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The Paul H. Nitze School  
of Advanced International Studies



# SAIS Guide to Washington, D.C.

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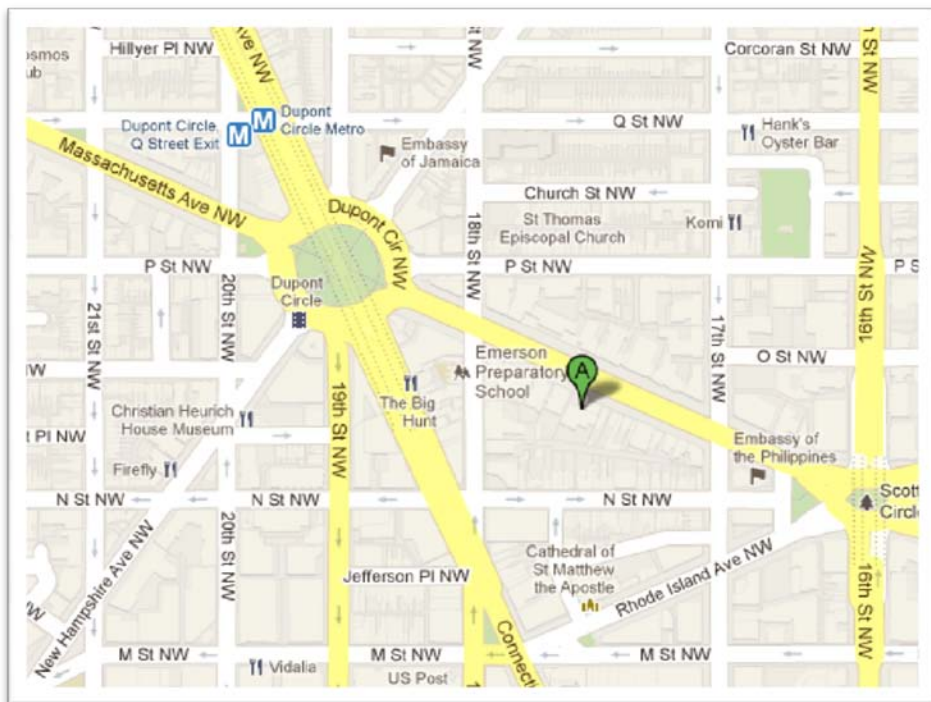
## I. TRAVEL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

### LOCATING SAIS

The SAIS campus is located in the Dupont Circle area of Northwest Washington, D.C. SAIS is found to the east of Dupont Circle on Massachusetts Avenue. If you are reaching SAIS by Metro, Washington, D.C.'s subway system, use the Dupont Circle South exit. Once you face the circle, SAIS will be to the right. Cross Connecticut Avenue and turn right onto Massachusetts Avenue. The SAIS Nitze Building is less than two blocks away at #1740, on the right side of Massachusetts Avenue between 18<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Streets. The Bernstein-Ofit Building is across the street at #1717, and the Rome Building is down the street at #1619.

**NOTE:** Until late fall 2012, the South exit of the Dupont Circle Metro is expected to be closed for repairs. To get to SAIS from the Q Street/North exit, head east on Q St. NW, turn right on Connecticut Ave. and walk through Dupont Circle (with the fountain). Exit onto Massachusetts

Avenue (with the yellow SunTrust bank on the corner) and then follow the instructions above.



The following directions can be used if you are **driving** to SAIS from a point of origin outside Washington, D.C.

#### *From the North:*

Follow I-95 South to the Washington Capitol Beltway I-495 West. Take Exit 31 and turn left onto Route 97 South. Turn right onto 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW and proceed into Washington, D.C. Cross O Street NW, and turn right onto Massachusetts Avenue NW at Scott Circle. SAIS will be on your left, about a block and a half from Dupont Circle.

#### *From the South:*

Follow I-95 North, which turns into I-395 North and leads to the 14th Street Bridge and downtown Washington. Once you have crossed the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, continue north on 14th Street to the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue at Thomas Circle. Enter the rotary, go two thirds of the way around the circle and take Massachusetts Avenue west. SAIS will be on your left between 17th and 18th Streets.

#### *From the West:*

Follow Route 66 East over the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge to Constitution Avenue, and turn left onto 18th Street. Travel north on 18th Street until you reach Massachusetts Avenue. Turn right and travel east for about half a block. SAIS will be on your right.

#### *From the East:*

Follow Route 50 West, which leads to New York Avenue NW. New York Avenue NW becomes Mount Vernon Place NW, which becomes Massachusetts Avenue NW. Travel west on Massachusetts Avenue until you reach SAIS, which will be on your left between 17th and 18th Streets.

### AIR

**Reagan National Airport** is in Virginia, about 3 miles (5 km) to the southwest of downtown Washington, D.C. If you are not too loaded down with luggage, the most convenient and economical way of traveling into the city is by Metro, Washington, D.C.'s subway system. Take a Blue or Yellow line train from Reagan National Airport station and transfer to the Red Line heading towards Shady Grove. Get off at the Dupont Circle station. If you would rather not take the Metro, taxis are plentiful and will get you into the

city for approximately \$15. Alternatively, you may take a *SuperShuttle* van to just about anywhere in D.C. for about \$14 (visit [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com) for details).

