



UNC

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

FOR OUR NEWLY ARRIVING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Welcome to The Graduate School at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Please use the below resources to help begin your transition to our campus and community:

The Graduate School - general information about resources and policies; <http://gradschool.unc.edu/>

Specific information for all **newly admitted graduate students**;
<http://gradschool.unc.edu/admissions/admittedstudents.html>

For additional detailed information please visit the **UNC Global International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)**; <http://oiss.unc.edu/>. This site includes information for newly admitted international students on pre-arrival planning topics such as travel, lodging, housing, etc.

Follow what is happening with the **Graduate and Professional Student Federation (GPSF)** by joining the GPSF **Facebook site**; <https://www.facebook.com/GPSFatUNC>. Additional connections with other international students can be facilitated through this site.

GPSF Resource Guide: <http://gpsf.unc.edu/student-resources/gpsf-resource-guide/>

To view the **UNC CALENDAR of events**: events.unc.edu

To view **campus maps**; <http://www.maps.unc.edu/>

Living in Chapel Hill: An Overview*

Chapel Hill is a great town, especially for students. The town has a population of 58,400, and UNC students account for 29,000 of that total (62% undergrads and 38% in graduate or professional programs). Because of such a predominant student presence, the social and cultural life reflects the tastes and diversity of those students. There are numerous inexpensive and fun eateries in downtown Chapel Hill and the surrounding area, as well as amazing, award-winning, nationally ranked restaurants. There are 10 bookstores in Chapel Hill for browsing. Chapel Hill is considered very "livable", meaning that finding information and getting places is relatively easy. Public transportation is free, and connects the campus with other parts of town and the nearby cities of Durham and Raleigh.

Tips

International Student and Scholar Services offers various programs designed to assist foreign students and scholars with adjustment to life in the United States and Chapel Hill. The *fall and spring* Orientation Programs occur before classes begin. The introductory session provides an overview of academic, immigration, health, safety and legal issues as well adjustment programs for new students, scholars and their spouses. Opportunities are provided during orientation to apply for a social security number and for health insurance, to visit campus health services and to tour the campus. New students, scholars

and their spouses are also invited to a welcome party to meet with other students and with the International Student and Scholar Services Staff.

Remember to carry your I-94 card at all times! According to Section 264(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act all aliens 18 years of age and older must carry his/her "evidence of registration document at all times". In the case of an international student, the registration document is the I-94 card.

What to Do

Explore the city life -

It's always refreshing to walk up to Franklin Street to find an interesting place to enjoy some food and drink. Several places feature live music with a small cover charge or a "pass the hat" policy. Also located in downtown Chapel Hill are the Morehead Planetarium and the Ackland Art Museum. The ArtsCenter, also in Carrboro, showcases local companies or national touring groups in a 350-seat theater. DSI Comedy Theatre is a community favorite. The PlayMakers Repertory Company is a full-season theater group right in Chapel Hill with exciting performances. Further down the road, Walnut Creek is a major amphitheater with top name performers and several festivals. Just outside campus is the N.C. Botanical Garden with extensive walking paths, and Duke Forest is a large area north of Chapel Hill with lots of trails. There are many local farmer's and flea markets, including a large farmer's market on Saturday mornings in nearby Carrboro.

Sports -

The college spectator sports here are world-class. Student tickets are available for our exciting UNC Tar Heel men's basketball and football games. Several teams, such as the National Championship women's soccer team and the women's basketball team are even more accessible. Carolina's men's baseball team has been in the College World Series in Omaha many times and plays in Boshamer Stadium on campus. Down the road the Durham Bulls provide more great baseball entertainment on warm summer nights. The Carolina Hurricanes are a professional hockey team that plays at their stadium only 20 minutes from Chapel Hill. Local biking clubs provide strenuous activity as they explore the surrounding countryside. In short, it is likely that whatever your tastes and life-style, you will be able to find stimulating activities that are accessible in Chapel Hill.

