



## Information for New School of Social Work Students

[The University of Michigan Campus Information Center](#) has numerous resources for incoming and current students regarding Academics, Financial Matters, Transportation, Life in Ann Arbor & more. If you're new to Ann Arbor, or if you've been here for years, here are some quick tips for you:

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### Choosing a Bank & Cell Phone Services

There are numerous [banks](#) around the University of Michigan (UM) Campus and Ann Arbor. Conveniently located ATMs around campus include: UM Credit Union (locally owned), Chase, Comerica, National City and TCF, and Bank of America. If you use TCF Bank, your university ID card can also be used as your ATM and debit card.

If you need cell phone service or a local provider, [this website lists](#) some of the various providers around Ann Arbor.

### Financial Aid Office

Paying attention to your financial aid information and making sure you meet necessary deadlines is always important. You can contact the Office of Student Services if you have any questions regarding financial aid: 734-936-0961. The [School of Social Work](#) (SSW) Webpage also has great information regarding MSW and PhD [financial aid and admissions information](#). Your financial aid information can also be viewed at [wolverineaccess.umich.edu](http://wolverineaccess.umich.edu).

### Find a Work-Study Job

If you have been awarded work-study in your financial aid package you'll need to find a job in the University to earn this money. There are hundreds of work-study positions available throughout the University. Many School of Social Work faculty and staff hire work-study students for research or special projects. There are also some University affiliated non-profit organizations that hire work-study students which are perfect for the skills and interests of social work students. To search for work-study jobs, go to:

<https://www.studentemployment.umich.edu/>

You can search the database to find positions of interest. Click on the "advanced search" tab to search to search for specific "employers" (departments) in the University. When you see a position that interests you, use the contact information to inquire about the hiring process. Incoming students should begin looking for jobs in late July. It is best to have your job by the first week of classes, when you can begin your position. You can however, begin a work-study position later during the semester as long as it's within the approved timeframe for work-study.

### Housing Information

The majority of students in the MSW program rent apartments in the Ann Arbor area. Many share with other students in order to live more affordably, however there are also numerous options for those who choose to live alone. For a full listing of housing options go, [click here](#). You can search for apartments by area [here](#). [Graduate and family housing](#) is available if you'd rather live in University Housing, located on North Campus



### Find a Roommate

If you are new to Michigan or Ann Arbor, you're in good company. Nearly half of the students in the SSW come from out of state. Many students share housing because this is one of the most affordable ways to live in Ann Arbor. If you'd like to find other students in the SSW who are looking for roommates or have housing to share, [click here](#).

### Parking and Transportation

There are numerous [bus systems](#) (AATA "The Ride", UM Buses, The Link) that run throughout Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti that are free when you present your UM ID card.



The UM Information Pages has a [transportation link](#) that should answer many of your questions.

Parking on campus can be costly and scarce. Many social work students who live off campus park their cars in commuter lots and take a bus into campus that drops them off in front of the

Social Work building. After 6 p.m. most street metered parking by the School of Social Work is free as is parking west of Hill St.

Another option is to purchase a parking permit for after hours parking or remote lots. [Click here](#) for more information about student parking. Students can also purchase parking spots from other students on campus. Postings for these parking spots can be found at [Craigslist](#).

### University Health Services (UHS)

The [University of Michigan Health Services](#) has a great page providing information for any of your health needs. Many services at UHS are provided to enrolled students and covered by the health services fee paid at the beginning of every semester.

Other U of M Health facilities include the [School of Dentistry](#) and the [Counseling and Psychological Services](#)\* (CAPS).

\*MSW students often complete internships at CAPS, therefore you may want to mention your affiliation with the School in the interest of confidentiality.

### Childcare Options

Finding quality and affordable childcare can be difficult. [UM's Work/Life Resource Center](#) provides many resources related to childcare including links on financial assistance, checklists, books, guides, websites, parent registries, referrals and more.

The [Office of Financial Aid](#) offers [child subsidies](#) for graduate students enrolled in at least half-time as well as graduate students actively pursuing research or completing dissertations.

### Computer and UMich Email Information

To check your UM email account, [click here](#). Other important U of M sites include [MFile](#), the University page that you can log into and upload and save documents to your personal space on the server; [Wolverine Access](#), for all your Student Business needs; [CTools](#), a website where professors post class readings and more; and the [UM Directory](#). Numerous UM webpage's are listed [here](#). For a list of computer sites on campus, check out [Campus Computing Sites](#).



Also, [mPrint](#) is UM's Web-based printing service, which allows campus community members to print from their Internet-enabled on- or off-campus computer to any networked campus printers. Whether you're using a desktop or laptop computer, you can print to mPrint.

If you need to use any software on University computers, you can connect to that software on your personal computer via [Virtual Sites](#) (e.g., SPSS analytical software, GIS).

Before you decide to purchase a new computer or software, check out the [U-M Computer Showcase](#). Often you can get good deals on software for both Mac and Windows, computers, iPods, printers, and other accessories. [ITCS Computer Support and Repair](#) service is also important to keep in mind if you need assistance with your computer.

