com
1.91 miles to campus
157 units
$1150 - $1675 average rent

6. La Jolla Crossroads
9095 Judicial Drive
San Diego, CA 92122
(858) 393-8490
la-jolla-crossroads.com
2.39 miles to campus
566 units
$1275 - $2895 average rent

7. La Jolla
International Gardens
3417 Lebon Drive
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 230-7894
dacdf.com
1.18 miles to campus
400 units
$1205 - $1670 average rent

8. La Jolla Nobel
4247 Nobel Drive
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 454-7581
fountain Villas.com
1.03 miles to campus
146 units
$1175 - $1475 average rent

9. La Jolla Palms
3035 La Jolla Blvd
San Diego, CA 92122
(858) 486-1741
1.2 miles to campus
232 units
$1765 - $2200 average rent

10. La Jolla Park West
5165 La Jolla Cove
San Diego, CA 92122
(858) 450-9899
parkwest.com
3.26 miles to campus
175 units
$1799 - $2165 average rent

11. La Regencia
7951 Palomar Drive
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 430-7985
gensan.com/timberline
1.37 miles to campus
760 units
$1345 - $1910 average rent

12. La Scala
6746 Nobel Dr.
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 230-6941
www.tenancy.com
1.51 miles to campus
354 units
$1180 - $1815 average rent

13. La Salle
7008 Chaminard Dr
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 682-6949
www.ucsd-areapartments.com
2.43 miles to campus
212 units
$1435 - $1855 average rent

14. Mirada at La Jolla Colony
7880 Chaminard Dr
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 486-0495
miradaapts.com
1.44 miles to campus
444 units
$1250 - $1820 average rent

15. Nobel Court
707 Nobel Dr.
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 278-3991
nuclear.com
1.56 miles to campus
247 units
$1265 - $1900 average rent

16. Paseo Gardens
5143 Glencove
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 430-8332
paseogardens.com
2.09 miles to campus
354 units
$1175 - $1680 average rent

17. Regents Court
5252 Regents Road
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 230-0022
regentscourt.com
1.4 miles to campus
251 units
$1415 - $2350 average rent

18. Regents La Jolla
5237 Regents Road
La Jolla, CA 92037
(619) 450-8115
regentsapts.com
1.27 miles to campus
326 units
$1455 - $2700 average rent

19. Torrey Pines Village
6293 Lombard Place
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 682-0079
torreypinesvillage.com
2 miles to campus
134 units
$1400 - $1600 average rent

20. Towers at Costa Verde
6765 Coast Village Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 682-0088
www.pacificresidences.com
1.44 miles to campus
348 units
$1625 - $2650 average rent

21. Trieste Apartments
2860 Mifflin Ave
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 250-7222
mifflinapts.com
1.6 miles to campus
202 units
$1397 - $1717 average rent

22. Valentina
5308 Toscana Way
La Jolla, CA 92037
(619) 492-0211
valentina.com
2.5 miles to campus
110 units
$1600 - $2760 average rent

23. The Village of Rinconada
5680 Fox Terrace
San Diego, CA 92122
(619) 573-0500
villageofrinconada.com
2.43 miles to campus
127 units
$1595 - $2475 average rent

24. Villa La Jolla
6240 Via Murieta
La Jolla, CA 92037
(619) 657-815
villas.com
.91 miles to campus
226 units
$1160 - $1710 average rent

25. Village Square
8665 Via Murieta
San Diego, CA 92037
(619) 657-9122
atms.com
.91 miles to campus
119 units
$1195 - $1255 average rent

*Information collected quarterly by UCSD and Compeer Student Services. All rates are not finalized and do not endorse the above apartment and condominium listings.
Several of the further routes are not shown, but all UCSD shuttles can be found at http://ucsdbus.com/m/routes
San Diego Regional Transit:
UCSD Parking Lot location Map