**Dulles International Airport** is in Virginia, about 20 miles (33 km) west of Washington, D.C. There is no Metro rail service to the Dulles International Airport. Taking a taxi from Dulles can be very expensive, with fares as high as about \$75. You may also utilize the *SuperShuttle* van for about \$30, any additional guest pays only \$10 (visit [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com) for details). Additionally, Metrobus 5A travels from Dulles Airport to the L'Enfant Plaza and Rosslyn Metro stops. The schedule can be accessed via [www.wmata.com/bus/timetables](http://www.wmata.com/bus/timetables) and the Express Fare is \$6. You must have exact change.

**Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI)** is in Maryland, about 23 miles (38 km) north of the city. There is no Metro service to the BWI Airport, and taxi fares are about \$79. *SuperShuttle* service is available to travel to downtown D.C. for about \$38 (visit [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com) for details). Additionally, Amtrak and MARC commuter trains run between the BWI Rail Station and the Union Station Metro stop on the Red line. Upon taking a free shuttle bus from the terminal to the BWI Rail Station, you can travel to Union Station by MARC commuter rail for \$6 (Monday through Friday only) or by Amtrak for a fare ranging from about \$14 (Unreserved Weekday Coach) to \$48 (Acela Express), depending on time of travel. Visit [www.mtmaryland.com/services/marc/](http://www.mtmaryland.com/services/marc/) or [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com) for more information. Alternatively, the BWI Express bus (B30) loops daily from the BWI Airport to the Greenbelt Metro station on the Green line. The schedule can be accessed via [www.wmata.com/bus/timetables](http://www.wmata.com/bus/timetables) and the Express Fare is \$6. You must have exact change.

## TRAIN

Amtrak and MARC commuter trains stop at Union Station, which is located approximately 20 blocks from SAIS at 50 Massachusetts Avenue NE. A taxi ride to SAIS costs about \$12. Alternatively, you can board the Red line of the Metro on the lower level of the terminal and proceed five stops toward Shady Grove. Exit the Metro at the Dupont Circle stop. See the [Locating SAIS](#) section above for further directions.

## BUS

In addition to the [commercial bus station](#) at 1005 1st Street NE, additional buses depart from the upper level of Union Station to cities like New York and Philadelphia. Visit <http://www.unionstationdc.com/info/groundTransportation> for details and see the [Train](#) section for directions to SAIS. Other inexpensive buses to various East Coast cities operate from points across D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

## CAR

Owning a car in the Washington, D.C. area can be a daunting experience, and many students prefer to use public transportation. Parking in D.C. is extremely limited, and the police are conscientious about ticketing cars that are parked illegally. Parking is expensive in lots and garages, and free street parking is virtually impossible to find on weekdays. Although SAIS has a parking lot behind the Nitze Building, it is reserved for full-time SAIS employees during business hours (9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday).

If you bring a car, be sure to research the registration and operating requirements, which can be found on the [DC Department of Motor Vehicles \(DMV\) website](#). Be aware that students living in Washington temporarily are not subject to the same registration rules as permanent residents. Most residential neighborhoods within the District require parking permits, which can be obtained from the DMV. Temporary residents of Washington D.C. who are also full-time students can obtain [reciprocity parking permits](#), which allow those with out-of-state license plates and registrations to park in residential areas for one year. This pass costs \$338 and is renewable.

All non-U.S. citizens, as well as those who have lived in the District of Columbia more than 60 days, must obtain a U.S. driver's license to drive in the District. A driver's license will allow you to operate an automobile, as well as purchase and consume alcohol in public establishments throughout the U.S. and at SAIS Happy Hours.

## METRO

The Metro is Washington, D.C.'s subway Rail system. The Metro consists of five color-coded lines that provide transport throughout the District of Columbia and into Virginia and Maryland. The lines are connected to each other, and some destinations require a line change. Maps are available at each station, online at [www.wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com) and at the end of this section. Metro's [Trip Planner feature](#) allows you to map and price your subway and bus options for travel between any two destinations in the D.C. metro area.

At every station, you will find a map showing the neighborhood near the station, a Fare Chart showing costs to and from any station during peak and off-peak times, and farecard machines to purchase temporary declining-balance tickets or short-term passes, and to reload your [SmarTrip Card](#).

A one-way subway trip costs between \$1.60 and \$5, depending on your travel distance and time of travel. The Metro opens at 5 a.m. on weekdays and 7 a.m. on weekends. It closes at 12 midnight Sunday through Thursday, and at 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. The time of last departure is posted at each station. The DC Metro Transit “app” for smart phones provides real-time updates on schedules, disruptions and more.

## **METROBUS**

Metrobus stops have tall red, white and blue signs. The list of stops and departure times is sometimes listed on the sign. To be safe, try to obtain a schedule for each bus that you plan to ride. The Metrobus system operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week but service intervals vary by time of day and by day of the week. Consult [Metrobus schedules](#) for more information or call 202.637.7000. While you are at the bus stop, you can use the “Next Bus” phone feature or smart phone “App” to check when the bus will arrive.

