



# Frequently Asked Questions For New Graduate Students

## **1. What is my Student Identification Number (SID)?**

Your SID is first assigned to you upon your application to the school. It is also available to you on the "Taking the Next Step" form that was mailed to you with your official offer of admission. It will be your unique identifier throughout your career at UC Berkeley and it's a good idea to memorize it as you will use it often.

## **2. What is my CalNet ID? What is my Passphrase?**

Your CalNet ID is your on-line identity at UC Berkeley and will be used for authentication purposes throughout your time on campus. Your CalNet ID and passphrase will be used as a username and password to access various resources like Berkeley's WiFi network (AirBears), library databases, and the Tele-BEARS and BearFacts sites. If you have ever been a student at Cal or a previous applicant, you may already have an active CalNet ID. If you encounter problems with your CalNet ID or password, contact the Cal 1 Card Office at [cal1card@berkeley.edu](mailto:cal1card@berkeley.edu).

## **3. How and when do I register for classes?**

You will register for classes online via the Tele-BEARS website at <http://telebars.berkeley.edu> by logging on with your CalNet ID and passphrase. You can enroll in courses during your registration appointment time and during the adjustment period per the schedule below:

- July 22 — Your registration appointment time will be available on BearFacts
- August 4-August 10 — Fall 2011 registration for incoming graduate students. If you miss your appointment time, you can register during open hours:  
Monday-Friday 7-8am, 7pm-12am; Saturday-Sunday 12pm-12am
- August 15-September 9 — Adjustment period

**Students who are receiving financial aid disbursements must enroll in at least one course before they receive disbursements.** Be sure to consult with the program coordinator for your area of concentration and/or meet with your faculty advisor to ensure you are fulfilling school-wide as well as program course requirements. MPH students should also consult the MPH Degree Breadth Requirements document available on this website. The Schedule of Classes is located online at <http://schedule.berkeley.edu>. Additional information regarding Registration and Enrollment is located at <http://registrar.berkeley.edu/Default.aspx?PageID=ssvc.html>. You will meet with your faculty advisor during Welcome Week to make any adjustments to your class schedule before the Tele-BEARS Adjustment period ends on September 9.

## **4. How do I view my grades, registration status, class schedule, and financial aid information?**

BearFacts is the Berkeley website that allows you to view your registration, class schedules and financial aid information. You can update your personal contact information, accept or decline financial aid or loan offers, and view your grades. To log on you will need your CalNet ID and passphrase.

Visit: <http://bearfacts.berkeley.edu>.

## **5. How do I pay my fees?**

You can pay your fees through the Campus Accounts Receivable System (CARS) menu on BearFacts at <http://bearfacts.berkeley.edu> or in person at room 140 University Hall, at the corner of University Ave. and Oxford St. (a campus map is available at <http://www.berkeley.edu/map/3dmap/3dmap.shtml>).

Financial aid and University awards will be applied directly to CARS. If you have accepted financial aid (student loans, work/study awards), fellowships, and/or scholarship designated for nonresident tuition or resident fees, those funds will be applied to your CARS account. Funds designated as "stipend" will be paid directly to you by check or deposited into your Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) account. Sign up for an EFT account at <http://eftstudent.berkeley.edu/>. Before submitting a payment, you should carefully review the Registration Fee Summary on your CARS account for the actual balance due.



#### **6. How do I set up my Berkeley e-mail account?**

Visit the Calmail page (<http://calmail.berkeley.edu>) and follow the instructions provided under the "New Account" option.

#### **7. Where do I get a Cal Student ID Card? How about my AC Transit Class Pass?**

You can obtain a Cal Student ID Card at 110 Cesar Chavez Center in Lower Sproul Plaza Monday through Friday between 9am and 5pm. **You will need a valid photo ID and your SID.** The card is free, although there is a fee for replacement cards. Once you have your card you can pick up the AC Transit Class Pass there as well. Attach the sticker to your ID card and use it for unlimited rides on any AC transit bus (including the transbay bus to San Francisco!) Each semester you will need a new Class Pass.

#### **8. How can I enroll in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)?**

As a Berkeley student you are automatically enrolled in SHIP unless you waive this insurance by providing proof of being enrolled in another health insurance plan. SHIP is a comprehensive insurance plan that offers 12 months of coverage anywhere in the world. Students can access primary medical care services on campus at the Tang Center located at 2222 Bancroft Ave. through University Health Services (UHS). SHIP also covers care outside UHS, hospitalizations, and referrals to specialty care. In addition, SHIP includes dental coverage. Vision care is not included but can be accessed at a discount through the UC Berkeley School of Optometry. For more information on SHIP visit: <http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/students/insurance/SHIPFAQs.shtml#3>. For information on UHS visit: <http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu>. For information on the School of Optometry visit: <http://www.caleyecare.com>.

#### **9. I just moved; how do I update my personal information with the school?**

Update your address and contact information on BearFacts under the Personal menu.

#### **10. I'm not currently a California resident, what steps can I take to establish residency?**

It is possible to establish California residency by your 2<sup>nd</sup> academic year. There are strict guidelines to follow including a maximum number of days you can be outside the state. For detailed information visit: <http://registrar.berkeley.edu/Residency/legalinfo.html>.

#### **11. How many units do I have to take each semester? Do I have to maintain a certain GPA?**

UCB SPH requires all students to be enrolled in a minimum of 12 units each semester and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0.

**If you have additional questions about registration, contact the Program Coordinator for your Area of Concentration:**

Biostatistics (MA, PhD)  
Epidemiology (MPH, MS, PhD)  
Epidemiology/Biostatistics (MPH)  
Environmental Health (MPH, MS, PhD)  
Health & Social Behavior (MPH)  
Health Policy & Management (MPH)  
Infectious Diseases (MPH, PhD)  
Interdisciplinary (MPH)  
Maternal & Child Health (MPH)  
Doctor of Public Health

Sharon Norris  
Roberta Myers  
Roberta Myers  
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