

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

New Graduate Students

 **University at Buffalo**  
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

# PRESENTERS



***Jennifer Gammell***  
*Director for Graduate Enrollment*  
*Office of Graduate Education*



***Lauren Rothschild***  
*Graduate Academic Coordinator*  
*Office of Graduate Education*

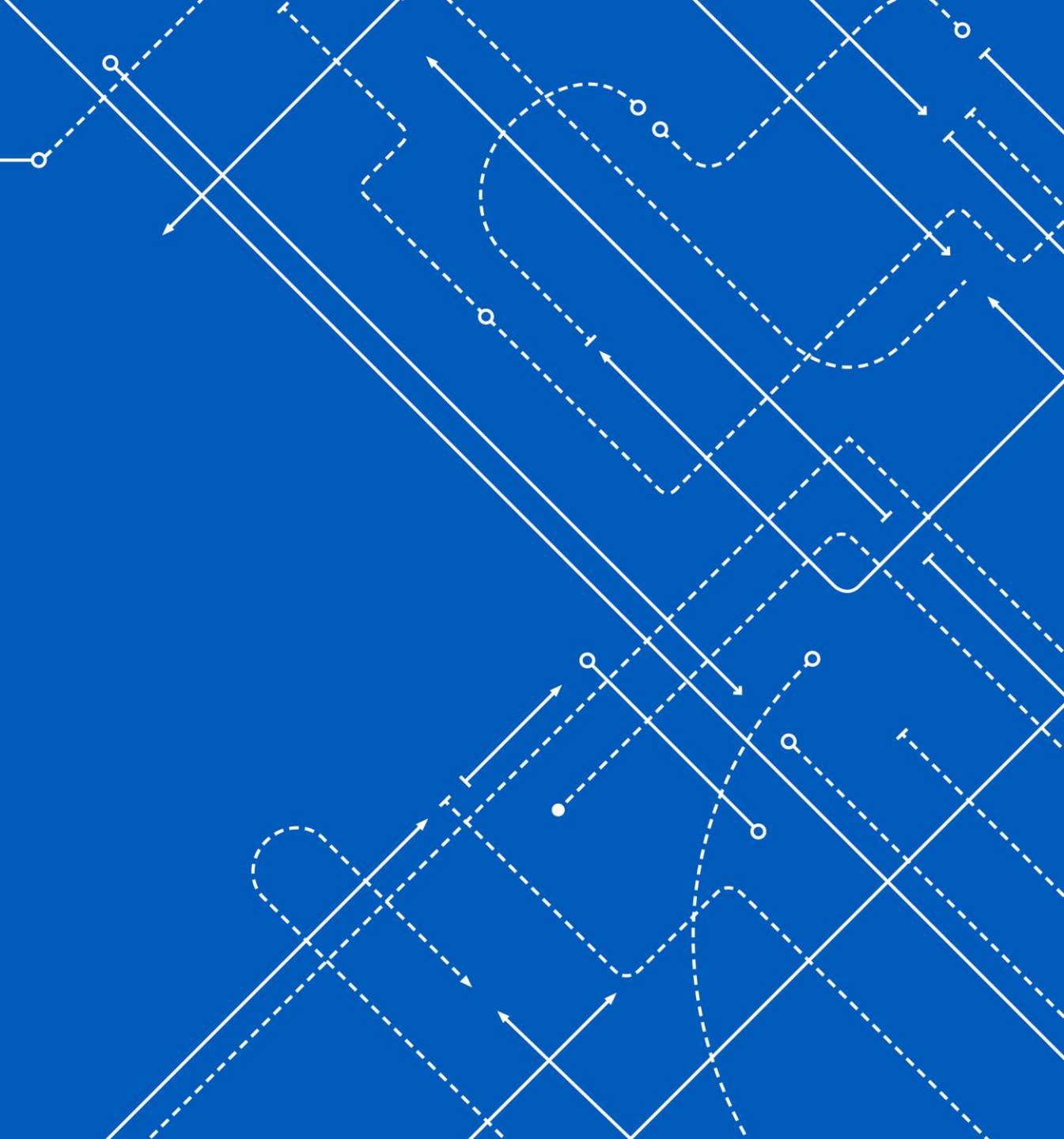


***Katie Lengel***  
*Assistant Director for Graduate*  
*Student Professional Development*  
*& Corporate Engagement*  
*Office of Graduate Education*



