

INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

[International Student Concerns Committee](#)



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY  
GRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

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## WELCOME

### From the International Student Concerns Committee

*The International Student Concerns Committee (ISCC) is part of the Graduate Student Congress. Our mission is to serve and advocate for the needs of international graduate and professional students and postdoctoral scholars at the University of Kentucky. We created this handbook to help international students transition to the University of Kentucky and Lexington.*

*This guide compiles essential information for all students and includes tips about academic life, transportation, shopping, personal care, and other activities. The handbook was made by international graduate students based on their needs when they arrived at the University of Kentucky and their experiences of studying and living in Lexington. The Graduate Student Congress wants to welcome you to the University of Kentucky, and we hope you can find this handbook useful.*

[Click here for more information about the committee.](#)

ISCC CO-CHAIRS

### From the Coordinator of International Graduate Student Initiatives

*We are excited that you have chosen to continue your graduate studies at the University of Kentucky. The opportunity to live and study in another country is exciting and includes adjustment as you learn about the new places, practices, and processes around you. Members of the International Student Concerns Committee (ISCC) have been in your position and created this resource guide to facilitate your transition to the UK and Lexington.*

*The campus is large, and resources abound to assist you in many areas, from academics to personal wellness. This guidebook highlights some of the most common concerns of new international graduate students. But the UK's greatest resource is its people--and the intellectual curiosity and rigor coupled with kindness and compassion with which they approach learning and living. As a graduate student at the UK, you are a valuable member of this thriving community. We are glad you are here!*

LIAISON ISCC, GRADUATE SCHOOL

### How to use this handbook?

- This handbook contains information on three relevant sections to international students at the University of Kentucky:
  - Academic life
  - Personal care
  - Transportation
- The information contained here is intended to help arriving students acclimate to Lexington, but continuing to do so as international students may also find something interesting.
- Additionally, the first section, called ‘unboxing,’ contains a checklist of activities to complete in the first weeks and a list of places of interest at the end—from grocery stores to hairdressers.

**NOTE:** While attempts have been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this document, it may change. Always verify the information beforehand.

## Unboxing

- Campus Map
  - The main campus is located close to downtown Lexington and contains the majority of classrooms, labs, the International Center, Graduate School, hospital, on-campus housing, fitness centers, and food options. While most students will spend most of their time in this area, a few buildings and labs are in other parts of the city. It is essential to familiarize yourself with the campus. An interactive map of the UK main campus can be found [here](#).
- Wildcat ID
  - As a student at the University of Kentucky, you are assigned an individual identification number (ID) that you will use on Campus. See [this website](#) for details about how to get your UK ID card.
- LinkBlue account
  - This directory account (user ID and password) can be used when connecting to many campus-wide systems. [Further details and activation instructions can be found here](#).
- Student Health Plan
  - The plan is intended for matters beyond the University health fee in relation to a specific injury or illness, including hospitalization and prescription benefits. International students are automatically enrolled in the UK Student Health Plan (SHP) when they register for classes. [Further information on benefits, fees, coverage, declining forms, etc., can be found here](#).
- Wi-Fi Eduroam set up
  - Eduroam provides Internet access on the campus Wi-Fi network. [To install, follow this link](#).
- BBNvolved
  - This online platform connects students to campus organizations, programs, and departments. It is an easy way to learn about student organizations and their events year-round. [Find more about BBNvolved here](#).
- Get on relevant E-mail listservs
  - E-mail is the preferred communication channel for official matters at the University of Kentucky. Be sure to check it constantly to keep yourself informed. Bulk e-mails are sent through listservs that contain all recipients who may benefit from the information. They include information on anything from a seminar on fruit flies to sports health. Be sure to ask around your department if you are missing some fun e-mails.
- Social Security Number (SSN)
  - A social security number and card is a 9-digit security number for US citizens, permanent residents, and temporary residents. This number is necessary for employment purposes only. As international students living, studying, and working in the US, keeping your card safe and not sharing the number unnecessarily is important. It is okay to ask someone why your SSN is required if they ask for it.