Bus fare is \$1.50 with a [SmarTrip](#) card or \$1.70 using cash. Free bus-to-bus transfers and discounted rail-to-bus transfers within a three-hour period are available using SmarTrip.

## **SMARTIP CARD**

A SmarTrip Card is a convenient way of using Metro rail and bus. It cuts down on travel time, allows you to store money on a more sturdy plastic card, and provides a discount on fares. The card is rechargeable, and embedded with a computer chip that keeps track of the value of the card. You can tap the SmarTrip box on Metro and Metrobus to pay your fare. Fares are reduced (\$0.25 for Metro and \$0.20 for Bus) when using SmarTrip. If you register your card and later lose it, you can get your balance back.

You can purchase a SmarTrip Card online by credit card, at the Metro Center subway stop, at most CVS stores in D.C., or other outlets found [here](#). SmarTrip cards cost at least \$10 (\$5 for the card and \$5 pre-loaded fare).

## **TAXI**

Taxis operate everywhere and anywhere in Washington, D.C. Taxis begin charging \$3 per person and meters will run at about \$1.50 per mile (with a possible increase coming soon). There are also extra charges for each additional person traveling, the time of day you ride, and other factors. Tips, if given, should be about ten percent of the total fare. Before you get in a taxi, check for a license and photo ID for your taxi driver and ask for an estimated fare.

## **BICYCLE**

Many students have bicycles, which are convenient modes of transportation anywhere in the city. There are bike racks outside the Nitze and Rome buildings. It is suggested that cyclists wear protective helmets and use a U-Lock mechanism to secure their bikes. Secure the frame of your bike to a solid object. If you have a releasable wheel or bicycle seat, it also should be secured. However, individuals should be aware that no matter how sophisticated your lock, your bike will not be immune to theft. Students are encouraged to register their bicycles with the National Bicycle Registry (NBR). Visit [www.nationalbikeregistry.com](http://www.nationalbikeregistry.com) or call 1.800.848.BIKE for details.

You can take your bike on Metro, except on weekdays from 7-10 a.m. and 4-7 p.m. You can bring your bike on Metrobus anytime as long as there is space on the rack in front of the bus. No additional fees apply.

Bike-sharing programs allow you to rent a bike from one of many stations around town and return it to that or any other station. For example, through [Capital Bikeshare](#), you can sign up for a year-long membership (\$75), for 30 days (\$25) or three days (\$15), or one day (\$7). Up-to-the-minute status updates on bike availability may be available online or through smart phones.

## **FOOT**

A great advantage of attending graduate school in Washington, D.C. is that it is easy to get around on foot. It takes about 20 minutes to walk to SAIS from several neighborhoods, including Georgetown, Woodley Park and Adams Morgan (see the [Neighborhoods](#) section for more information). Many students find walking to school preferable to taking public transportation.

## **SAIS SHUTTLE**

SAIS offers a van service that brings students to nearby surrounding Metro stops after hours. Rides are available Sunday through Thursday evenings at 7 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 10 p.m., and 11:15 p.m. Stops include Farragut North, Farragut West, Mount Vernon Square and Columbia Heights. If you would like to take advantage of this service, be sure to sign up day-of on the sheet located at the Nitze Building security front desk. The shuttle operates only when school is in session. Shuttle service times are subject to change.

# M System Map

MetroOpensDoors.com  
 Customer Information Service: 202/637-7000  
 TTY Phone: 202/638-3780

- Legend**
- Red Line • Glenmont to Shady Grove
  - Orange Line • New Carrollton to Vienna/Fairfax-GMU
  - Blue Line • Franconia-Springfield to Largo Town Center
  - Green Line • Branch Avenue to Greenbelt
  - Yellow Line • Huntington to Fort Totten



Every other outbound Red Line train terminates at Grosvenor-Strathmore station Weekdays 7:00 to 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Yellow Line service operates between Mt Vernon Sq/7th St-Convention Center and Fort Totten stations except Weekdays 5:00 to 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.



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**Metro is accessible.**

REV 09/08/08

- No Smoking
- No Eating or Drinking
- No Animals (except service animals)
- No Audio (without earphones)
- No Litter or Spitting
- No Dangerous or Flammable Items

## II. HOUSING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

### WHEN TO ARRIVE

It is recommended that you have your living situation arranged at least one month prior to your arrival in Washington, D.C., if possible. To find a place to live, you may need to visit several apartments, put in an application and wait for a credit check, make a deposit and sign a lease. Please note that international students with F1 or J1 visas may enter the U.S. in student status no earlier than 30 days prior to the first day of classes.

### TEMPORARY HOUSING

The ideal situation while looking for a permanent residence is to stay with friends or relatives living in the area. For those of you who are not this fortunate, there are convenient alternatives, such as renting temporary furnished housing. One company is [Oakwood Temporary Housing](#), which offers one- and two-bedroom apartments in Washington and Virginia. Rates range from \$120 to \$185 per night and rooms can be shared to lower costs. Another option is [www.justlikehome.com](http://www.justlikehome.com) for \$32 to \$54 per day (including meals in some cases), plus a \$195 application fee. Temporary housing is in high demand in the D.C. area, so you may find other online resources to help you in your search. Be aware that some individuals may be offering fraudulent living situations, particularly if you are out of the D.C. area or the U.S. and you are asked to give out personal information and entering into agreements quickly.

