

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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DEPARTMENT OF CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING
COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

228 WURSTER HALL
BERKELEY, CA 94720-1850

Fall 2011

Dear Incoming DCRP Students,

Welcome to the Department of City and Regional Planning (DCRP) at the University of California at Berkeley. To help make settling in the Berkeley area easier, we have put together some information for you. It is organized into two sections. The first section deals with *housing, banking, shopping, transportation, and miscellaneous resources*. The last few pages cover *financial aid, employment, and establishing California residency*.

Registration for new graduate students takes place via the web using the Tele-Bears system on August 4-10. In order to access the Tele-Bears system, you need to set up a Cal Net ID and passphrase using your Student Identification Number and your P.I.N. (which were included in your Graduate Division admissions letter). To make course selection a bit less stressful, information sessions regarding curriculum, as well as opportunities for peer advising, will be provided during orientation. Keep in mind that you must be registered for 12 units of study, and that you can make changes to your schedule during the first few weeks of the semester.

The date for orientation has not been scheduled yet (we are waiting for the Graduate Division to finalize their orientation schedule). Orientation activities will include an introductory session, group advising, and some social events.

We look forward to seeing you in August!

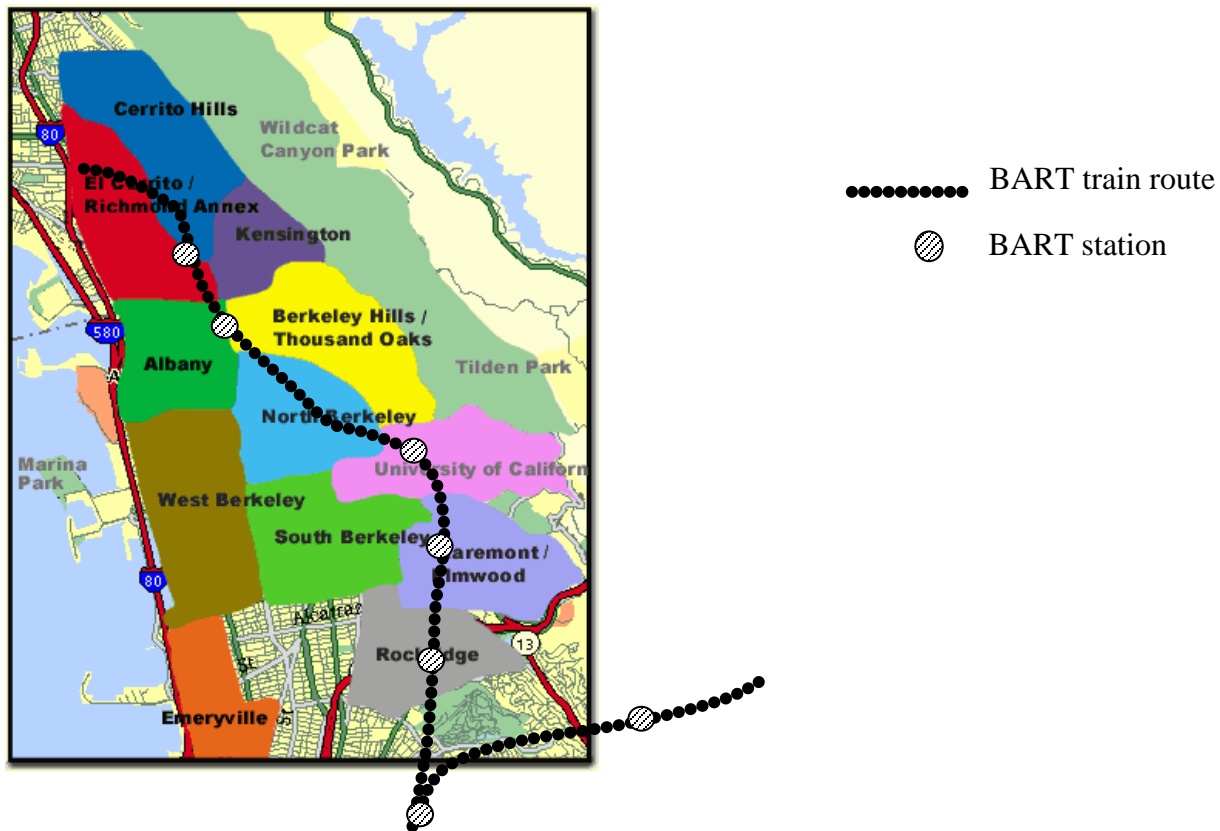
Again, welcome to the Department of City and Regional Planning at Cal!

Welcome to Berkeley...
An Introduction from DCRP

Housing

Berkeley is a popular place to live for students and non-students alike. The demand for rental housing is keen, and new students should expect to devote a lot of time and effort to finding a place to live. The task, however, is not impossible; in fact, the housing market has become more renter-friendly in recent years. The following information should help you in your search. You should not forget to investigate the areas surrounding Berkeley, where housing may be easier and cheaper to obtain.

Berkeley is divided loosely into several areas, including North side, Southside, the Hills, and West Berkeley. West Berkeley includes an industrial area adjacent to Interstate 80 and the Flatlands that extend roughly from Martin Luther King, Jr. Way westward. Southside and North side are east of Martin Luther King, Jr. Way; the campus divides them. Many students also opt to live south of the Berkeley border.