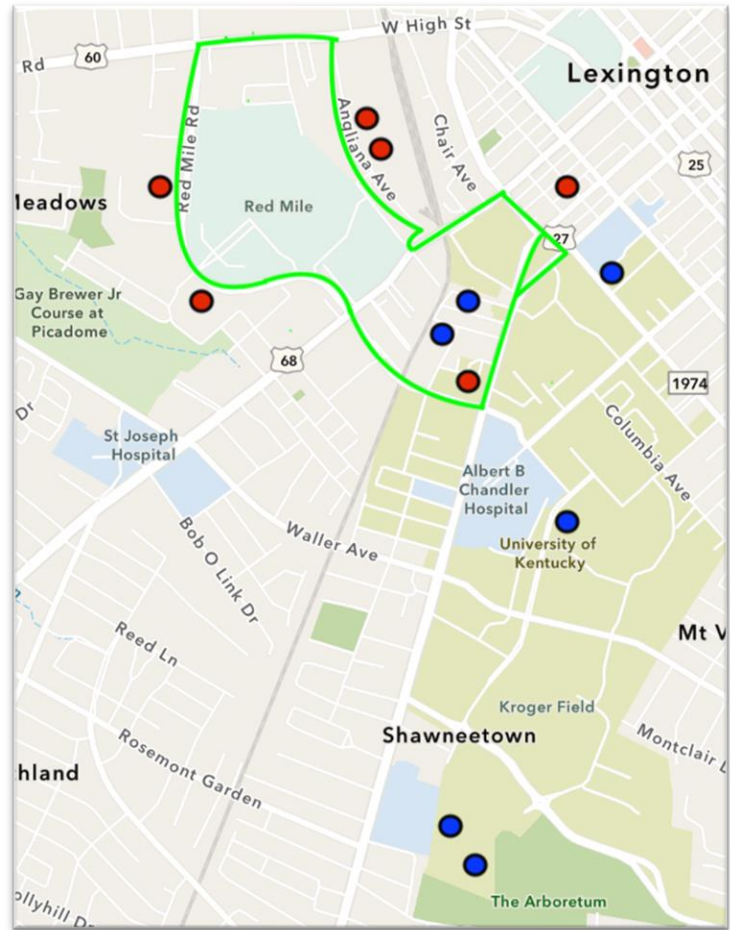
The law indicates that the SSN is NOT required to open a basic checking account or file a tax return. Students who are not eligible for an SSN can apply for the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) if they need it to file taxes. The ITIN is only approved for tax filing purposes. Information about applying for an SSN or an ITIN can be found here: [Requests | International Center \(uky.edu\)](#)

- Filing a Federal Tax Return in the U.S. – **Required for all international students**
  - All international students and scholars must report to the U.S. tax service (known as the [Internal Revenue Service](#)) each year — even if they did not work during the prior year. Please see the following page for more information: <https://international.uky.edu/iss/taxes>. The deadline to file taxes is April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. It is recommended that you begin the process early so you have plenty of time to ask questions and get help so you don't miss the deadline. You will not necessarily need to pay taxes, but you must at least report your presence in the U.S. This is a legal requirement. The Graduate School and ISSS will purchase special tax software explicitly designed for international students each year. This software is designed to help you fulfill your federal tax obligations. This software will ask you a series of questions and use your answers to fill in all necessary U.S. government tax forms. It will also inform you of any tax treaty benefits that may apply to you. See the ISSS [tax FAQ \(Frequently Asked Questions\)](#) for more information on how to use and gain access to this free software.
  
- Scams
  - Merriam-Webster defines a scam as “a fraudulent or deceptive act or operation.” A few international students become victims of scams in the United States each year. Scammers can appear to come from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), SEVIS/Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), or any other government source at various times of the year. These scammers can be very intimidating and make you feel like you are in trouble or failed to follow regulations. The Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), or any other U.S. government official will never require immediate payment of any kind to be given over the phone. If you receive a call related to ICE/SEVIS, it should be reported to their tip line [here](#). If you receive a phone call or email about a USCIS scam, please report it [here](#). If this is related to an IRS scam, please report it [here](#).
  
- Bank Account
  - If you have a research assistantship or teaching assistantship from the University of Kentucky, you need to open a bank account for payroll purposes. The [University of Kentucky Federal Credit Union](#) and PNC Bank have ATMs and offices in the Gatton Student Center. There are other banks in Lexington as well.

## Housing

Lexington has plenty of housing options on and off campus. Below are some popular choices.

- Information on on-campus housing (blue dots) can be found [here](#).
- Most on-campus housing comes furnished, which may be convenient for monthly scholar visits.
- Convenient **Lextran Bus Route 15** (*green circuit*) runs a circuit on the west side of campus where student-housing options are available (*red dots*).
- Options like Angliana and The Wyatt on Angliana Avenue are popular for UK students. On Red Mile Road, options like University Trails and The Stretch can also be found.



## On-Campus

633 Maxwellton Court and 625 S. Limestone (two blue dots inside green circuit)

A limited number of townhouses are available at the Maxwellton Court location across Limestone from the College of Law and the Gatton College of Business. This housing option is not furnished. On South Limestone, furnished studio, 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom units are also available.

Greg Page and Shawneetown (two blue dots on the bottom of the map)

These housing options are located on the south side of campus between Kroger Field and the UK's Arboretum. Greg Page offers 2-bedroom accommodations with a shared bathroom and a fully equipped kitchen with cabinets. Shawneetown offers studio, 1-bedroom, and 2-bedroom accommodation.

## University Flats

University Flats is the UK's newest residential community with one wing specifically for University of Kentucky graduate students, post-doctorate fellows and researchers, and medical residents. UFlats offers studio and 1-bedroom, fully furnished apartments.



## Off-Campus Housing

There are plenty of off-campus opportunities. However, we are NOT endorsing any of the following. Do your due diligence in researching the places of interest.