***Lindsay DiAngelo***  
*Graduate Recruitment Coordinator*  
*Office of Graduate Education*

# COVID-19 UPDATES



# COVID-19 Updates

- The **School of Engineering and Applied Sciences** has a website where you can find updates on how we are handling COVID-19  
<http://engineering.buffalo.edu/home/coronavirus.html>
- Graduate Section
  - FAQs
  - Link to upcoming webinars
  - Department Contacts

## SEAS COVID-19 Information



### Together, we are stopping the spread.

The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences cares deeply about the health and academic progress of our students, as well as the safety of our faculty, staff and their families. We are committed to supporting the SEAS community during this transition to online learning while working together to take the necessary precautions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

For campus-wide updates, visit the [UB COVID-19 Information site](#).

### Start your mandatory Daily Health Check

#### ? Latest on coronavirus

- › Mar. 26, 2021: Important Fall Schedule and Registration Information
- › Mar. 25, 2021: Vaccine-related updates to the Daily Health Check
- › Mar. 17, 2021: Employees Will Be Granted Time Off for COVID-19 Vaccination

[SEE ALL UPDATES](#)

General Guidance

Undergraduates

Graduate Students

Faculty & Staff

Communicators

# COVID-19 Updates

- The **University at Buffalo** is also providing updates on the COVID-19 developments  
<https://www.buffalo.edu/coronavirus/latest-update.html>  
University updates will be posted here



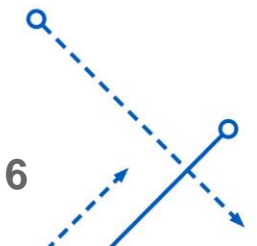
The screenshot shows the top section of the University at Buffalo's COVID-19 website. It features a blue header with the UB logo and the title "COVID-19: UB Planning and Response" with the tagline "Together, We Are Staying Informed". Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "Latest Updates", "Health and Safety", "FAQs", "Return to Campus", "News", and "Resources", along with a search bar. The main content area has a sub-header "Coronavirus > Latest Updates" and a date "UPDATED: 7:09 A.M. MAR. 26, 2021". The text states: "UB is committed to protecting the health and safety of the UB community while remaining focused on our academic, research and community service mission. Ensuring the safety of the campus community is paramount as we evolve our response to the COVID-19 pandemic and implement our return to campus plans." To the right of this text is a yellow box with a checkmark icon and the text "Start your mandatory Daily Health Check".

- Spring 2021 conducted all classes virtually
- Fall 2021 will be on campus.



# COVID-19 Updates

- **Deferrals**
  - If you are worried about the Covid situation for Fall 2021, I would hold off until more is known. Currently we plan to return to campus.
  - Applications for Spring 2022 and Fall 2022 will not open until **July 1<sup>st</sup>** so we can not process your deferral at this time.
  - We will continue to communicate UB's plan for Fall 2021
  - UB Deferral Policy – defer one time, up to one academic year
    - If you have already deferred once or twice due to Covid, and received an admission offer for Fall 2021, you will not be able to defer your offer again. You **MUST** reapply.
  - Please know that some programs only have Fall start so deferring to Spring 2022 is not an option.



# COVID-19 Updates

- **I-20 timeline**
  - International Admissions is working remotely. They will continue to review applications and create I-20s
  - You will receive your SEVIS ID in your application status portal
  - I-20s will be emailed with an electronic I-20 attached as a PDF. You can use this for your Visa interview. No I-20s will be shipped by courier for Fall 2021.

---

Application Status: **ACCEPT -- IMMIGRATION PACKET PREPARED**

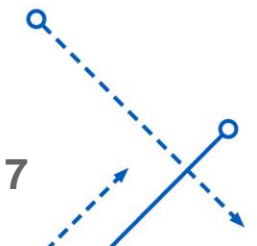
Please use the following information to book your Visa appointment if necessary.