Other students simply choose to stay in hotels. Below is a sample list of hotels near SAIS. Note that all hotels must charge D.C. tax in addition to the nightly rates listed. The prices below are approximations, and rates will vary depending on date and season of arrival. Be sure to ask about any special deals they may have.

<p><b>The Allen Lee Hotel</b> 2224 F St. NW 202.331.1224; 800.462.0186 \$70-108 <a href="http://www.theallenleehotel.com">www.theallenleehotel.com</a></p>	<p><b>Beacon Hotel</b> 1615 Rhode Island Ave. NW (may offer SAIS discount – call Cindy 202.787.1757) <a href="http://www.beaconhotelwdc.com">www.beaconhotelwdc.com</a></p>
<p><b>Best Western New Hampshire Suites</b> 1121 New Hampshire Ave. NW 202.457.0565; 800.780.7234 \$150-180 <a href="http://www.bestwesternwashingtondc.com">www.bestwesternwashingtondc.com</a></p>	<p><b>Carlyle Suites</b> 1731 New Hampshire Ave. NW 202.234.3200; 866.468.3532 \$183-213 <a href="http://www.carlylesuites.com">www.carlylesuites.com</a></p>
<p><b>Churchill Hotel</b> 1914 Connecticut Ave. NW (may offer SAIS discount – call Phil Saims 202.797.2095) <a href="http://www.thechurchillhotel.com">www.thechurchillhotel.com</a></p>	<p><b>Courtyard Marriott—Embassy Row</b> 1600 Rhode Island Ave. NW 202.293.8000 (may offer SAIS discount) <a href="http://www.courtyardembassyrow.com/">www.courtyardembassyrow.com/</a></p>
<p><b>Days Inn</b> 4400 Connecticut Ave. NW 202.244.5600; 800.329.7466 \$139-159 <a href="http://www.daysinn.com">www.daysinn.com</a></p>	<p><b>Double Tree Hotel</b> 1515 Rhode Island Ave. NW 202.232.7000; 800.222.7633 \$149-299 <a href="http://www.doubletree.com">www.doubletree.com</a></p>
<p><b>Embassy Inn</b> 1627 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW 202.234.7800; 877.968.9111 \$179-199 <a href="http://www.embassy-inn.com/">www.embassy-inn.com/</a></p>	<p><b>Helix Hotel</b> 1430 Rhode Island Ave. NW 202.462.9001; 800.706.1202 \$175-320 <a href="http://www.hotelhelix.com">www.hotelhelix.com</a></p>
<p><b>Homewood Suites By Hilton</b> 1475 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. 240.602.4915 \$152-305 <a href="http://www.washingtondc.homewoodsuites.com">www.washingtondc.homewoodsuites.com</a></p>	<p><b>Hostelling International -Washington, D.C.</b> 1009 11<sup>th</sup> St. NW 202.737.2333 Dormitories: \$29-45 <a href="http://www.hiwashingtondc.org">www.hiwashingtondc.org</a></p>
<p><b>Hotel Madera</b> 1310 New Hampshire Ave. NW (may offer SAIS discount – call Laurence Bezy 202.521.7403) <a href="http://www.hotelmadera.com">http://www.hotelmadera.com</a></p>	<p><b>The Madison</b> 1177 15th St. NW (may offer a SAIS discount – call Mandy Valkenburg 202.787.3122) <a href="http://www.madisonhoteldc.com">http://www.madisonhoteldc.com</a></p>

<b>The Fairfax Embassy Row</b> 2100 Massachusetts Ave. NW (may offer a SAIS discount – contact Jennifer Logsdon 202.835.2199) <a href="http://www.fairfaxhoteldc.com">www.fairfaxhoteldc.com</a>	<b>Residence Inn Washington</b> 1199 Vermont Ave. NW 1.800.392.8990 or 202.898.1100 (may offer discounts for SAIS students) <a href="http://www.marriott.com/wasdc">www.marriott.com/wasdc</a>
<b>Renaissance Hotel M St.</b> 1143 New Hampshire Ave. NW 202.775.0800; 888.803.1298 \$169-299 <a href="http://www.marriott.com/property/propertypage/WASRW">www.marriott.com/property/propertypage/WASRW</a>	<b>The Tabard Inn</b> 1739 N St. NW 202.785.1277 \$125-145 Shared Bath; \$165-250 Private Bath <a href="http://www.tabardinn.com">www.tabardinn.com</a>
<b>Topaz Hotel</b> 1733 N St. NW (may offer SAIS discount - call 1.800. 546.7866 and ask for the Johns Hopkins University rate) <a href="http://www.topazhotel.com">www.topazhotel.com</a>	<b>The Windsor Inn</b> 1842 16 <sup>th</sup> St., N.W. 202.667.0300; 800.423.9111 \$99-250 <a href="http://www.windsor-inn-hotel-dc.com/">www.windsor-inn-hotel-dc.com/</a>

## FINDING PERMANENT HOUSING

Washington, D.C. is an expensive place to live. Washington and its suburbs have a high turnover rate, which gives rise to inflated housing prices and a competitive market. Apartments in the Dupont Circle area are highly sought after by professionals and SAIS students alike. Bargains are few and far between.