Off-Campus UK Student Resources: [Click here](#)

Off-campus housing options: <https://www.lexingtonoffcampus.com/housing>

Facebook housing groups to find apartments or potential roommates:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/892895977420602/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1766428523633154/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/kentuckyhousing>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/universityofkentuckyoffcampushousingroommates>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/universityofkentuckyhousing/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lexingtoncampushousing/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/228554517940361/>

Things to Consider for Living Off-Campus:

- Proximity to UK campus
- Transportation
- Renters Insurance (home or car insurance companies will have this)
- Interviewing your potential roommate/s and landlord
- Reading your lease word for word
- Budget (1 month rent + deposit may be required when you sign the lease)
- Transfer utilities into your name (wifi, water, LexServ, gas, electricity, etc.)

## Furniture and Thrift Stores

### 1. Goodwill Industries of Kentucky

- **Location:** Multiple locations around Lexington
- **Description:** A well-known chain of thrift stores offering a variety of second-hand goods, including furniture, clothing, and home decor.
- **Website:** [Goodwill Industries of Kentucky](#)

### 2. The Salvation Army Family Store & Donation Center

- **Location:** 290 West New Circle Road, Lexington, KY 40505
- **Description:** Offers a wide selection of gently used items, including furniture, clothing, and household goods.
- **Website:** The Salvation Army Lexington

### 3. Habitat for Humanity ReStore

- **Location:** 451 Southland Drive, Lexington, KY 40503
- **Description:** Sells donated new and gently used furniture, appliances, home accessories, building materials, and more at a fraction of retail price. Proceeds support Habitat for Humanity's mission.
- **Website:** Habitat ReStore Lexington

### 4. Peddlers Mall

- **Location:** 1205 E New Circle Road, Lexington, KY 40505
- **Description:** A large indoor flea market featuring a variety of vendors selling new and used items, including furniture.
- **Website:** [Peddlers Mall](#)

### 5. Mission Lexington Thrift Store

- **Location:** 720 Bryan Avenue, Lexington, KY 40505
- **Description:** Offers affordable clothing, furniture, and household items. Proceeds benefit Mission Lexington's charitable programs.
- **Website:** [Mission Lexington](#)

### 6. Second Chances Thrift Shop

- **Location:** 153 Burt Road, Lexington, KY 40503
- **Description:** A non-profit thrift store benefiting local animal rescue efforts, offering a variety of second-hand items.
- **Website:** Second Chances Thrift Shop

### 7. Sav-A-Lot Thrift Store

- **Location:** 720 Bryan Avenue, Lexington, KY 40505
- **Description:** Offers a range of affordable second-hand items, including furniture, clothing, and household goods.
- **Website:** [Sav-A-Lot Thrift Store](#)

## 8. Bluegrass Regional Recycling Corp. Thrift Store

- **Location:** 937 Winchester Road, Lexington, KY 40505
- **Description:** Sells various used items, including furniture and household goods, to support recycling efforts.
- **Website:** [Bluegrass Regional Recycling](#)

### Academic Support

#### UK International Center

- The [UK International Center](#) provides the following services to students through the online platform iCAT.
  - Immigration benefits & advising
  - Reporting to DHS/Exchange Visitor Program
  - Education/Training on immigration topics
  - CPT/OPT requests
  - Advising and documentation for obtaining SSN, ITIN, DMV, etc.,
  - Reports to the Department of State / SEVIS
  - Alerts, case management & reports
- International Student Services can be found in the basement of the Lucille Little Library. Please enter at the side with red pillars.
- ISSS staff directory: [International Student & Scholar Services | International Center \(uky.edu\)](#)

#### ESL Classes

- Academic writing (ESL 095) and speaking (ESL 090 for TAs and ESL 093 for non-TAs) courses are offered for degree-seeking graduate students for whom English is not the primary language.
- These classes are designed to be taken toward the beginning of one's coursework and do not count toward credit hours for visa status.
- If taken with nine credit hours or more in one's program, these classes typically do not cost extra, though students should check with their DGS as some programs vary. [Click here for more information.](#)

#### Integrated Success Coaching

- Integrated Success Coaching is designed to help you set academic goals and enhance your success as a student through discussion of test-taking strategies, study habits, and time management.
- In a one-to-one setting, with a trained graduate student, you will work to set course goals and create an action plan to accomplish your goals.
- Locations: Donovan Hall, Study Central; Jewell Hall, Study North
- Sessions for academic coaching can be scheduled online. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## Presentation U!

- University of Kentucky's centralized tutoring center for speaking, writing, visuals, and all other forms of communication. Find the Hub in W.T. Young Library.
- We support the UK's efforts to graduate confident communicators by providing services to undergraduate students, graduate students, staff, and faculty.
- Both live and asynchronous online tutoring is available. Learn more by visiting [Presentation U's website](#) and Transformative Learning by [clicking here](#).

## Robert E. Hemenway Writing Center

- The Writing Center (B108B Young Library) offers free and friendly help to all UK students, faculty, and staff.
- Assists with writing, speaking, and multimedia assignments across all curriculums.
- Offers advice on academic, creative, and professional projects.
- The UK Writing Center offers in-person or online appointments (E-tutoring or Online Meetings). [Learn more here](#).

## Thesis and Dissertation Writing Camps

- Our Thesis and dissertation Writing Camps provide a supportive environment for students at any stage of writing a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation.
- Writing camps typically occur three times a year over Zoom. Please check the [website](#) for more information.
- The Graduate School will provide programming via Zoom sessions and connect you with other graduate students who are also writing theses or dissertations to motivate you and keep you productive. For more information, [click here](#).