Areas

Berkeley: The areas close to campus are convenient but highly sought-after, and housing can be very difficult to find. Most areas in Berkeley are within easy biking distance and are also served by

buses; however, you should check the public transportation routes to campus. (<http://www.511.org/>)

Oakland: There are several nice, relatively inexpensive areas in Oakland that are convenient to campus via BART, bus, or bicycle. North Oakland (especially the Rockridge area), the Lake Merritt area, Piedmont Avenue, and the Claremont area are popular with graduate students. (www.oaklandnet.com)

Albany and El Cerrito: Three to seven miles north of campus. Albany is quiet with a “small town” character. The BART line stops at the corner of El Cerrito and Albany, and AC Transit operates several bus routes from these cities to campus. University-student family housing is located in Albany. (www.albanyca.org)

Richmond: An industrial town with some nice areas bordered by Barrett on the south, 29th St. on the west, San Pablo border on the north, and The Arlington on the east. Bus service is not especially good, but there are linkages with BART to either the Richmond station or the El Cerrito Del Norte station. The No. 7 AC Transit bus line runs from Del Norte BART station, along The Arlington, to the Rockridge BART station, with a stop at the corner of Bowditch and Durant, about one block from campus. (www.ci.richmond.ca.us)

***NOTE:**

Early summer is a popular time for new students to come to Berkeley in June or July to find housing. Thus, waiting until August to begin your search will put you up against the most competition, and you may not find a place before school begins. Regardless of when you look, competition for housing within a mile of campus is considerable

Sources of Information

Off-Campus Housing

U.C. Housing Office: 2610 Channing Way
www.housing.berkeley.edu/

Cal Rentals Office: 2610 Channing Way, 2nd floor
(510) 642-3642
Open M-F: 8 am-5 pm
<http://calrentals.housing.berkeley.edu/>

The Cal Rentals office maintains a current listing of houses, apartments, and shared accommodations targeted for U.C. students. For \$20, you can access their listings on-line and receive email updates for 3 months. You must have proof of U.C. affiliation (preferably a letter of admission from the Graduate Division, or the department, along with a picture ID). The office also provides housing search counseling. If visiting the office, it might be advisable to go early in the morning, with lots of change or a cell phone to make phone calls immediately.

Craigslist: Craigslist is a free Bay Area-based classified web service with many listings. And people seeking to rent their apartments or rooms to share frequently prefer to use craigslist, as it is a free service to all parties. Craigslist is also a great way to get cheap and sometimes free furniture. In-law apartments (often boasting fantastic Bay Views or shared use of gardens or hot tubs) are occasionally listed. <http://www.craigslist.org/>

Private Rental Services maintain daily listings much like the Cal Rentals Office, but usually with a few different listings. These services may help students looking to rent multiple bedroom homes; otherwise, they are not necessarily better than the classifieds or Craigslist.

Local Real Estate Management Companies:

KandS	www.kands.com
North Berkeley Properties	www.northberkeleyproperties.com
Panoramic Management	www.panoramicmanagement.com

University Housing

International House: 2299 Piedmont Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94720-2320, (510)642-9470. I-House is clean, friendly, and close to campus. As its name implies, it specializes in rentals to students from outside the U.S., but it accepts all students, providing a special, multi-cultural environment complete with a ground-level cafe. Check http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/l/room_info.html for information on accommodations and semester rates. NOTE: rents include a meal plan.

University Students Cooperative Association: (USCA) Fee \$60 (\$50 is refundable). Currently the USCA's apartments (studios to 4 bedrooms) rent between \$1, 926 and \$3, 750 for a semester depending on location and size. Room and board in the other houses runs about \$3,411 a semester plus 6 to 12 hours of work shift per semester. Tel: 510-848-1936, 10-5 M-F. www.usca.org/

International Student Listserv: The SISS listserv for international students periodically contains advertisements for housing targeted at international students. Students can also post requests for housing to the listserv (see "Information for International Students").

University - Operated Family Student Housing: The University operates about a thousand apartments for married students and families. Most of the apartments are in an area near the Bay (Albany Village) a couple of miles northwest of campus (about a 10-minute trip by car, 25 minutes by bicycle, or by AC Transit bus route No. 52L. The monthly rents for the older units range from \$646 to \$736, with rates in the newly constructed East and West Village Apartments ranging from \$1,527 to \$1,969 for two- and three-bedroom units. Rents include utilities.

For more information and applications:

<http://www.housing.berkeley.edu/livingatcal/studentsfamilies.html>

Family Housing Advisor: 2610 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94720
510-642-4109

The Manville Apartment Building: The award-winning Manville Apartments are located just three blocks from the central campus at the corner of Shattuck Avenue and Channing Way. This ideal location features a popular coffee cafe downstairs, and restaurants, a large video store, a bookstore, and a copy and desktop publishing shop across the street. Just down the block, in downtown Berkeley, are more restaurants, movie theatres and shops. The building contains 132 single-occupancy studio apartments. Rents range from \$1,034 – \$1,069/month.

<http://www.housing.berkeley.edu/livingatcal/manville.html>

The College Durant Apartments (Ida Louise Jackson House) are located one block from the campus. The newly constructed complex offers space for 120 students in 2,3,4,5 and 6 bedroom in shared apartments. Apartments are furnished, with single occupancy bedrooms, shared bathroom, kitchen facility and living/dining room area. Phone and data lines are provided in bedrooms. The complex has common areas, lounges, study rooms, recreation room, vending room, mailroom and a shared outdoor courtyard, study rooms, laundry room, and bicycle storage. Rents in **2011-2012** range from \$949 to \$1,116 per month per person depending on how many students share your apartment. Utilities are included. Phone services are provided by Residence Telephone Services. For more information, check out:

http://www.housing.berkeley.edu/livingatcal/jackson_house.html

See <http://www.housing.berkeley.edu/livingatcal/graduatestudents.html> for additional information beyond what is listed above.