When choosing a place to live, it is wise to consider how accessible the location is by foot or by public transportation. Many SAIS students live within walking or biking distance of SAIS in neighborhoods such as Dupont Circle, Logan Circle, Adams Morgan, Kalorama, Columbia Heights and Mount Pleasant, if they can afford it. See the [Neighborhoods](#) section below for more information.

Some students, particularly those with families, choose to live outside the District in areas such as Arlington, Rosslyn, Falls Church, Bethesda, Chevy Chase and Silver Spring. If you choose to live away from the hustle and bustle of downtown D.C., it is best to make sure that your location is easily accessible by public transportation. To find out how public transportation-friendly a potential residence is, use the [Metro website's Trip Planner feature](#) to find available bus and subway routes, as well as expected travel times and fare prices. The related travel costs of living outside the District may well outweigh the cheaper rental prices of housing.

## HOW TO LOOK FOR HOUSING

SAIS has contracted with Off Campus Partners to provide a housing website to serve the SAIS community. This [Housing site](#) offers the following:

- Fully-searchable, user-friendly *housing listings* of D.C.-area properties.
- A *Roommates* feature that allows you to post your profile and search for potential roommates based on social habits, cleanliness, gender and much more. If you already have a place to live, you can post the property details to show your place to potential roommates.
- *Message Boards* for students to post on topics like Pre-Term or Summer sublets and Tips for International Students.

SAIS students, faculty and staff may access the site at <https://housing.sais-jhu.edu> and post listings at no cost with their JHED ID and password. This is the school's only centralized housing resource, so we try to encourage everyone to use this site to reach as wide an audience as possible.

We also try to connect students via electronic and in-person settings for those who are looking for D.C. housing, SAIS roommates, and tips on the housing search or specific neighborhoods in DC, in a "live" setting. Stay tuned for details.

Students would like to discuss their specific situation further should call Lisa Kahn, Director of Student Life, at 202.663.5705 or email [lisa.kahn@jhu.edu](mailto:lisa.kahn@jhu.edu).

## RENTAL ADVICE

Apartments come in three basic sizes: efficiency/studio, one bedroom and two bedrooms. In the Dupont Circle area, for example, you can expect to pay over \$1300 per month for an efficiency, over \$2600 for a one-bedroom, and over \$2400 for a two-bedroom. These figures do not necessarily include the cost of utilities such as gas, electricity, water and telephone. Cable, internet and phone packages are often available and a lower cost than contracting separately for each of these services. Sharing a group house with several other people can cost anywhere from about \$700-1200 per month, depending on the location and condition of the house. In general, it is recommended that your housing costs do not exceed 30 to 40 percent of your income or monthly loan budget.

In general, the market is highly competitive and moves very fast. Read and understand your lease. If necessary, have someone translate the lease for you before signing. Tenants' lack of awareness of the obligations they agree to in their leases can create problems before, during and after the time of residence. To avoid surprises, obtain written copies of all your agreements and refer to them when questions arise. Most leases are for one year, which can be inconvenient for students who wish to spend the summer between their first and second years at SAIS out of the country. If your lease allows, you might investigate subletting your apartment during this period and posting the listing on the [SAIS Housing site](#).

If possible, it is recommended that you visit your apartment prior to signing a contract or making payment. Sometimes what looks great online is not the same in person. Also, some individuals may be offering fraudulent living situations, particularly if you are out of the D.C. area or the U.S. and you are asked to give out personal information and entering into agreements quickly. While in D.C., another strategy is to walk into nearby apartment buildings and request information on current vacancies. Many buildings maintain listings which are not available elsewhere. Signs are usually posted outside buildings if there are vacancies. Non-U.S. citizens may encounter obstacles when signing a lease because they might not have a credit history or social security number in the U.S., for example. SAIS makes every effort to vouch for its students to landlords and building managers. Please [contact the Office of Student Life](#) for more information.

The following information might be required when applying for a lease:

- your previous address and phone number
- previous landlord's address and phone number
- address and phone number of SAIS (1740 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202.663.5600)
- previous employer's address and phone number
- your income for the past two years
- bank account and credit card information
- driver's license information
- checkbook or cash to pay a possible application fee (typically around \$50)

The following questions are important to ask of your landlord or realtor before signing a lease:

- Is the apartment furnished, and if so, is there an extra deposit? If not, is there a furniture rental option through the agency?  
**Note:** Most housing in D.C. is unfurnished. See the [Shopping - Home Furnishings](#) section for some furnishing store options.
- Which utilities are included in the rent?
- On average, how much are the utilities per month?
- Are there laundry facilities available?
- How much is the security deposit?
- Is air conditioning available, and if so, how much does it cost on average?
- Is it permissible to sublet the apartment to another renter?
- Is residential or visitor parking available, and if so, what is the extra cost?
- Is public transportation nearby?
- Is grocery shopping available nearby?
- Is the neighborhood safe?

To help protect you against theft or damage from a fire or flood, or if someone injures themselves in your apartment, it is recommended that you purchase **renter's insurance**. Most policies cost less than \$200 a year. Call around to get various quotes and decide what works best for your living situation.