## Study Rooms

### Doctoral Student Study Rooms

- There are six multi-person study rooms on the fifth floor in William T. Young Library available for use by doctoral students engaged in writing their dissertations.
- A maximum of 12 people can share study rooms.
- Doctoral students assigned to the multi-person study rooms are given a key and assigned a locker to store materials.
- Check [this website](#) for eligibility requirements and additional information.

### Thomas D. Clark Graduate Study Suite

- This is a dedicated study space exclusively for graduate and postdoctoral students brought to you by The Graduate School and UK Libraries. It is on the fifth floor of the W.T. Young Library, west wing.
- The Clark Study is accessible via UK ID card swipe.
- All graduate students and postdocs IDs should be programmed to grant access.
- The study is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. [Click here to learn more](#).

## Library Services

UK Libraries consists of several major facilities:

1. William T. Young Library
2. Education Library
3. Law Library
4. Lucille Caudill Little Fine Arts Library
5. Medical Center Library
6. Science and Engineering Library
7. Special Collections Research Center

Facility Hours & Operations can be found [here](#).

### Loans

- Graduate students can borrow books for 90 days (about three months) and non-print materials for seven days.
- Special items, such as interlibrary loans and reserves, vary in borrowing time.
- You can request that materials be brought to a preferred library for pick-up through the catalog entry for the item.

### Interlibrary Loans

- If material is unavailable through the UK's library system, it can be requested through Interlibrary Loan (ILLiad) at <https://lib.uky.edu/ILLiad>.
- A separate form must be submitted for each item.
- Accurate and complete patron and bibliographic information is essential for processing requests.
- Before submitting the request, patrons should try to determine that the library system does not own the item by searching the library's online catalog, InfoKat, or the E-Journals Database.

## Computing Resources

### Internet Access

- Eduroam is a secure and encrypted Wi-Fi network providing enterprise-level internet access and is the primary Wi-Fi network on campus.
- Eduroam is accessible to students, faculty, and staff of the University of Kentucky and visitors from participating higher education institutions.
- Device Configuration Instructions, [click here](#).

### Software

- Software Downloads is the UK's centralized portal for enterprise software, including Microsoft, Adobe, and Statistical packages.
- Students can search this site for software required for classes.
- Most software is available at no cost or a discount.
- Step-by-step assistance accessing and downloading software is available at this [link](#).

### Virtual Den

- The University of Kentucky uses Citrix technologies to provide a portal (Virtual Den) to access several software packages used in student courses.
- This technology allows access to software and desktops anytime from anywhere.
- You do not have to go to a computer lab to access software; you can use your mobile device or personal computer.
- [Click here](#) to learn more about the Virtual Den.

## Research Resources

### Data Management Consultations

The Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) and the UK Clinical Research Support Office (CRSO) offer services and resources to members.

You can register online using your LinkBlue ID to access services including, but not limited to:

- Research Navigators
- Study Design & Analysis
- Regulatory Support
- Grants Management Support
- Clinical Research Unit
- Clinical Data Sources
- Competitive funding opportunities

### Statistical Consultations through Applied Statistics Lab

- The primary purpose of the ASL is to build collaborative bridges between statisticians and other investigators.

- Our goal is to improve the breadth and quality of statistical support for scholarships across the University.
- The services include consultations, data analysis, statistical programming, guest lectures, training, and workshops.

Request consultation meetings through [this link](#).

### Graduate Student Congress Research Awards

The Graduate Student Congress (GSC) provides awards to University of Kentucky graduates and professional students to attend conferences, conduct research, engage in professional development, and purchase or rent graduation regalia. We do not place specific restrictions on the types of research, conferences, or professional development that we will fund. Due to the competitive nature of the awards and our desire to fund as many students as possible, applicants are only eligible for funding once for each type of award per academic year.

- Conference Awards
- Research Awards
- Professional Development Awards
- Graduation Regalia Awards

Deadlines and application procedures can be found through [this link](#).

## Teaching and Professional Development

### Grad Degree+

- This program allows graduate students to develop and refine transferable skills highly sought by employers.
- Students build their own personalized GradDegree+ toolkit by completing modular tracks (Leadership, Communication, Pedagogical Theory, etc.) that can stand alone or be combined with additional tracks to undergird degree program content and skills gained in research and teaching.

For more details on the application process, visit this [website](#).

### Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning

This 12-credit-hour certificate, including a required 3-credit-hour supervised practicum experience, provides a rich integration of theory and practice for participants with tangible documentation of their expertise in college teaching and learning. The certificate is flexible and accessible to participants from various disciplines. It uses departmental courses related to college teaching and learning and centralized courses.

The certificate will produce highly competitive graduates in the higher-education job market, quick starters as faculty members, and can provide leadership in higher education.

Please visit this website for information on the curriculum, benefits, and costs.