Temporary Housing

University Guest Residence is open for short-term stays during summers until approximately August 14; call or apply online a week to ten days ahead of time for reservations. Rates are \$64/night to \$384 for a week. You will be staying in a college dorm, but the people at the desk will take messages for you. For more information, contact Conference Services, 2601 Warring St., tel: 510-642-4444. http://conferenceservices.berkeley.edu/summervis_index.html

*There are a number of motels and hotels in Berkeley, including two very near campus:

Hotel Durant (510) 845-8981

Bancroft Hotel (510) 549-1000

*The YMCA in downtown Berkeley (510-848-6800) also has rooms for short-term stay at \$45/night.

Banking

In addition to the large, commercial banks - Bank of America, Citibank, Washington Mutual, Union Bank of California, Wells Fargo - there are smaller banks and savings and loans - Home Savings, Home Federal, Homestead, San Francisco Federal, Union. Bank of America is closest to campus.

There are two credit unions. One is a state employees' credit union that you can join if you are a Graduate Student Instructor or Graduate Student Researcher, the other is on campus (Credit Union for Berkeley Students, or CUBS) and is available to all students. Credit unions fees are lower, although their services are more basic. CUBS have ATMs throughout campus, including at the student center and in some of the on-campus libraries. More information can be had at <http://www.cubsonline.org>.

Shopping

For those of you interested in trying to furnish a new apartment or house, there are many garage sales and flea markets held on weekends near campus. The *Ashby Flea Market* is held at the Ashby Street BART station at Ashby and Martin Luther King Jr. Way in South Berkeley every Saturday and Sunday.

Urban Ore at 7th Street and Gilman is also a good place for used furniture. The *St. Vincent de Paul Society Store* at University and San Pablo Avenues is good for both kitchenware and furniture; the store will also deliver furniture for those of you without adequate transportation. Other good sources of used furniture include the Salvation Army stores on Solano Avenue (near the Berkeley/Albany line), on Cutting Blvd. in Richmond, and on San Pablo Avenue in San Pablo; and the *Goodwill Industries Stores* on University Avenue in Downtown Berkeley, San Pablo Avenue and San Pablo Dam Road.

For information on second-hand cars, furniture and so on, try also the bulletin board at Albany Village Family Housing (San Pablo and Munroe). Also look in the classified sections of Berkeley's many free papers (*East Bay Express, Classified Flea Market, etc.*) and on Craigslist.

The University campus is also surrounded by a major shopping area. Downtown Berkeley is centered one block west of the campus on Shattuck Avenue and Center Street. The area is considered the principal business district of Berkeley; it has movie theaters, offices, banks, furniture stores, restaurants, stationery stores, etc. There are a numerous other shopping areas that are also convenient to campus. These include:

- Telegraph Avenue, between Bancroft and Dwight - "South Side," located near the center of campus. There are a variety of student-oriented bookstores, clothing and music stores, banks, drug stores, restaurants, and street merchants (who sell a variety of hand-crafted goods along Telegraph Avenue). Served by the 40 and 40L lines. A small post office is located at 2515 ½ Durant Ave., just east of Telegraph.

- College Avenue, between Russell and Webster - Elmwood District located a mile south of the campus. This is another Berkeley neighborhood, and the stores tend to be small and specialized. This area includes a post office. Served by the 51 line.
- College Avenue, between Alcatraz and Broadway - Rockridge, a large area of mostly small shops. This area includes a large Safeway grocery store. At the very bottom of Rockridge on Broadway is a mid-sized shopping plaza with several discount stores. Served by the 51 line.
- Euclid, between Hearst and Ridge - “North Side,” located just north of the campus. This area is similar to the Elmwood District but smaller.
- Walnut Square Shopping Center - located at the corner of Walnut and Vine, in the north section of Berkeley. The center has various specialty shops, including a pharmacy, small grocery store, banks, bakery and eateries.
- Hilltop Mall - closest shopping mall to UCB. The Hilltop Mall is located in Richmond/San Pablo, off Interstate 80 at the Hilltop Exit (15 minutes from Berkeley via freeway). It is served by AC Transit on the 72 line and BART express buses from the El Cerrito Del Norte station.
- 4th Street in Berkeley – north of University Avenue, an open-air mall, with Crate & Barrel, Apple, and other specialty stores.

There are several other large shopping malls around the Bay Area, particularly in *Emeryville* (Powell St. exit off of I-80), with several clusters of shops and big-box retail spread out over a large area – includes an IKEA, Home Depot, CompUSA, Trader Joe’s, Borders Books, Best Buy, and a variety of restaurants and small shops. The AC Transit Transbay F bus will drop you off in front of IKEA. Or, take the BART to MacArthur and hop onto a free Emery-Go-Round shuttle.

Transportation

Airports, Bus and Rail Lines, Shuttles

Two major airports, Oakland International and San Francisco International, serve the Berkeley area. In terms of proximity to the U.C. campus, Oakland Airport is the better bet. Yet transportation from both airports is fairly convenient.