### Academics

You will have a faculty advisor in the program that is available to you to discuss your academic plan and career goals. Associate Dean Mary Ruffolo ([mruffolo@umich.edu](mailto:mruffolo@umich.edu) or go to 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Dean's Office) is also available to speak with you about problems and issues or concerns that arise within your classes or assist you with closed course petitions. The Registrar's Office, Office of Student Services, Field Office, and the Career Center are all on the first floor of the School of Social Work. Verna Bell and Dona Kennedy in the Registrar's Office can answer questions about procedures and forms that are related to registration and degree progress. The Office of Student Services is another resource for advice, academic planning, financial aid, career services, and more. If you have questions about your field placement stop by the Field Office or see the [Office of Field Instruction](#).

## Libraries



There are numerous [libraries](#) available for student use besides our own SSW Library. They include: The Graduate Library (located next to the Undergraduate Library in the Diag.), the Taubman Medical School Library (located on E. Catherine, east of Glen), and the Law Library (located in the Law Quad). All of the librarians are very knowledgeable about the needs of social work students and they are willing to assist you.

The [Ann Arbor District Library](#) (AADL) system is composed of the central Downtown Library (343 South Fifth Avenue, next to Blake Transit Center), and four branch libraries. AADL has books, magazines, graphic novels, CDs, DVDs, and other media items for library card holders to borrow. You will need to bring your ID card and a piece of mail with your Ann Arbor address to any AADL location to apply for a library card. Once you have a library card, you can set up an account online that will allow you to request materials and renew items online.

## Buying Books

SSW faculty orders their course textbooks from several bookstores on and near campus. Most common bookshops are [Ulrich's](#) (the closest bookstore to the SSW), [Michigan Book & Supply](#), and [Common Language Bookshop](#). To avoid long lines at the beginning of the semester, it is recommended that you order your books online from these stores, when possible. These books will be put on hold for you and then you can pick them up in person. If you want to see what books are required, look for the syllabus icon on the [class schedule page](#). Most students wait to buy their books until after they have attended their first class. Faculty will let you know which ones are required and where you can find them. Many also purchase books online to save money or buy them from second year students through the [SSW Book Exchange](#).



Alternatives are online booksellers such as [half.com](#), [abebooks.com](#), and [amazon.com](#)

Keep in mind, all books for courses will be placed on reserve in the SSW Library and can be checked out in four-hour increments.

## Shopping

### Bookstores:

- Barnes and Noble (In basement of Michigan Union & on Washtenaw Ave. by Whole Foods)
- Borders (Liberty Street, west of State, & Arborland Mall Complex)
- Common Language Bookshop (Braun Ct. in Kerrytown)
- Michigan Book & Supply (State Street north of North University)
- Ulrich's (East University at South University)
- Excel Copy Shop (S. University)
- Dollar Bill Copying (Church Street, south of South University)

Supply Stores off Campus: Office Max, Staples, Office Depot; buying supplies off campus is a great way to save money and access a greater variety.

### **Salons:**

The UM Student information page has a [list of various salons](#).

Other salons include: Salon Vox (West of Main on West Liberty, 734.623.4869) and Tricho Salon at Briarwood Mall (734.214.3200).

The Students of Color of Rackham Webpage lists various [ethnic hair salons and barbershops](#).

The [Aveda Institute](#) offers affordable services as part of the training of their students. They maintain a no tipping policy. AVEDA is located on 333 Maynard St. just west of State St.

### **Grocery Stores:**

There are numerous grocery stores in and around Ann Arbor. [Click here](#) for locations and phone numbers of various markets off campus stores include: Ann Arbor Farmer's Market, Busch's, Hiller's, Kroger, Meijer, People's Food Co-Op, Target, Trader Joes and Whole Foods)

*A few Specialty Markets around the area include:*

Halal: Jerusalem International Market (1713 Plymouth Rd, Ann Arbor (734.668.7773))

Indian: Foods of India (1143 Broadway St. Ann Arbor (734.332.0500))

Chinese Markets: Several in the Plymouth Mall Area



### *Ann Arbor Farmer's Market*

If you are interested in purchasing locally grown produce, prepared food items, and handmade crafts, the [Ann Arbor Farmers Market](#) is a good place to visit. The Farmer's Market is located in the historic Kerrytown District on 315 Detroit St. From May through December the outdoor market is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. From January to April, the market is only open on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### **Restaurants**

There are so many great places to eat in Ann Arbor and with a wide variety of ethnic cuisines. Many students in the SSW enjoy close restaurants like Za's (sandwiches, pizza, salads), Oasis (Mediterranean), Rendez Vous (Mediterranean), Pizza House (American Fare -delivery until 4am!), Sadako (sushi), Saigon Garden (Vietnamese/Chinese), Panchero's (Mexican), BTB (Mexican), No Thai (Thai), University Café (Korean), Amer's (deli) to name a few. Many of these restaurants conveniently stay open until 4 a.m.

If you're looking for coffee/tea during a class break, there are several places to stop near the SSW including Espresso Royale, Rendez Vous, Starbucks, and Amer's. Most coffee shops offer free wireless internet.