## Imagine PhD

Imagine PhD is a free online career exploration and planning tool for PhD students and postdoctoral humanities and social sciences scholars. [Imagine PhD](#) is designed to help bridge the knowledge gap gained in doctoral education and career possibilities by allowing users to:

- Assess their career-related skills, interests, and values
- Explore career paths appropriate to their disciplines
- Create self-defined goals
- Map out next steps for career and professional development success

## Aurora

Aurora by Beyond the Professoriate is a faculty job market and professional careers online exploration and planning tool featuring over 80 hours of seminars, career panels, and interviews with over 170 PhDs who have successfully launched careers in industry, non-profits, government, and higher education. Content is added monthly, including supplemental planning worksheets and materials, and is accessible through The UK Graduate School's institutional subscription for doctoral students and postdoctoral scholars and fellows. More information is on this [website](#).

## Preparing Future Faculty (GS 650)

The University of Kentucky has led the national Preparing Future Faculty initiative for the past two decades. In GS 650, students learn from faculty inside and outside the UK about succeeding in a range of faculty work at research—and teaching-intensive institutions. The coursework provides opportunities to visit other campuses, shadow faculty, and receive guidance in writing faculty application letters and interviews. This course can be taken separately or as part of the Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning.

## Preparing Future Professionals (GS 600)

The Preparing Future Professionals class aids students in exploring career paths beyond academia. Students understand what is necessary to transition into careers, identify resources that can assist in obtaining a desired job, and develop action plans to transition to a chosen career.

## Center for the Enhancement of Learning & Teaching (CELT)

The Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT) supports excellence in teaching and learning by working collaboratively with all instructors to create engaging, innovative, and inclusive learning environments where diverse students excel.

Services for teachers requested at CELT include consultations, workshops, mid-semester student feedback, etc. For more information, please visit this [website](#).

## Wellness and Personal Care

### Campus Recreation

Three recreation centers are located on campus:

- Alumni Gym (Gatton Student Center)
- Lancaster Aquatic Center



- Johnson Center (Complex Drive)

Locations offer free weights, cardio equipment, group fitness studios, and equipment checkout. The Johnson Center also provides a multipurpose gymnasium, four-lane elevated track, cycling studio, racquetball court, and climbing wall. Membership to both locations is covered through your student fees during the Fall and Spring Semesters. Summer memberships can be purchased at the Johnson Center Office for \$20. Hours of operation fluctuate throughout the year based on university breaks. See [websites](#) for up-to-date hours and closures.

### Dental Care/Eye Care

Dental and eye care are not automatically covered under the University insurance plan but can be added/purchased through your Academic HealthPlan. Furthermore, the College of Dentistry offers reduced-cost dental services, including cleanings and x-rays. To schedule an appointment, call 859-323-DENT (3368). See the webpage for more information on their services, including urgent care dental needs.

### Student Health

University Health Services Building, Second Floor

Student Health should be your first stop for any medical needs. It offers various services at no cost through the Student Health Fee. Some additional testing and imaging, such as X-rays, may result in a small fee. The Student Health Plan (SHP) insurance will cover visits to the Student Health Center at no cost, except for some testing and imaging.

Prescriptions written by one of the Student Health providers can be filled at the University pharmacy for a reduced cost or at any pharmacy of your choosing. The University pharmacy offers many prescriptions and over-the-counter medications at reduced costs.

Appointments can be made with [MyChart online](#) or through their smartphone app.

1. Access your MyUK account
2. On the Student Services page, select MyInfo
3. A link to schedule Student Health appointments is on the left menu.

If you take the insurance offered by the University, you can visit Student Health in the summer without paying a student health fee. Suppose you cannot schedule an appointment with Student Health due to appointment availability issues or after-hour/weekend health needs. In that case, the next best option is the University of Kentucky HealthCare Urgent Care Clinic. Your SHP coverage allows you to be seen for a fee of \$75. Visit their website for more information via [this link](#).

### Health Insurance

Student Health Plan coverage is mandatory at the UK for international students. If you have an F-1, J-2, or J-3 visa and register for any course (this includes zero or two-credit hour courses), you will be automatically enrolled in the SHP.

The Student Health Plan (SHP) is a customized health insurance plan that works well with the on-campus student clinic, University Health Services (UHS). The plan is intended for matters beyond

the University health fee in relation to a specific injury or illness, including hospitalization and prescription benefits.

Participating in this student health plan means only some of your health care is free. There are medical expenses you are responsible for paying, including an annual deductible, co-pay or co-insurance charges, and costs related to services limited or excluded by the insurance plan.

Qualifying fully funded graduate students are automatically enrolled in the Student Health Plan at no cost to themselves. For questions about eligibility and enrollment, please call Academic HealthPlans at 855-856-2385. For questions about benefits and claims, please call Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield at 844-412-0752

More information can be found on the following links:

[Health Coverage | International Center \(uky.edu\)](#)

[Student Health Plan | Human Resources \(uky.edu\)](#)

### Mental Health Services

Graduate work can be demanding and stressful. Graduate students are eligible for **free counseling** during the Fall and Spring semesters, which is included in the Student Health Fee. Services are free in the summer if you held six credits the previous Spring and will hold six credits in the Fall OR if you are enrolled in at least one credit during the summer and have paid your fees. The UK Counseling Center offers individual, group, and couples sessions. New clients can schedule an appointment by walking in or calling (859) 257-8701. The phone line is staffed 24 hours a day. Consult their website through [this link](#).