From Oakland International: BART, the Bay Area rapid rail system, connects the Oakland Airport with Berkeley. To use BART, take the AirBART shuttle bus from the airport to the Oakland Coliseum BART station (\$3 fare, exact change or BART ticket is accepted) and then ride BART (Richmond Line) to the Downtown Berkeley BART Station. Above ground, you can catch the campus shuttle on the corner of Shattuck and Center Street (in front of Scandinavian Design) to the U.C. campus, or walk - the edge of campus is one block away. Door-to-door taxi fare from Oakland Airport to U.C. Berkeley runs about \$40. Van shuttle services are \$18 to \$25, with tip and tax. One can also take AC Transit's 59 bus and make any necessary connections, but luggage can be a problem.

From San Francisco International (SFO): There are several van shuttle services from SFO to the East Bay and Berkeley that cost from \$18 to \$35. You can consult the Yellow Pages of the phonebook for these. The most convenient public transit option is to ride BART directly from SFO to downtown Berkeley. This will cost you \$8.65 one way. Taxis usually cover the trip for \$40 to \$50. www.bart.gov

AMTRAK: (the nation's passenger train system) has stops in Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley (at the base of University Avenue), and Richmond. The Richmond Station is very close to BART. <http://www.amtrak.com> AMTRAK's Berkeley station is accessible on AC Transit's 51B bus.

Greyhound: a station is located in Oakland and within walking distance of a BART station. <http://www.greyhound.com>

BayPorter airport van services both airports [and is convenient when you're traveling with luggage (www.bayporter.com)].

Bicycles

Bicycles are one of the most popular and recommended means of transportation in Berkeley. There are bike racks conveniently located in front of the University buildings and libraries, as well as other places on campus. Unfortunately, bicycles are also popular items for thieves. If you plan to use a bike, register it with the campus police Bicycle Bureau and keep it securely locked (e.g., a Kryptonite T-4 or EV2000 plus a cable). See the Campus Police website for more information: <http://police.berkeley.edu/> or visit the Alternate Transportation section of the Parking & Transportation website: <http://pt.berkeley.edu/around/bike>

Public Transportation

The best source of information on public transit services, schedules, maps, and discount passes is the UC Berkeley's Parking & Transportation Department. Hours of service are: Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri. 7:30-4, Wed. 10-6. For more information call 643-7701. <http://pt.berkeley.edu>

University Transportation: The University runs several campus shuttle bus routes. These buses leave for downtown Berkeley from various stops, including one at the corner of Bowditch and Bancroft. They end up near the Berkeley BART station, at a stop in front of Scandinavian Design at Shattuck. The stops around campus are marked on the ground, "UCB Shuttle Bus" or with a Bear Transit sign. The cost is \$1 (Free with your Class Pass – see below). See <http://pt.berkeley.edu/around/transit/routes> for details on routes, schedules, etc.

Buses: the AC Transit System serves The City of Berkeley and the surrounding East Bay communities. Your student fees pay for an AC Transit bus pass (aka Class Pass) that allows you to ride free of charge during the school year. The service is frequent and fairly dependable, especially during rush hours. If the school year has not yet begun and you don't have a Class Pass, the local fare is \$2 and \$.25 for transfers. A few AC Transit routes from campus connect the East Bay with the Transbay Terminal in downtown San Francisco. AC Transit also provides all-night transbay service mirroring much of the BART line after Bart shuts down. Transbay service is *free* with your class pass (part of student fees). <http://www.actransit.org/>

MUNI: the San Francisco Municipal Railway (MUNI) runs San Francisco's buses, subway, streetcars, and cable cars. Basic fare, route and schedule information is available from MUNI. Monthly passes are convenient if you choose to live in San Francisco (and they are valid on the cable car lines). Tel: 415-673-MUNI. <http://www.sfmuni.com/>

The Bay Area Rapid Transit System (BART) provides service to San Francisco, Richmond, Concord, Hayward, Oakland, Walnut Creek, Fremont and Daly City. Fares vary by the distance you travel. BART runs from 6:00 A.M. to 12:00 midnight, Monday through Friday, with slightly reduced hours on the weekends. There are several BART stations near the UC campus, the closest being the Downtown Berkeley station at Shattuck Avenue and Center Street. The campus shuttle and AC Transit provide inexpensive transportation between the downtown BART station and the Berkeley campus, which is free with the student Class Pass. <http://www.bart.gov>

UC Berkeley's Parking & Transportation Department (P&T) sells slightly subsidized BART tickets to UCB students. You can purchase BART tickets valued at \$48 for \$45. For more information, visit them at: <http://pt.berkeley.edu/pay/transit/passlist>

Automobiles

If possible, it is a good idea to avoid driving to school. If you do drive, be prepared to deal with parking problems and congestion. In the two blocks immediately surrounding the campus, there

are one and two hour parking meters and several campus and private lots/garages. Within the three to four block residential area that rings the campus, there are two-hour parking limits and permit only parking. All day on-street parking is limited and some distance from the main campus. Off-street parking lots can be very expensive (as much as \$15 - \$20 a day). Some students drive to within biking distance and then pedal in; others park at BART stations and take public transportation to campus.

The University has several student fee lots. To use these lots, you must obtain a permit online or from the Parking Office (tel: 510-643-7701), at 2150 Kittredge, 1st floor. Decals are issued to any student with a valid registration card and driver's license and other proof of local residence (farther than two miles from campus), such as a rental agreement or utility bill. For current parking rates, call the Parking Office or check the website: <http://pt.berkeley.edu/park>

You can purchase a prepaid semester student parking permit, or, if you only drive to campus occasionally, you can purchase a Daily Student Fee Lot Permit. Night/weekend permits are also available.

Having a parking permit does not guarantee a space because more permits are issued than there are spaces available, and the lots usually fill up early in the morning.