SEVIS ID: **N0031457345**

SCHOOL CODE: **BUF214F00010000 - State University of New York at Buffalo - State University of New York at Buffalo**

*Mail and courier services around the world continue to be negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the University at Buffalo is now issuing electronic I-20s in accordance with SEVP Guidance. An original I-20 should not be required for visa interviews, at the Port of Entry or for most purposes once students arrive in the U.S. We highly recommend that students print the I-20 when they receive it by email, since not all agencies will allow students to show an electronic I-20 on their phone or computer. Please see <http://www.buffalo.edu/international-student-services/iss-covid-19-response-and-resources/fall-2020-faq.html> for further information.*

---

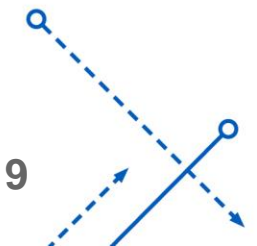


# PROGRAM INFORMATION



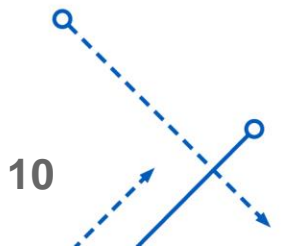
# Program Requirements

- **Full Time Status**
  - At UB, students are considered full time at 12 credits (TA/GA/RA are full time at 9 credits)
    - For Spring 21, under SEVP guidelines, only 1 credit was required of in person/hybrid study. We are not sure what Fall 2021 will be, but we anticipate it will return to 75% of study, meaning 9 credits at UB (Normal SEVP Guidelines),
- **Course Duration**
  - Masters programs are 30 credits and Doctoral programs are 72 credits
    - Masters programs can be done in 1 calendar year (Fall, Spring, Summer) or over 3 semesters (Fall, Spring, Fall). Some programs may extend to 2 years because of Thesis or Project work.



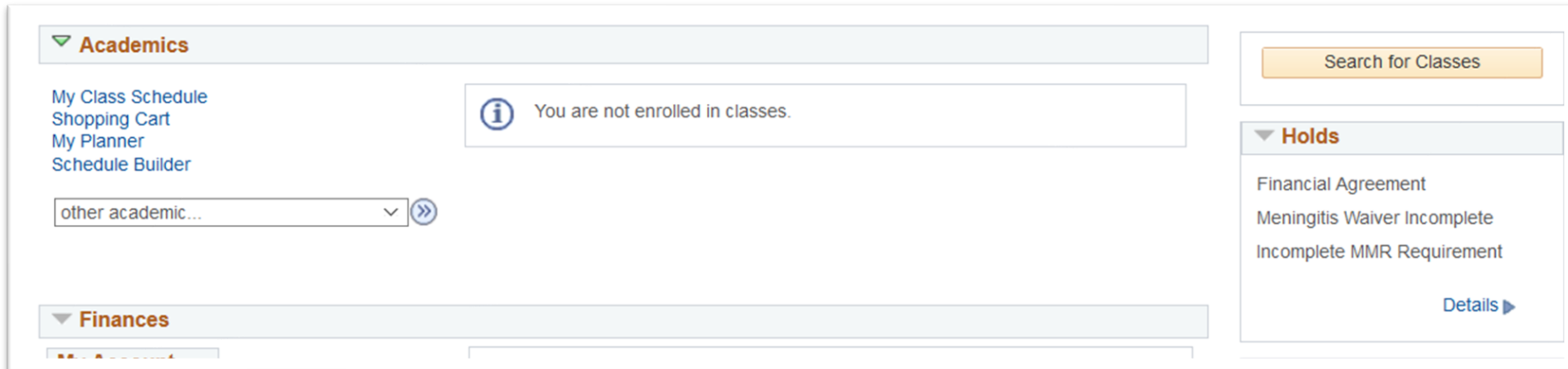
# Changing Programs

- **If you are interested in changing programs, you MUST apply.**
  - You can not change majors/programs.
  - A full application must be submitted and reviewed by faculty.
  - Be aware all credits may not transfer between programs.