Plan for a road trip -

And when it's time to hit the road for a trip, you are only two and a half hours by car from the North Carolina seashore with its lovely beaches. A bit further are the Outer Banks, including the National Seashore, and Kitty Hawk, the site of the first heavier-than-air plane flight in the world. You are also only three hours east of the majestic Smoky Mountains, part of the Appalachian range. Smoky Mountain National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway in the western part of the state offer truly stunning views of some of the oldest mountains in the world. And the large metropolitan areas of Atlanta, Georgia, and Washington, DC are only 4-5 hours by car. Raleigh Durham International Airport is ever-expanding to accommodate more travelers, and it is easy to fly almost anywhere from here. Chapel Hill has a moderate climate, with mild winters (snow is rare) and warm summers.

*With thanks to our UNC Department of Biology for compiling this information!



Resource Information from the UNC Visitor's Center

<http://unc.edu/visitors/>

919-962-1630

HOUSING

UNC Housing <http://housing.unc.edu/>

UNC's Baily Hill Apartments for Graduate Students and Families – 919-843-8831

Off campus housing options in Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Durham:

<http://heelshousing.com/>

www.liveshadowood.com

www.thatrentalsite.com

louisebeckproperties.com
<http://www.chapelhillrent.com/>
<http://raleigh.craigslist.org/apa/>

Additional information:

www.visitchapelhill.org/lodging/list/c/extended-stay-lodging

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Chapel Hill-Carrboro: 750 S. Merritt Mill Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516; (919)967-8211; www.chccs.k12.nc.us

PARENT RESOURCES

Parenting@UNC – A resource hub for families at UNC-Chapel Hill; <http://parenting.web.unc.edu/>

TRANSPORTATION

Town of Chapel Hill: www.townofchapelhill.org

Chapel Hill Transit: www.chtransit.org; 6900 Millhouse Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516; 919-969-4900

Robertson Scholars bus between UNC and Duke University: www.robertsonscholars.org/bus/

Taxi: www.chapelhilltaxi.com

Tarheel Taxi (919) 933-1255

Airport Transportation: www.rdutaxicab.com/ (as well as those listed above cost ~\$45 to RDU)

<http://www.rdu.com/ground-transportation/bus-and-rail-service/>

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

North Carolina Driver's License Agency: Carrboro Plaza, NC 54 West (west side of Carrboro); <http://www.ncdot.org/DMV>
919-929-416

North Carolina License Plate Agency: 1704-B E. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516; 919-942-4972

BIKING

The Chapel Hill area is very friendly for bikers with many bike lanes and bike paths connecting the area to campus

<http://www.townofchapelhill.org/home/showdocument?id=10099>

<http://ncrailtrails.org/trails/libba-cotten>

FOOD STORES AND GROCERIES

Several grocery stores can be found within 1.5 miles of campus in all directions. Popular food stores include:

Food Lion: 1720 N. Fordham Blvd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919)967-2613

Harris Teeter: 1200 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27517; (919)968-3781

Trader Joe's: 1800 E. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919)918-7871

Weaver Street Market: 101 E Weaver Street, Carrboro, NC 27510; (919) 929-0010

Whole Foods Market: 81 S. Elliot Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919)968-1983

Fresh Market: 1200 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514- (919) 932-7501

There is also a Farmer's Market twice a week in the center of Carrboro: <http://www.carrborofarmersmarket.com/>

BANKS

Harrington Bank: 301 Kildaire Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516 (919) 913-3200

Bank of America: 138 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919) 918-4200

PNC Bank: 101 East Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919) 918-4300

Wachovia: 165 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919) 929-0311

BB&T: 143 East Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919)918-7030

SunTrust: 201 S. Estes Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919) 932-2761
State Employees Credit Union: 310 Pittsboro Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516; (919) 962-9191
Wells Fargo: 165 E. Franklin St, Chapel Hill NC 27514; (919) 929-0311

PHARMACIES

Sutton's Drug Store: 159 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919)942-4861
Rite Aid: 1218 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27517; (919)968-3777
CVS: 137 East Franklin St., Chapel Hill, NC; (919)942-6447
Walgreens: 108 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC; (919) 918-3801