Miscellaneous Resources

Student Health Center

The *Tang Health Center*, 2222 Bancroft Way, east of Telegraph, tel: 510-642-2000, provides a wide range of services to students. You can make appointments for general medical visits, for counseling sessions, and, for women students, to visit the Women's Clinic. All graduate students are covered by the SHIP program, which they pay for along with registration fees unless they can prove personal comparable insurance and waive out. There is a great physical therapy department, and the Center also runs various educational programs in such areas as stress management and smoking cessation. For foreign-student health information, call 510-642-2818 (Berkeley International Office).

On your first visit to Tang, stop by the reception desk and request a "Gold Card". This will be needed for all Tang Center services. Your SHIP insurance will cover dental visits as well; vision coverage, however, is not included.

More information is available at: <http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/>

Computing

DCRP has its own modern and well-equipped computer center, and for a modest fee you get unlimited access, including printing. The department also shares facilities with the Department of Landscape Architecture. You will learn more about these services during orientation.

The Scholar's Workstation (Hearst Field Annex Bldg. DI) offers student discounts on computer hardware and software. There is also a free software CD you can get in their office with security software, VPN and off-campus library access software, and information on AirBears wireless Internet access on campus. <http://www.tsw.berkeley.edu/>

When you arrive in Berkeley, you can activate your computer account and get an e-mail account by contacting our Computer Lab Manager in the DCRP Computer Room, on the second floor of Wurster Hall. To receive Internet access from your home computer, contact the Student Computer Consulting Service (<http://facility.berkeley.edu/labs/sccs.html>), or send email to sccs@caf .berkeley.edu). Allow 1-2 business days for replies.

There are also non-DCRP computer labs available for use by all UC Berkeley students, at locations around campus such as the Moffitt library and the Valley Life Sciences Building. An account at these non-DCRP labs is free and automatic; however, printing from these labs would cost additional money and is not covered by the DCRP lab fee. See <http://facility.berkeley.edu/facilities.html> for more information.

Child Care

The University sponsors a child care program (Child Care Services, 2537 Haste St., Berkeley, 94720 (510-642-1827), but the deadline for registration for the Fall semester has already passed (May 31). The deadline for the Spring semester is November 15. Child care services are also available at Albany Village University Student Family Housing. <http://www.housing.berkeley.edu/child/>

There are as well several private day care services in Berkeley, as well as BANANAS Child Care, a referral service based out of Oakland—that would be happy to make recommendations. Another invaluable resource is other parents, especially student parents.

Library

UC Berkeley's extensive library system includes most of the libraries on campus. Its collections are cataloged at <http://lib.berkeley.edu>. Welcome Week activities include orientation tours of campus libraries. Doe/Moffitt is the main library for the campus, but you may well be spending more time in the College of Environmental Design library in Wurster Hall. Your student ID is required for entry to Doe/Moffitt. But an ID card is not required to enter most of the other libraries on campus, so you can browse their collections ahead of time if you want. You will need to wait until you have your student ID card in order to borrow books, however.

Student Government/Student Activities

There will be many non-DCRP-organized orientation activities connected to student government and student activity groups during the week of orientation; see <http://welcomeweek.berkeley.edu> to keep abreast of these events

The websites below have not yet been updated for the 2011-2012 school year, but you may want to bookmark them:

<http://students.berkeley.edu/osl/osl.asp> -- University's Office of Student Life maintains a list of clubs

<http://www.asuc.org> – Website for the Student Government of the entire campus (grads and undergrads)

<https://ga.berkeley.edu> – Website for the Graduate Student Government of the campus

THINGS TO DO

The *Berkeley Art Museum* is located on Bancroft, just below Wurster. U.C. students are automatically members and get free admission to all exhibits; just show your student ID card. Students also get discounts on most of the foreign and vintage films shown at the Pacific Film Archives, in Hearst Field Annex, Building A. Local film listings, details of concerts, theater, etc., forthcoming at the *Zellerbach Hall* and *Zellerbach Play House* are available from the Student Union.

The *Oakland Museum* has some fascinating exhibits on California history and geography. There are several guidebooks on local architecture (try the Builders Booksource on 4th Street in Berkeley or William Stout Books on Montgomery Street in San Francisco)—pick one up and take a walking tour. Take advantage of the University's excellent *gym* facilities, including the pools, tracks and tennis courts. Take a walk in *Tilden Park*, where you can take your kids on the wonderfully restored carousel, the ponies, and steam train or to the Little Farm. Go for a swim in Lake Anza or Strawberry Canyon on a hot afternoon.

Cal Adventures (with offices next to the Recreational Sports Facility) provides inexpensive classes, trips, and equipment rentals for sports as diverse as rock climbing, kayaking, sailing, and windsurfing. Berkeley is also home to many highly rated restaurants; including the four-star Chez Pansse on Shattuck Avenue (the upstairs café is just as good and more reasonably priced than the downstairs dining room). And while you're at it, don't forget to get acquainted with the greater San Francisco Bay Area! The East Bay Express (<http://www.eastbayexpress.com/>) and the San Francisco Bay Guardian (<http://www.sfbg.com>) are free publications that list weekly reviews of arts and entertainment, music, and food venues. Get oriented with SF's neighborhoods and history by taking a free walking tour (<http://www.sfcityguides.org/>).

Financial Aid and Employment Opportunities

Financial aid at Berkeley comes from a variety of sources. The Department has no control over the timing of award announcements by the University Financial Aid Office, but we work in a university setting where fees are relatively low and opportunities for support numerous. Two general sources of assistance are available: financial aid and employment.