If you're in the mood for ice cream or frozen yogurt, Stucci's and Yogo Bliss are near the SSW. Ben and Jerry's is located across the main diag on State St.

Popular breakfast/brunch places near campus include Angelo's Restaurant, The Broken Egg, Café Zola, Aut Bar, Café Marie, Afternoon Delight, and The Gandy Dancer.

[Arborweb.com](http://Arborweb.com) has a restaurant index of places to eat around Ann Arbor and includes links to restaurant web pages, as well as the price range of each restaurant. For student discounts, visit [www.eatblue.com](http://www.eatblue.com).

### Extra-Curricular Activities

Many students in the SSW take advantage of the opportunity to connect with each other outside of the classrooms. This happens through social events planned by the SSW Student Union or other [student organizations](#)\*, workshops/presentations, etc. If you're looking to have fun or get involved with social/political action, keep an eye on your email and the [SSW Events Calendar](#). You'll be shocked by how many exciting opportunities come your way!

\*Be sure to stop by the student organization fair on September 9th to meet current members of these groups.



### Recreational Facilities:

UM offers several [indoor and outdoor facilities](#) for working out including indoor facilities such as the CCRB, NCRB, and IM Building (located on central, north and the athletic campus respectively) and outdoor fields located at various areas of campus.

### Parks and Pools:

During the summer months the city of Ann Arbor has a variety of [public pools](#) available for use including Fuller Park and Pool (located off Fuller near North Campus). Check it out, it has preferences for everyone. If you are interested in Master's Swimming, [click here](#) for the summer schedule and [here](#) for the winter schedule.

### Outdoor Recreation:

From April until October, both Gallup and Argo Park in Ann Arbor have [Canoe Liveries](#) that offer canoeing opportunities on the Huron River. Check out [Ann Arbor Parks](#) for a listing of additional outdoor recreation areas around Ann Arbor.

### Tanning Facilities:

Big House Tanning (At the corner of South University and South Forest)  
Campus Tan (Church Street, just south of Hill)  
Tanfastic (Several off-campus locations)

### Radio Stations:

There are numerous [radio stations](#) in Ann Arbor, some specific to the Ann Arbor Area, others accessible to all of metro-Detroit. UM's student-run radio station is [88.3 FM](#).

### Other Activities in Ann Arbor:

The Natural Science Museum is across from the C.C. Little Bus stop on North University and has admission by donation. [Click here](#) for a list of other museums in the area. The Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum are both great places to see. Their [website](#) offers details about events, exhibits and what's in bloom. The [University of Michigan Museum of Art](#) (UMMA) located on State St. recently underwent a massive expansion and offers a variety of permanent and temporary exhibitions.

### Movie Theaters:



[State Theatre](#) (State and Liberty) & [Michigan Theater](#) (Liberty and Maynard)

[Quality 16](#) (Jackson Road) - Ask about a student discount with a student ID!

[Briarwood Theater](#) (State Blvd. & I-94) - Second run movies for <\$2. \$0.50  
Monday and Tuesday

[Showcase Cinema](#) (Carpenter Road, South of Ellsworth, East of US-23 in Ypsilanti) -  
Has \$6 Tuesdays and provides the only local IMAX Theater.

### Night Life:

[Arborweb.com](#) lists nightspots, as well as an interactive calendar that tells you about the happenings for every night of the month.

The [Main Street](#) Area Association has a website listing various Main Street Area restaurants, salons, entertainment, art and professional establishments.

Great places to go at night include any of the numerous restaurants, bars, pubs or places with dancing or live music around Ann Arbor. Some favorites include:

The Ark (Main Street south of E. Liberty) - Live music

Ashley's (State Street north of East Williams) - For the beer lover

The Aut Bar (Braun Ct. north of Huron, south of Depot)

Blind Pig (S. First St. between Liberty and Washington.) - Live music

Café Habana (E. Washington at S. Fourth)

Comedy Showcase (Same building as Seva on E. Liberty)

Conner O'Neils (Main Street)

Dominick's (on Monroe near Tappan) - Check out the sangria!

The Firefly (South Main)

Goodnight Gracie's (S. First Street at Liberty)

Grizzly Peak (Washington, West of Main)

Live at PJ's (S. First Street at Huron)

Mélange (Main Street)

Rush Street (North Main Street)

Vineology (North Main Street)

### Other Places in Michigan

While Ann Arbor is a great city that has many fun enriching activities, you may also be interested in visiting places such as:

- The [Cranbrook Art Museum and Cranbrook House & Gardens](#), located in Bloomfield Hills
- The [Detroit Institute of the Arts](#), a cultural icon of the Detroit area and recommended as an excellent day trip.

[-the Detroit Science Center](#)

[-the Henry Ford Museum](#)

[-Greenfield Village](#)

[-IMAX Theatre](#)

To fully enjoy everything the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village have to offer, don't plan on seeing it all in one day.

A visit to [Northern Michigan](#) is always a great change of pace. From Traverse City to Mackinac Island there are a variety of places to visit and activities to do.

If traveling down to Detroit stop by Heidelberg Street and check out [The Heidelberg Project](#).

Created by current U-M students and alumni.