## NEIGHBORHOODS



Securing affordable rental prices should be balanced with concerns for safety. Neighborhoods in Washington, D.C. can change dramatically from block to block, and the safety of a particular area may vary at different times of the day. When conducting your housing search, consider both the block where you plan to live and the blocks that you will have to walk through to get there. Consult local police precincts for more information about D.C. neighborhoods. Crime reports are also available at <http://capstat.oca.dc.gov/mapping/>. See [www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org) for more information on urban crime.

The basic layout of the District of Columbia is a quadrant system. It is centered around the Capitol Building (see picture) which makes it easy to orient yourself. There are four quadrants – NW, NE, SE and SW. The letter streets (C, D, E, etc.) run east to

west, starting at the Capitol. The number streets (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc.) run north to south, increasing as you move away from the Capitol. Avenues named after states (Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Connecticut, etc.) run diagonally.

Additionally, it is helpful to know how D.C. streets are organized following the end of the alphabet. The first letter of subsequent street names follow an alphabetical order, with each alphabet set repeating with an additional syllable. For example, Buchanan Street is between Allison and Crittenden Streets. Buchanan has three syllables, so it is three alphabet sets away from the Capitol. Also, having an address gives you an idea of the location because the street number indicates the cross streets. For example, 1740 Massachusetts Avenue is between 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets. Also, 514 9<sup>th</sup> Street is between E and F Streets because E is the fifth letter of the alphabet and F is the sixth. Note that D.C. does not have a J Street, so do not include J in your numerical count!

The following neighborhood descriptions are meant to serve as guidelines to orient you. SAIS does not investigate, endorse or guarantee any of these neighborhoods or the housing opportunities within them.

**ADAMS MORGAN:** As close to one of New York City's colorful ethnic neighborhoods as Washington has to offer. Boasts an astounding array of resident nationalities and a high concentration of exotic restaurants and food stores. Prices range between about \$1100-1500 for a studio, \$1500-2500 for a one-bedroom and \$2500-3000 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Woodley Park-Zoo/Adams Morgan. Metrobus: Adams-Morgan-U Street Line, Route 98. Walk from SAIS: 10-20 minutes.

**CAPITOL HILL:** Capitol Hill composes the area east of the Capitol bounded by 14th Street in the west, H Street to the north, and the Southeast Freeway to the south. Like a small town somewhat cut off from the rest of D.C., it lacks the nightlife and commercial vitality of Northwest but compensates with charming tree-lined streets and an old-fashioned neighborhood ambiance. Prices range between about \$1200-1400 for a studio, \$1000-1700 for a one-bedroom and \$2000-3000 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Union Station; Capitol South; Eastern Market. Walk: 55-60 minutes.

**CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS:** Geographically centered around the Washington National Cathedral near the intersection of Wisconsin and Massachusetts Avenues NW, this quiet and safe area has an abundance of expensive housing. Prices range between \$1300-1500 for a studio, \$1400-\$2000 for a one-bedroom and \$2700-3000 for a two-bedroom. Metrobus: N2, N3, 37. Walk: 55-60 minutes.

**CLEVELAND PARK:** Dominated by large, expensive homes and neighborhood hangouts. There are a number of apartment complexes in the area, and it is possible to find accommodations at a reasonable price. There are several good bars and restaurants in the area. Prices range between about \$1200-1400 for a studio, \$1400-1800 for a one-bedroom and \$2300-2900 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Cleveland Park. Walk: 35-40 minutes.

**COLUMBIA HEIGHTS:** This neighborhood is in transition. Over the past few years a revitalization plan has dramatically changed the area. Many major retailers as well as restaurants opened and today, it is one of Washington's most ethnically and economically diverse neighborhoods, with a mixture of high-priced condominiums and townhouses and public and middle-income housing. Prices range between \$1000-1300 for a studio, \$900-2000 for a one-bedroom and \$1000-2300 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Columbia Heights Station. Metrobus: S1, S2, S4, S9. Walk: 30-35 minutes.

**DUPONT CIRCLE:** An expensive neighborhood where SAIS is located. With luck and/or hard work, reasonably-priced housing is available. Its shops, houses and apartment buildings reflect the "artsy" and upwardly-mobile nature of its inhabitants. Prices range between \$1300-2000 for a studio, \$2600-2900 for a one-bedroom and \$2400-3600 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Dupont Circle. Walk: 5-10 minutes.

**FOGGY BOTTOM:** Home of the State Department, Kennedy Center, Watergate Hotel and George Washington University. Although there are plenty of apartment buildings and townhouses, this location is known as being the second most expensive residential area after Georgetown. Prices range between \$1500-2000 for a studio, \$2000-3300 for a one-bedroom and \$3000-3600 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Foggy Bottom. Walk: 25 minutes.

**GEORGETOWN:** One of the highest per-capita-income neighborhoods in the nation. Politicians, diplomats and top-level executives, as well as students, populate Georgetown. The neighborhood boasts fabulous shopping and nightlife concentrated along M Street and Wisconsin Ave. Prices range between \$1000-1200 for a studio, \$1300-1600 for a one-bedroom and \$2000-2500 for a two-bedroom. Metrobus: G2, D2. Also try the Circulator's Rosslyn-Georgetown-Dupont route ([www.dccirculator.com](http://www.dccirculator.com)). Walk: 20-30 minutes.