Financial Aid -- Financial aid at Berkeley has been relatively generous for graduate students. Historically, nearly 80 percent of MCP students responding to exit surveys, including a majority who felt they were in need of “substantial” financial support, received a mix of grants, loans, fellowships, and federal work-study funds. Several obtained outside grants or fellowships. The amount of financial aid received ranged from \$250 to \$15,700, with a mean of \$7,300 per student for three academic years.

Employment -- Most MCP students supplement their income and acquire professional experience by working while enrolled in the two-year program. Most Ph.D. students work on campus as Graduate Student Researchers (GSRs) or Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs); a few maintain outside employment. Again, based on historical exit surveys of MCP students, fully 90 percent reported having been employed during their studies. All those who indicated that they wanted to work have been employed - many students worked as research or teaching assistants within the university. A majority worked outside the university at some point. Almost all MCP students worked off-campus during the summer. Those who worked earned from \$1,920 to \$20,000 over the two-year period, with a mean income of more than \$7,400.

Need-Based Financial Aid

University Grants and Loans Eligibility: is awarded by the University Financial Aid Office on the basis of need. Students who wish to apply now for grants, loans, or work-study should complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA), www.fafsa.ed.gov/. Applications are usually available in December, either in paper form or from the FAFSA website. Contact the Financial Aid Office, second floor of Sproul Hall (tel. 642-0485), for further information. For continuing graduate students, the application deadline is in early March. The FAFSA form can also be filed online, through its own website or through <http://students.berkeley.edu/finaid/graduates/index.htm>. The award decisions are announced at the beginning of May and through mid-summer.

Work-Study: is awarded by the Financial Aid office. Students may sometimes request some loans be converted to work-study. If you have questions, contact the Financial Aid Office, 642-0485, or click on the graduate student icon on the FAO web site (<http://students.berkeley.edu/finaid/home/work.htm>).

UC Berkeley Parent Grant: This award is made as funding permits to low income graduate students who have dependent children living with them. Students are automatically considered for this award if their FAFSA indicates they have legal dependents other than a spouse. Students must complete and submit a Verification form with information about dependent(s) and expected child

care expenses, along with a copy of their most recent income tax return.

<http://students.berkeley.edu/finaid/parents/dependents.htm>

Erich Neilson Loans: Available for undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Environmental Design, and to graduate students on a filing fee, to allow attendance at conferences related to students' educational programs. Loan funds may be used only for travel and registration fees, not hotel accommodations. Loan amounts range from \$250 to \$1,500. Minimum payment of \$30 per month begins nine months after a student graduates or leaves the university. See Yeri Caesar, ycaesark@berkeley.edu for information and applications.

Fellowships

The Berkeley Fellowship, Chancellor's Fellowship Awards for Ph.D. Students, and other special awards are made by the Graduate Fellowships Office based on nominations by the Department. These awards typically pay fees plus stipend, and some are multiple year awards. The Fellowships Office also maintains a useful database of available awards from sources other than the university. Check out the website at: http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/financial/fellowships_office.shtml

Departmental Block Grant Awards: Block Grant Fellowships are the main source of funding through academic departments at UC Berkeley. In DCRP, new application cycle is announced some time in late fall, and decisions are made for the upcoming academic year in mid-spring. The process is competitive and takes into account student progress towards degree as well as financial status. Students applying for block grant support MUST also apply for need-based aid through the Financial Aid Office (deadline in early March).

University of California Transportation Center (UCTC) Fellowships: These fellowships provide support for both MCP and Ph.D. students engaged in transportation studies and research. The applications are announced and decisions made in conjunction with departmental Block Grant Awards. UCTC also offers dissertation fellowships for doctoral students working on dissertations in the transportation field. Deadlines for the dissertation awards are usually in October or March; see www.uctc.net/grantsandadmin/dissgrants.shtml for dissertation fellowship forms.

The Lindheim Award: The Roselyn Lindheim Award in Environmental Design and Public Health honors the life and work of Roselyn Lindheim (1921-1987), Professor of Architecture at U.C. Berkeley. An endowment from her husband, children, colleagues and friends provides for an annual award to students pursuing a graduate degree in the College of Environmental Design, the School of Public Health, or both. The award recognizes a work-in-progress of a graduate student that best exemplifies and furthers Prof. Lindheim's vision and innovative work in shaping architectural and public health environments that promote wellness. Deadline varies so watch for a call for applications.

Fellowships from outside the University: These awards generally pay two or three times what the University awards, but require your initiative. This type of funding may be most useful for foreign students. See the Grants Register in the Graduate Fellowship Office. The department also provides information on fellowships through its student list-serve, planning-announce.

California State Fellowships: These usually pay only university fees and are available for California residents and those who qualify as residents for their second year. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Deadline to be announced. For additional information, contact the California Student Aid Commission, 1410 Fifth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Other Sources of Financial Aid

DCRP students have been able to take advantage of a wide variety of financial aid, including Fulbright Scholarships, the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Jacob Javits Fellowship, the American Planning Association, the California Planning Foundation, the Urban Land Institute, and the FHWA's Eisenhower Fellowship, support from home states and counties, regular bank loans, and others.

Community Service Financial Aid Option: Students working or volunteering in direct community service may be eligible for semester, summer, or post-graduate awards of \$500 to \$1,200 based on loan indebtedness, hours worked, and long-term commitment to community service. Students can also re-apply for up to \$4,000 off student loans. More information is available at Stiles Hall on Bancroft Way.