Students are also able to access Headspace for one year free. Please go to this website to sign up: <https://studentsuccess.uky.edu/well-being/headspace>

### Student Legal Services

- A Lexington attorney provides FREE on-site consultation once a week for students.
- To make an appointment, come to the Student Government Association office or e-mail Kelly Mattingly at [SGA.chiefstaff@uky.edu](mailto:SGA.chiefstaff@uky.edu)

### Wildcat Wardrobe

- The Wildcat Wardrobe is a free, professional clothing service for all UK students located in the basement of White Hall.
- Whether you need professional attire for an interview, internship, or job, we are here to support students in their academic and professional careers.
- We have suits, dresses, shirts, ties, shoes, and more for all genders.
- Due to COVID-19, we have developed a brand-new online Wildcat Wardrobe.
  - Please visit the website for more info ([click here](#)).

## Transportation

### Public Transportation

#### Campus Buses

- The University operates buses for students -- blue, white, green, and yellow; additional buses serve UK Healthcare (orange) and the Kentucky Clinic (pink). Blue, white, and green routes only run during the weekdays.
- The blue and white buses run the same route, traveling in opposite directions.
  - The Blue Route runs clockwise from Kroger Field, with its first stops at Cooper and Agricultural Science. The White Route runs counterclockwise from Kroger Field toward the W.T. Young Library, with the first stop at Complex Drive and Huguelet.
- The Green Route goes from Kroger Stadium to graduate housing, passing by Greg Page and Shawneetown.
- The Yellow Route is the same route as the Blue Route but only operates on the weekends.
- Buses do not operate on a set time schedule. Instead, they operate on a headway system with continuous, frequent service.
- All campus routes can be tracked in real-time on the [TransLoc Rider website](#) or through the free app.
  - You may text 41411 with UKY [and the appropriate stop number] to receive a message back listing the next three arrival times for that stop.
  - [Click here](#) for more information.

#### Lextran Buses

- Students may ride Lexington City's Lextran Bus service for free with their student ID.
- All routes can be tracked in real-time on the TransLoc Rider website or on Google Maps by selecting the bus stop.
- For more information on Lextran routes and schedules, please visit [this link](#).

#### Wildcab

- Kentucky Wildcab is a free, late-night, on-demand transportation option for UK students using four—and six-passenger vehicles.
- Kentucky Wildcab runs Thursday through Saturday, from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. when fall and spring semester classes are in session.
- UK Transportation Services Wildcab has partnered with Uber. Complete the [Wildcab Uber enrollment form](#), which grants you access to the free Wildcab option. If you already have an Uber account, be sure to use the same email address connected to your existing account.
- If you are creating a new Uber account, enter a form of payment -- credit, debit, etc. - but know that Kentucky Wildcab remains free. You will only be charged if you choose a traditional Uber rideshare vehicle option instead of a Wildcab.
- Once your UK student eligibility has been verified, Wildcab service will be enabled on your account, and you can begin requesting Wildcab rides directly from the Uber app.
- For more information, please visit this [website](#).

## Private Transportation

### Bicycles

- Bicycling can be one of the best ways to navigate campus.
- If you did not bring a bike to campus, you can check out a bike (depending on availability) through the Wildcat Wheels Bicycle Library for the semester free of charge.
- Wildcat Wheels is located on the first floor of Blazer Dining, near the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and Avenue of Champions.
- To sign up for a bicycle for an entire semester, enter the lottery by filling out the application via [this link](#).
- Find general information about Wildcat Wheels here: <https://www.uky.edu/transportation/bike/wildcatwheels>
- Please note that Wildcat Wheels is closed during winter break but will reopen in mid-January. Shop employees are currently working by appointment only.
  - Please email [Wildcatwheels@gmail.com](mailto:Wildcatwheels@gmail.com) to schedule an appointment during winter break.
- There are several repair stations across campus for use in completing minor repairs.
  - Each station has screwdrivers, Allen wrenches, headset wrenches, box wrenches, tire levers, pre-glued tube patches, and a manual air pump.
  - Stations are at Ag North, Wildcat Wheels, Patterson Drive, W.T. Young Library, College of Nursing, Rose Street Garage, Johnson Center, and BCTC Oswald Building.

### Bike Voucher Program

- The Bike Voucher Program offers qualified applicants \$400 vouchers (valid at any participating local bike shop) in exchange for agreeing not to purchase a vehicle parking permit for two consecutive years.
- Only students who purchased a parking permit for the past fiscal year (July 1 - June 30), (OR) those with a start date of September 2023 or later are eligible to apply.
- Prospective participants must attend a short program orientation that covers basic bicycle safety and regulations and campus and community resources for bicyclists before receiving the bike vouchers.
- If you have additional questions about the program, [visit the website](#) or email [UKBikes@lsv.uky.edu](mailto:UKBikes@lsv.uky.edu).

### Commute Club

- The Commute Club is a free program that benefits members committed to walking, biking, taking the bus, or carpooling to campus.
- The Commute Club is available to all students and employees who choose to opt out of purchasing a parking permit.