SHOPPING, HOME FURNISHINGS, AND UTILITIES

Walmart: 12500 15-501 N, Chapel Hill, NC 27517; 919-357-9039
Furniture and Mattress: Better Sleep Store – 1728 N. Fordham Blvd. #117, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-967-8811
University Mall: 201 S. Estes Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-967-6934
Southpoint Mall: 6910 Fayetteville Rd, Durham, NC 27713; 919-572-8808
Electricians: Diehl Electrical Services, Inc.; 4425 Renfrew Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27517; 919-451-8920
Stone Services Heating and Air Conditioning: 1131 Whippoorwill Lane, Chapel Hill, NC 27705; 919-933-1423
Cable: Time Warner Cable; 1201 Raleigh Rd. #B, Chapel Hill, NC 27517; 919-968-4559
Time Warner Cable: 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-968-4631
Power: Duke Energy (electricity); 1-800-777-9898; www.duke-energy.com
Piedmont Energy business office (electricity); 919-732-2123
PSNC (Natural Gas); 1-877-776-2427; www.psnenergy.com
Wireless Phone: Verizon Wireless; 201 S. Estes Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-419-0620
AT&T Wireless; (inside UNC Student Stores) 207 South Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-962-0803
Sprint; 6409 Fayetteville Road, Durham, NC 27713; 919-206-4077
Carpenters: Jeff Brown/Home Solutions; 919-260-0145
Creative Carpentry: 6000 Graystone Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919- 622-4304
Hardware: ACE Hardware; 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-929-7797
Lowe's: 1801 Fordham Blvd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-967-3289
Brown's Paint & Hardware: 420 W. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516; 919-968-3751
Fitch Lumber and Hardware: 309 N. Greensboro Street, Carrboro, NC 27510; 919-942-3153
Plumbers: Sparrow & Sons Heating and Plumbing; 305 W. Weaver Street, Carrboro, NC 27510; 919-942-5171

Government and Healthcare

Chapel Hill Town Hall: 405 MLK Jr. Blvd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-968-2714 or
US Post Office: UNC Student Stores, UNC campus
Downtown Chapel Hill, 179 E. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-929-9757
125 South Estes Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27516- 919- 929-9892
Orange County Board of Elections: www.co.orange.nc.us/elect
Fire Department (1 of 5): 403 MLK Jr. Blvd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-968-2781
Police Department: 828 MLK Jr. Blvd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919- 968-2760
UNC Hospitals: 101 Manning Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; -919-966-4131
Campus Health Services: James A. Taylor Bldg., 320 Emergency Room Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27599; 919-966-2281
FastMed Urgent Care: 1407 East Franklin St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514; 919-913-0996; www.fastmed.com

NEWS and RESOURCES

Chapel Hill News	www.chapelhillnews.com
Daily Tar Heel (UNC)	www.dailytarheel.com
Durham Herald-Sun	www.heraldsun.com
Local NPR Station	www.wunc.org
Local Radio	www.chapelboro.com AM 1360 on the radio
News and Observer	www.newsobserver.com
Southern Neighbor	www.southernneighbor.com
The Weekly/CH Magazine	www.chapelhillmagazine.com
Chapel Hill Magazine	www.chapelhillmagazine.com

Redefine Travel

www.RedefineTravel.org

CULTURE

Ackland Art Museum

www.ackland.org

Carolina Performing Arts

www.carolinaperformingarts.org (performances on campus)

Carolina Union Activities Board

www.unc.edu/cuab (events on campus)

Carrboro ArtsCenter

www.artscenterlive.org

Cats Cradle Music Venue

www.catscradle.com

Chapel Hill Visitors Bureau

www.visitchapelhill.org

Downtown Chapel Hill Information

www.downtownchapelhill.com

DSI Comedy Theater

www.dsicomedytheatre.com

Ferrington Village

www.ferrington.com

Morehead Planetarium and Science Center

www.moreheadplanetarium.org

PlayMakers Repertory Theater

www.playmakersrep.org

Preservation Society of Chapel Hill

www.chapelhillpreservation.com

UNC Sports-schedules, tickets, etc.

www.goheels.com