Emergency Services: Most financial problems can be avoided by checking financial aid and job notices regularly, but emergency loans are available for some situations. The University Financial Aid Office offers interest free emergency loans of up to \$775 per semester to be paid within 60 days, and University Loans of up to \$300 to cover educational expenses. In the past, the Financial Aid Office has also issued deferments on tuition and fee payments pending arrival of other financial aid. You are encouraged to let your advisor and the Student Affairs Officer know of your needs and problems as soon as possible, and to submit your financial aid applications early.

International Student Aid

International students generally do not qualify for long-term student loans and do not qualify for grants-in-aid in their first year. However, the following loan sources are available to international students.

- Citibank's Citiassist Program, <http://studentloan.com/privatestudentloans/citiassistgraduateloans.htm#rates> (requires U.S. cosigner)
- College Loan Corporation, 1-800-2COLLEGE, www.CollegeLoanCorp.com (requires U.S. cosigner)
- The Education Resource Institute (TERI), www.teri.org, (requires U.S. cosigner)
- Can HELP Loan Program (for Canadian students), www.internationalstudentloan.com/canadian_student/ (does NOT require a U.S. cosigner).
- Comprehensive Access Loan, www.accessgroup.org, (does NOT require a U.S. cosigner).

- www.internationalstudent.com for loans and scholarships
- eduPASS, www.edupass.org
- International Education Financial Aid, www.iefaf.org

Employment

Most faculty members in the Department are engaged in substantial funded research projects, and they routinely employ DCRP students as graduate student researchers. Graduate Student Instructorships (GSI) and reader positions grow very scarce as the university's budget crisis deepens. Many government agencies, private firms, and non-profit organizations in the region hire DCRP students on a part time and summer basis as well. The Department's Student Affairs Officer maintains a list-serve for job listings in the Bay Area and nationwide. The CED also hosts a job fair in spring to help continuing students, those about to graduate, and alumni find part and full time employment.

Opportunities for employment are substantial, but the Department has a long-standing policy of awarding very few research and teaching assistantships in advance of students' enrollment. A productive working relationship between the student and faculty member depends on a number of factors, such as professional rapport, mutual research interests, training, and expertise. Once in the Department, students are able to develop their research interests rapidly and pursue the work that interests them, and faculty are able to select students who are the most qualified for particular positions. Consequently, even though you have not been offered a research or teaching assistantship, significant opportunities for employment will be available to you after you reach Berkeley.

Research Assistantships. Individual faculty members offer part-time Graduate Student Researcher positions to qualified students. Most faculty rely on graduate students for assistance with their research projects. You should develop a relationship with professors with whom you would be interested in working and let them know that you are interested in their projects. Depending on your professional interests, you might also want to investigate the following university-affiliated research organizations: Institute of Urban and Regional Development, Institute of Transportation Studies, University of California Transportation Center, Institute of Governmental Studies, Institute of Industrial Relations, Center for Real Estate and Urban Economics, Survey Research Center, Housing Law Project, and others.

To prepare for these campus-based research positions, persons interested in applying should consult the department's website, www.dcrp.ced.berkeley.edu/, under "Faculty/Staff," to get a better idea of who our faculty are and what their specializations include. Check the websites for the above-cited research institutes, looking at working papers published, affiliated faculty, etc. Update your resume to focus on research skills and experience.

Teaching Assistantships. Professors needing assistance with classroom instruction also offer a very limited number of Graduate Student Instructor positions. These positions normally require 8-10 hours per week, of work; the maximum appointment that can be given is 50 percent time, or 20

hours per week. Teaching assignments, course schedules, and enrollment figures are subject to change. Information regarding the number of positions available will be announced in August.

Many other departments on campus, especially those without graduate departments have jobs available as GSIs. These jobs are not usually posted but are available if you look for them. They vary from 25 to 50 percent time.

In addition, the Department each year, depending on availability of funding, appoints a variable number of teaching associates. The University requires that a teaching associate be an advanced doctoral student who holds a Master's degree in the field being taught, or a closely related one, and who has advanced to candidacy. Although we have been able to waive some of the stringent requirements in the past, these positions are open only to doctoral students.

Work-Study. Work-study is an arrangement whereby the federal government pays a percentage of the earnings of students for work either on or off campus. Eligibility is determined by the Financial Aid Office on the basis of need (see "Need-Based Financial Aid" above). Students must find their own jobs, but the availability of work-study funds provides employers with an incentive for hiring. You may qualify at this time, but priority is given to applications meeting the early March deadline. See the Financial Aid Office for additional information.

Part-Time Work. It may be to an entering student's advantage to concentrate on academic work during the first year of his or her program (or at least the first semester), but let's be realistic -- many students arrange part-time jobs with local agencies or consulting firms. You might discuss with your advisor what kind of job would relate to your program. Be sure to check with the Student Affairs Officer when you decide to begin your search. The "planning-jobs" list-serve posts full- and part-time positions throughout the year. In April the department participates in the CED Job Fair, this past year hosting more than 80 planning, architecture and landscape architecture firms from throughout the State of California. In recent years, students have been employed in agencies such as:

[Alameda County](#)
[Association of Bay Area Governments](#)
[California State Department of Transportation](#)
[California State Coastal Conservancy](#)
[California State Office of Employment Development](#)
[Chinatown Neighborhood Improvement Resource Center](#)
[City of Alameda](#)
[City of Berkeley](#)
[City of Oakland](#)
[East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation](#)
[Environmental Impact Planning Corporation](#)
[Housing Authority of Contra Costa County](#)
[Metropolitan Transportation Commission](#)
[Mission Economic Development Association](#)
[National Economic Development Law Center](#)
[Natural Resources Defense Council](#)