- Students must be enrolled full-time at UK and must have a graduation date no earlier than May of the year following program enrollment.
- If you have additional questions about the program, [visit the website](#) or email [UKTransportation@lsv.uky.edu](mailto:UKTransportation@lsv.uky.edu).

### E-scooters

- Many students, staff, and faculty like the convenience that e-scooters provide as a quick, efficient mode of transportation.
- The University has chosen Bird as its preferred e-scooter vendor, meaning the company deploys and redistributes e-scooters on campus.
  - Birds are a cost-effective mode of transportation at \$1 to unlock, plus 15¢ per minute.
  - Please visit the [campus webpage on e-scooters](#) or the Bird [webpage](#) for more information.
- When riding on campus, e-scooters and other personal mobility vehicles should be operated in much the same way as a bicycle.
- Like bicycles, e-scooters must be parked either at a bike rack or in a shared mobility area.
  - They should not hamper ingress or egress to buildings or sidewalk accessibility.

### Driver's License

International students need either an SSN or a letter from the Social Security Administration office stating they are not eligible for an SSN. To request a letter from the International Student Scholar Services (ISSS), international students should log into iCAT. For more information, please visit [this website](#).

### Parking Passes and Campus Parking

Transportation Services website ([click here](#)).

As a graduate research or teaching assistant, you can purchase an employee academic (E-academic) parking pass for the academic year (August-May). The E-academic permit allows you to park in any area designated as intermediate E, K, or EK across campus and park in loading zones for 15 minutes. If you reside on campus, you are not eligible for this parking pass and may only purchase a residential (R) permit. E-academic passes cannot be purchased until the second week in August when the GSAS (Graduate School Academic Staff Notice of Appointment) forms have been processed. Please see the website for current prices.

Single-day permits, also known as scratch-off permits, are a great option for employees, students, and visitors who need to park on campus only occasionally. Each permit authorizes parking for one day only.

If you need a parking pass for summer, you must purchase a summer E pass in late May until you can purchase a permit for the next academic year. You can buy this pass for any number of weeks. If you know that you won't need parking for specific weeks, discuss if purchasing multiple summer E passes for the number of weeks required or if a scratch-off daily pass is the best option for you with parking. Please see the website for current prices.

Parking permits are enforced year-round, so pay attention to the signage for each lot. Parking maps are provided at the end of this guide. With an E-academic permit, you can park in any parking lot shown in blue on the Daytime Employees map and any parking lot shown in yellow in the off-peak hours map. During the school year, graduate students in the IPSS program with E-academic passes to park in the EK lot behind the Gluck Building, the Orange Lot of Commonwealth Stadium, which is behind the Plant Science Building, and the parking structure near the greenhouse. If you have classes on the main campus, you can use your parking pass at any of the designated intermediate lots on the map.

Pay attention to the signage for the lot. Some lots are checked 24 hours a day, and an E-academic permit does not permit you to park in that lot. You can park in most parking lots between 3:30-7:30 PM with any valid parking pass and in most parking lots after 7:30 PM without a pass. Check the parking lot sign for regulations. Transportation Services issues tickets even on the weekend, and you must notice regulations or signs to ensure you get a parking ticket.

Do NOT Park in any parking structures for the Veterans Affairs Hospital, Shriners Hospital, and UK HealthCare. These hospitals provide care for people from the entire state. Transportation Services will give you a ticket for taking space in one of these parking structures unless you have an appointment. If you have an appointment and need to use the parking structure, remove your parking permit.

### Places for Groceries


This handbook includes a list of places of interest. Below are some of our preferred grocery store options near campus.

#### Big Blue Pantry:


- Located in the basement of the White Hall Classroom Building (room 025) next to the Post Office, the Big Blue Pantry is open to any University of Kentucky student with a valid UK ID experiencing food insecurity or hunger.
- Students will fill out a short intake form, and their information will remain private.
- There are no additional qualifications for access to the pantry besides being a UK student.
- For more information, please visit this [website](#) or contact them directly at [bigbluepantry@uky.edu](mailto:bigbluepantry@uky.edu) for any questions.


Local Grocery:


- Regular grocery stores (No annual membership required to purchase)





704 Euclid Avenue, Lexington, KY 40502  
3101 Richmond Road, Lexington, KY 40509  
1060 Chinoe Road Suite 190, Lexington, KY 40502  
150 West Lowry Lane, Suite 190, Lexington, KY 40503  
1808 Alexandria Drive, Lexington, KY 40504  
1650 Bryan Station Road, Lexington 40505  
1600 Leestown Road, Lexington, KY 40511  
3175 Beaumont Centre Circle, Lexington, KY 40513  
4101 Tates Creek Centre Drive, Lexington, KY 40517  
3650 Boston Road, Lexington, KY 40514  
4750 Hartland Parkway, Lexington, KY 40515

 Fresh products


 In-store shopping, curbside pickup, and delivery.