**GLOVER PARK:** A pleasant and quiet residential neighborhood adjacent to and cheaper than Georgetown. Prices range between \$1300-1500 for a studio, \$1700-1900 for a one-bedroom and \$1600-2800 for a two-bedroom. Metrobus: Glover Park-Dupont Circle Line, Route D2. Walk: 50-55 minutes.

**LOGAN CIRCLE:** A developing neighborhood bounded by S Street and Massachusetts Avenue to the north and south and 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets at the east and west. Locale of several jazz clubs, theaters, cafes and the Whole Foods grocery store. Prices range between \$1300-1900 for a studio, \$2100-2900 for a one-bedroom and \$2900-3700 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Shaw/Howard University, McPherson Square. Metrobus: G2. Walk: 10-15 minutes.

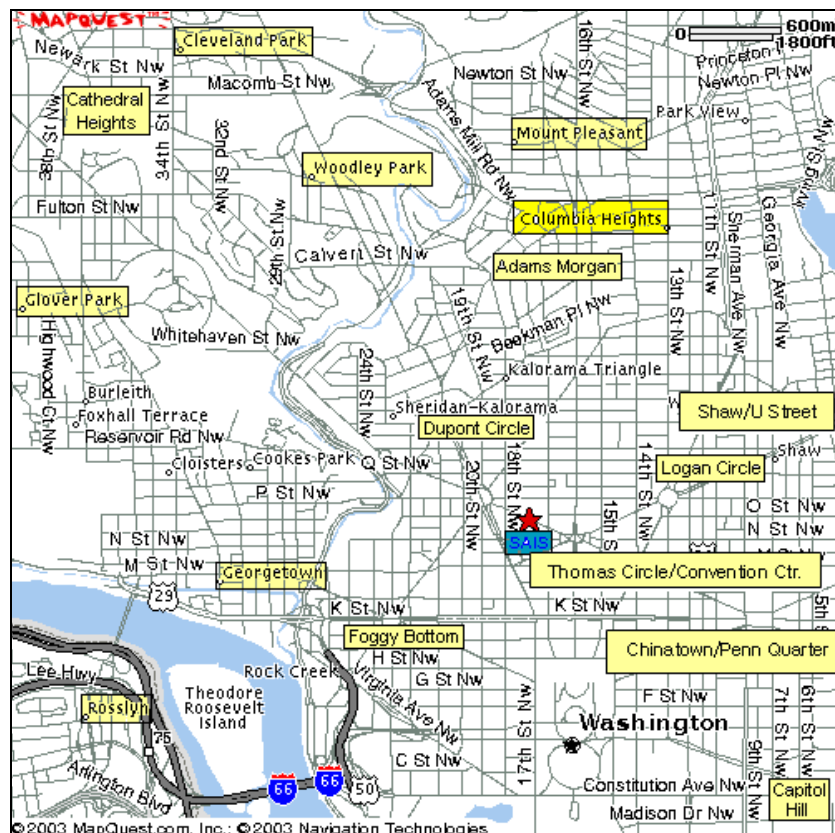
**MOUNT PLEASANT:** A lower to middle income ethnically diverse residential neighborhood. Historical district adjacent to Adams Morgan and the National Zoo. There are lots of options for rooms in shared row houses. Prices are about \$800-1400 for a one-bedroom. Metrobus: H1 to Brookland Station or 42 to Mount Pleasant. Metro: Columbia Heights. Walk: 25-30 minutes.

**PENN QUARTER/CHINATOWN:** This neighborhood just north of Pennsylvania Avenue downtown has been revitalized with museums, restaurants, upscale hotels and theaters. Prices range between \$1900-2200 for a studio, \$2500-2700 for a one-bedroom and \$3000-4900 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Gallery Place-Chinatown. Walk: 25-30 minutes.

**THOMAS CIRCLE/CONVENTION CENTER:** This area is in walking distance to many nice neighborhoods such as Chinatown, Dupont and U Street. It does not have much nightlife to offer but several big apartment buildings. Prices range between \$1300-1800 for a studio, \$1900-2500 for a one-bedroom and \$2900-3100 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Mt. Vernon Square, McPherson Square, Metro Center. Walk: 10-20 minutes.

**U STREET/SHAW:** A mostly residential neighborhood of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Victorian row houses. It is a notable place in African American history and has changed in recent years through the beginning of gentrification. Located around the U Street corridor, which is the commercial hub of the Shaw area, extending westward to 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW. Prices range between \$1000-1500 for a studio, \$1500-2900 for a one-bedroom and \$1700-2500 for a two-bedroom. Metro: U Street-Cardozo; Mt. Vernon Sq 7<sup>th</sup> St-Convention Center Station. Metrobus: G2. Walk: 15-20 minutes.