[The Nature Conservancy](#)

North of Market Planning Coalition

Office of Economic Policy Planning and Research

[Greenbelt Alliance](#)

[PolicyLink](#)

[San Francisco Planning Department](#)

South of Market Association

(Spanish-Speaking) [Unity Council](#)

[State Office of Housing and Community Development](#)

[Trust for Public Land](#)

[Urban Land Institute](#)

Obtaining California Residency

Requirements

Almost all non-California residents, except foreign students, can establish California residency in their first year at Berkeley, thereby saving the substantial out-of-state tuition fees. To establish residency, you need to complete the forms available from the Residency Office in Sproul Hall before registering for the Fall semester of your second year. You can establish residency by doing the following **(it is important to pay close attention to this information)**:

Physical Presence

You must be able to provide documentation that you arrived in California more than one year prior to the beginning of classes in which you are requesting resident status. Examples of such documentation are:

- Airline ticket or travel agency verification
- Credit card receipts to California businesses
- Save your plane ticket and charge something on your credit card as soon as you arrive

You must also be able to show that you remained in California thereafter. Such documentation may include:

- Credit card receipts to local stores
- Canceled checks to local stores
- Paycheck stubs

Copies of a lease agreement, rent/utility checks, automatic teller transactions, or letters alone are not sufficient proof of continuous physical presence as your physical presence in the state is not required to obtain such documents.

Intent to Make California Your Permanent Home

You must show that your physical presence is consistent with your intent to make California your permanent home, and that you have given up any previous residence. Physical presence in California solely for educational purposes does not result in classification as a resident for tuition purposes under State law regardless of length of stay.

As soon as possible after you arrive, close your out-of-state bank accounts, open California accounts, register to vote in California, and obtain a California Drivers License or California ID (California Department of Motor Vehicles, 53500 Claremont Avenue, Oakland, 800-777-0133, www.dmv.ca.gov) [you can also register to vote at this website, under "Online Services"]. Save all documentation, and remember to save your ballot stub when you vote.

To show intent you must provide verification that you remained in California during the entire year in question, including all non-academic periods. If you left California when school was not in session, including the periods between the regular and summer sessions, and any breaks during a term, then you will be presumed to be in California solely for educational purposes and you will remain a non-resident for tuition purposes.

To summarize, indicators of intent include:

- Remaining in California when school is not in session.
- Registering to vote and voting in California election.
- Designating California as permanent address on all school and employment records including current military records.
- Obtaining a California driver's License or ID **within ten days** of settling in California.
- Obtaining a California motor vehicle registration **within twenty days** of settling in California.
- Surrendering out-of-state identification and driver's license.
- Working in California and filing California resident income tax forms from the date of entry into the state, and declaring in California income earned outside of the state thereafter.
- Establishing and maintaining active bank accounts in California banks.
- Establishing in California a permanent abode where your belongings are kept.
- Obtaining licensing for professional practice in California.

Documents must be dated to verify that the appropriate action was taken at least one year prior to the beginning of the semester in which the resident status is desired. If these steps are delayed, resident status will be postponed until all criteria have been demonstrated for a minimum of one year.

Examples of documentation include:

- California driver's license
- California vehicle registration
- California voter registration card and the date of registration
- Opening statements for checking and /or saving accounts
- Employment records
- California tax return and W-2 forms

If you are not a U.S. citizen, a copy of your alien registration card or other appropriate immigration documents proving your eligible non-citizen status should be provided. More specific information can be obtained by visiting the Legal Residence Office in 39 Sproul Hall, or by telephoning them at 510-642-1614.

<http://registrar.berkeley.edu/Residency/legalinfo.html>

Graduate of a California High School (AB540)

You may be entitled to an exemption from nonresident tuition if you attended high school in

California for three (3) or more years and graduated from a California high school (or attained the equivalent). You are not eligible for this exemption if you are a nonimmigrant alien.

Information for International Students

Initial meeting: All new international scholars are **required** to attend Scholar Information Meetings to validate their stay in the U.S. These meetings last two hours and include information about immigration and the Berkeley community. You should be able to complete a Social Security Number application at this meeting, and will receive various information sheets in an orientation package. The meetings are organized by the Berkeley International Office (BIO).

Location: The BIO is located at 2299 Piedmont Ave (I-House), and can be contacted by phone at (510) 642-2818, by fax (510) 643-7289, or by email internationaloffice@berkeley.edu.

Web Site: The BIO has arranged a web site (developed by a UC Berkeley international student) specifically for UC Berkeley's international students. Visit this site for links to UC Berkeley student groups, other campus units with an international focus, financial aid information, study abroad opportunities, and useful international resources. <http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/>

Taxes: Are due by April 15th each year. You are responsible for filing a tax return each year. BIO holds tax workshops early in the spring of each year.

Social Security Number: You need this for most financial transactions, to access the UC Berkeley library system and so on. Berkeley's Social Security Office is located next to the post office on Allston Way and Milvia, but the office often has a table at I-House during orientation week.

Financial Aid: Continuing international students can apply for work-study and grants-in-aid awards through BIO. They are not eligible for this need-based support until they have completed two semesters of graduate study at Berkeley. The applications are available at International House in early spring. International students can also apply for short-term loans of up to \$1,500 through SISS.

Tax Withholding: International students who receive any support through the University beyond payment of registration fees and/or nonresident tuition are required to submit a GLACIER form to the Graduate Student Affairs Officer. Further information is available at http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/tax_assistance