 Apply for Kroger card in store or online to save more


 Pharmacy



500 West New Circle Road, Lexington, KY 40511  
4051 Nicholasville Road, Lexington, KY 40503  
4230 Saron Drive, Lexington, KY 40515  
3735 Palomar Center Diver, Lexington, KY 40513  
2350 Grey Lag Way Road Lexington, KY 40509

 The largest and most notable supermarket

 Fresh products

 In-store shopping, curbside pickup, and Delivery



126 Rojay Drive, Lexington, KY 40503  
1509 Colesbury Circle, Lexington, KY 40511

 Less expensive compared to others.

 Fresh products

 In-store shopping, curbside pickup, and delivery.



351 Meijer Way, Lexington, KY 40503  
2155 Paul Jones Way, Lexington, KY 40509

In-store shopping, curbside pickup, and delivery.



2326 Nicholasville Road, Lexington, KY 40503



Affordable Prices

Fresh products



1301 Winchester Road Suite 99, Lexington, KY 40505  
1235 North Broadway, Lexington, KY 40505  
2189 Versailles Road, Lexington, KY 40504



Cheaper than other grocery stores

Fresh products



3387 Tates Creek Rd, Lexington, KY 40502



More expensive than Kroger and Walmart



Fresh products



In-store shopping, curbside pickup, No delivery.





455-D Southland Drive, Lexington, KY 40503



Locally owned to support Kentucky Farmers



Organic products



Dine in restaurant



In-store shopping, and curbside pickup No Delivery



**APR.-OCT.:** 378-390 Southland Dr, Lexington, KY 40503 - **Only Sundays**



**MAY-NOV.:** At the corner of Maxwell Street and South Broadway - Tuesdays and Thursdays

**JUNE-SEPT.:** 1729 Alexandria Dr, Lexington, KY 40504 - Only Wednesdays

**OPEN YEAR-ROUND:** 430 W Vine St, Lexington, KY 40507 (Rupp Arena Parking Lot) - Only Saturdays



Cooperative market owned to support Lexington Farmers



Organic products



In-store shopping, and Delivery



<https://www.lexingtonfarmersmarket.com/>



4059 Finn Way, Lexington, KY 40517



High quality items but pricy compared to other stores



Fresh products



In-store shopping, curbside pickup, and delivery.

- Wholesale Stores (Need annual membership to shop/purchase) below offer lower prices for everything they sell, including fuel. It is highly suggested for someone living with a family. Costco memberships start at \$60 annually, and Sam's Club memberships start at \$50.



1500 Fitzgerald Court, Lexington, KY 40509



Cheaper than shopping at Whole Foods, but more expensive than choosing sale items at a local grocery store.



Fresh products



Gas Station



Pharmacy



1063 East New Circle Rd, Lexington, KY 40505



Cheaper when apply for Sam's Club membership



Fresh products



In-store shopping, curbside pickup, and delivery.



Pharmacy

## International Grocery options

- **African market**

1. Karibu International Market



*Location:* 349 Old Virginia Ave, Lexington, KY, 40504

*Contact:* (859) 317-1572

## 2. Mama's African Market



*Location:* 1395 N Forbes Rd, Lexington, KY, 40511

*Contact:* (859) 469-9627

## 3. Selby's Tropical Food Market

*Location:* 2339 Woodhill Dr, Lexington, KY, 40509

*Contact:* (859) 268-2889

### ▪ Chinese

#### 1. Yu Yu Asian Supermarket



*Location:* 393 Waller Ave # 1, Lexington, KY 40504

*Contact:* (859) 275-1288

2. DY Market



*Location:* 3101 Clays Mill Rd, Lexington, KY 40503

*Contact:* (859) 224-0088

▪ **Indian**

1. Sai Super Bazar



*Location:* 3146 Mapleleaf Dr, Ste 120, Lexington, KY 40509

*Contact:* (859) 554-6160

2. Sagar India Market



*Location:* 3330 Partner Pl, Lexington, KY 40503

*Contact:* (859) 296-9573

- **Japanese**

1. Ayame Japanese & Gourmet Market



*Location:* 115 Codell Dr., UNIT 120, Lexington, KY 40509

*Contact:* (859) 303-4545

- **Korean**

1. Seoul Supermarket



*Location:* 1085 E New Circle Rd # 2, Lexington, KY 40505

*Contact:* (859) 254-6300

- **Mexican**

1. Supermarket Aguascalientes



*Location:* 306 Southland Dr, Lexington, KY 40503

*Contact:* (859) 523-3770

2. Supermercado Las Norteñas



*Location:* 158 E New Circle Rd, Lexington, KY 40505

*Contact:* (859) 368-0800

▪ **Mediterranean (offers Halal meat)**

1. Alibaba Mediterranean Cuisine & Market Place



*Location:* 412 Southland Dr, Lexington, KY 40503

*Contact:* (859) 313-5080

2. Parisa International Supermarket



*Location:* 2626 Richmond Rd, Lexington, KY 40509

*Contact:* (859) 268-7387

3. Sahara's International Grocery



*Location:* 3061 Fieldstone Way, Lexington, KY 40513  
*Contact:* (859) 296-1117

4. Sam's Halal Market and Butcher



*Location:* 393 Waller Ave, Lexington, KY 40504  
*Contact:* (859) 309-1591

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