# Course Registration

- **Each program allows students to register at different times**
  - You MUST complete the Immigration Check In online in order to register (International Students Only)
  - AND all holds must be removed from your account – such as MMR, Meningitis waiver, Financial Agreement, etc.
  - AND you may have a hold from your department. This hold will not allow you to register until you attend orientation. You can click on details for more information.

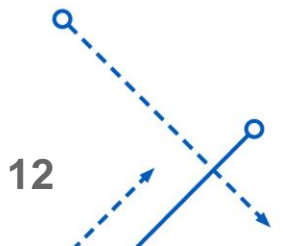


The screenshot displays the 'Academics' section of a student portal. On the left, under the 'Academics' header, there are links for 'My Class Schedule', 'Shopping Cart', 'My Planner', and 'Schedule Builder'. Below these is a dropdown menu currently showing 'other academic...' with a search icon. In the center, a message box with an information icon states 'You are not enrolled in classes.' To the right, there is a 'Search for Classes' button. Below the search button, the 'Holds' section is expanded, listing 'Financial Agreement', 'Meningitis Waiver Incomplete', and 'Incomplete MMR Requirement', with a 'Details' link at the bottom. At the bottom of the page, the 'Finances' section is partially visible.

# Course Registration

- Courses will be listed online in the Course Catalog and on Department Websites  
<http://www.buffalo.edu/class-schedule?semester=fall&division=GRAD>

Specific questions on curriculum should be directed to the Program Coordinator or will be discussed during department specific webinars both listed on the COVID-19 School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Website



# FUNDING & EMPLOYMENT



# Funding

- The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences funds doctoral students and the offer is included with the Admission letter
  - Masters students are not typically funded at time of admission – some exceptions may apply
  - You may use outside Scholarships to fund your education (ex. Fulbright, government, etc.)
  - You may apply for on campus jobs including TA/RA/GA **if available** – may include tuition but most likely will pay an hourly rate
  - Many departments hire Master's students to be graders for courses

# On Campus Employment

- Jobs are listed on Bullseye/Handshake

<https://www.buffalo.edu/career/bullseye.html>

- Career Services offers many services to students and alumni when it comes to on campus jobs and internships.

- We will have a webinar dedicated to Career Services soon.

- International Student Services offers information on student's eligibility to work on campus

<http://www.buffalo.edu/international-student-services/immigration-visa/f-1-student/on-campus-employment.html>

- 20 hours/week during Spring and Fall semester, more hours during Winter/Summer sessions



# Off Campus Employment

- International Students are eligible for CPT and OPT but may NOT work off campus at a store or restaurant, it MUST be related to study.
- **CPT information**  
<http://www.buffalo.edu/international-student-services/immigration-visa/f-1-student/curricular-practical-training--cpt-.html>
- **OPT information**  
<http://www.buffalo.edu/international-student-services/immigration-visa/f-1-student/optional-practical-training--opt-.html>
  - Please refer to ISS websites for all Immigration information
  - International Student Services will do a webinar on Tuesday May 25<sup>th</sup> and discuss immigration policies for F-1 students
  - Any immigration inquiries can be emailed to [isss@buffalo.edu](mailto:isss@buffalo.edu)

## SEAS 360

The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences offers undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to receive free professional development training through the SEAS 360° Certificate of Professional Development program. Students will earn their certificate once they complete 25 hours of training through workshops, seminars and experiential learning opportunities.

- **Areas of training include the following:**

- Critical Thinking/ Problem Solving
- Oral/ Written Communications
- Teamwork Collaboration
- Digital Technology
- Leadership
- Professionalism/ Work Ethic
- Career Management
- Global/ Intercultural Fluency

Workshops are presented by University at Buffalo staff, faculty, alumni and industry professionals

More information can be found on our website:

<http://engineering.buffalo.edu/home/academics/beyond/professionalism/seas360.html>

# CAMPUS COMMUNITY



# Student Groups

- **UB has many student groups where you can get involved!**
  - Find student groups, clubs and events on UBLinked  
<https://www.buffalo.edu/studentlife/life-on-campus/clubs-and-activities/ublinked.html>
  - Student groups can help with housing recommendations, airport pick ups, etc.
  - Graduate Student Association – <https://gsa.buffalo.edu/>

# Buffalo, New York

- **Affordable Living**
  - Our region is among the most affordable places to live in the United States.
- **Smart Economic Growth**
  - Buffalo's long history of innovation and entrepreneurship is seen in the booming knowledge-based economy of our region.
- **A Great Community**
  - Buffalo's strong sense of community and easy lifestyle are just a few of the attributes that make our city a great place to live.
- **An International Border City**
  - Buffalo borders Canada and is one of the United States' top gateways for international trade.
- **A Four-Season Region**
  - Buffalo is known for its snow, but we enjoy four distinct seasons, each remarkable in its own way.



# Health Services

- **Health Services provides high-quality medical services and patient education for all UB students, including primary care, preventative treatment and specialty services.**

<https://www.buffalo.edu/studentlife/who-we-are/departments/health.html>

- Located on South Campus

- **New York State law requires you to meet certain health-related requirements**

- Forms have to be submitted to Health Services by mail, fax or in person
- Do NOT email forms to Health Services or Graduate Education
- You can not register for classes until all forms are submitted and holds are lifted

<https://www.buffalo.edu/studentlife/who-we-are/departments/health/immunization.html#submit>

- **Health Insurance**

- Most students are required to hold health insurance while enrolled at UB

<https://www.buffalo.edu/studentlife/life-on-campus/health/medical-care/health-insurance.html>

# Safety

- **University Police**
  - UB's University Police department patrols our campus 24 hours a day and is the first to respond to all medical, fire and criminal emergencies on campus.
  - Buffalo Police and Amherst Police are also available.
  - Amherst, New York USA, Ranked #3 for Safest City in America (\* The Explorian 2020)
- **Emergency Alerts**
  - Sign up for emergency or closings at UB's three campuses by text or email.  
[http://emergency.buffalo.edu/sign\\_up.html](http://emergency.buffalo.edu/sign_up.html)
- **Campus Safety Shuttle**
  - A Safety Shuttle service is provided at night for UB students to and from locations within a 1.5 mile radius of South Campus (as well as Kensington Village, Collegiate Village and Campus Manor).

# NEXT STEPS



## Tuition & Fees

Academic Career	In-State Tuition	Out-of-State Tuition	Fees	Living and Indirect Expense Allowances	Total In State COA	Total Out of State COA
Graduate	\$11,310.00	\$23,100.00	\$2,822.00	\$19,674.00	\$33,806.00	\$45,596.00

- In State Tuition is for New York State Residents only
- Out of State Tuition is for domestic (not in NY) & International Students
- Fees Include:
  - Comprehensive Fee: campus life, college, health services, technology, transcript and transportation fees
  - Academic Excellence Fee
  - Activity Fee
  - International Student Fee – International Students Only
- Living and Indirect Expense Allowances is calculated for ON CAMPUS room and board, books, etc.
- COA is Cost of Attendance

# Housing

- **On Campus**
  - Many Options on campus for Graduate Students – ranging from Residence Halls to Apartments.
  - Apply by **MAY 1, 2021** to be guaranteed housing – first come / first served basis.
  - Please realize once you sign a contract you are obligated to follow through!
  - Prices range from \$8,500 - \$12,500 / year (*typically academic year (10 month contract)*).
- **Off Campus**
  - Student must find housing on their own / tips available online from UB.
  - Think about: location, neighborhood, safety, apartment condition, amenities nearby.
  - Contact members of student clubs to help find apartments or learn about good neighborhoods / landlords.
  - Prices range from \$400 - \$600 / month (*12 month contracts*).



## Next Steps

- **Submit Immigration/Financial Document to receive I-20** (International Students)
- **Pay Tuition Deposit**
  - \$150 goes on your account, and they towards tuition if you enroll.
- **Attend more SEAS Webinars**
- **Sign up for SEAS Orientation**
  - We will email you when registration opens
- **Become familiar with the International Welcome Series.**
- **Submit required forms such as Health Background and Immunizations.**
- **Learn about on campus employment and apply for jobs on UB Bullseye.**
- **Look for emails from Office of Graduate Education staff and your Department regarding next steps and procedures.**

# QUESTIONS?