**WOODLEY PARK:** Residential neighborhoods dominated by large apartment buildings, condominiums and many row houses with single family homes on the side streets. Very close to the nightlife of Adams Morgan, boasts many fine restaurants on Connecticut Avenue and is a must for zoo lovers and those who want easy access to Rock Creek Park. Prices range between \$1350-1900 for a studio, \$1900-2500 for a one-bedroom and \$2600-3200 for a two-bedroom. Metro: Woodley Park-Zoo/Adams Morgan. Walk: 20-30 minutes.



### III. LIVING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

#### WEATHER

The weather in Washington, D.C. varies considerably by season and can be unpredictable on any given day. The summer months (June, July, August) tend to be very hot and humid, with average temperatures ranging from 65 to 88 degrees Fahrenheit (18 to 31 Celsius). During the fall/autumn (September, October, November), average temperatures range from 40 to 79 Fahrenheit (4 to 26 Celsius). It can get quite cold in the winter (December, January, February), with average temperatures of 27 to 47 Fahrenheit (-2 to 8 Celsius). Snowfall will be heavy or light, depending on the year, but count on it snowing at some point. We recommend a sturdy pair of waterproof boots and a heavy jacket, which can be purchased in D.C. In the spring (March, April, May), average temperatures range from 37 to 75 Fahrenheit (3 to 7 Celsius). The spring is lovely in D.C. with blooming flowers and the famous Cherry Blossom Festival. But allergies in the area can be severe year-round.

#### HEALTHCARE

The Aetna Student Health insurance plan offered by SAIS is obligatory for all full-time students, unless you can show proof of comparable U.S.-based coverage. Details about SAIS policies and this plan, including locating medical providers and pharmacies, can be found at [www.aetnastudenthealth.com/jhusi](http://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/jhusi) and <http://www.sais-jhu.edu/students/student-life/healthcare/index.htm>.

SAIS students may use the Georgetown University Student Health Center. When you begin treatment here, you are eligible for a reduced deductible of \$75 per condition under the Aetna Student Health plan. Call 202.687.2200 for appointments (it is not a walk-in clinic). Click [here](#) for more details.

Over-the-counter medications (like aspirin) can be purchased at any drugstore or pharmacy in the U.S. [CVS stores](#) have the most locations in D.C.

General questions or concerns about health insurance, waivers, mental and physical health, and disabilities can be directed to Lisa Kahn, Director of Student Life, Nitze 318, [lisa.kahn@jhu.edu](mailto:lisa.kahn@jhu.edu) or 202.663.5705. Questions regarding health insurance enrollment and payment should be directed to the SAIS Business Office, Nitze 310, [saisbilling@jhu.edu](mailto:saisbilling@jhu.edu) or 202.663.5661.

If you need emergency treatment, please be aware that area hospitals include:

<b>The George Washington University Hospital</b> 900 23rd St. NW 202.715.4000	<b>Georgetown University Hospital Center</b> 3800 Reservoir Rd. NW 202.444.2000	<b>The Howard University Hospital</b> 2041 Georgia Ave. NW 202.865.6100
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METROPOLITAN TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
<b>Emergency:</b> Police, Fire, Rescue, Ambulance	911
D.C. Citywide Call Center (non-emergency)	311
Metropolitan Police Department (2 <sup>nd</sup> District)	202.715.7300
Alcoholics Anonymous	202.966.9115
D.C. Department of Public Works	202.673.6833
D.C. Emergency Management Agency	202.727.6161
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority	202.787.2000
PEPCO Energy	202.833.7500
Planned Parenthood	202.347.8512
Poison Control	202.625.3333
Rape Crisis Center	202.333.7273
Social Services Referral	202.463.6211
Suicide Prevention	800.784.2433
Washington Gas	800.752.7520

#### BANKING, PERSONAL FINANCES AND TAXES

There are many banks in Washington, D.C. Rates associated with bank accounts may be initially deceiving. For example, although a bank may require a minimum savings balance of \$100, you may be fined a monthly service charge if you keep a balance of less than

\$500. These service charges can be exorbitant, so always ask about them before opening an account. Also be sure to ask whether you can open a student account at these institutions. You may need to request a verification of enrollment from the [SAIS Registrar's Office](#).

Banks' policies regarding the use of automated teller machines (ATM) vary. Most banks allow you to use their branches' ATMs at no cost, as long as you have an account with them. However, using an ATM machine at another bank may incur a fee of at least \$1 per transaction.

The following is a sample list of financial institutions with branches in the Dupont Circle area:

<b>Bank of America</b> ( <a href="http://www.bankofamerica.com">www.bankofamerica.com</a> ) 3 Dupont Circle, 202.624.4370 or 800.333.6262	<b>Chevy Chase Bank</b> ( <a href="http://www.chevychasebank.com">www.chevychasebank.com</a> ) 1800 M St. NW, 202.463.1470
<b>Citibank</b> ( <a href="http://www.citibank.com">www.citibank.com</a> ) 1225 Connecticut Ave. NW, 800.627.3999, 202.857.1550	<b>Deak International Limited/Travelex Group</b> ( <a href="http://www.travelex.com">www.travelex.com</a> ) 1800 K St. NW, Suite 103, 202.872.1428
<b>Independence Federal Savings Bank</b> ( <a href="http://www.ifsb.com">www.ifsb.com</a> ) 1226 Connecticut Ave. NW, 202.626.7106	<b>Sun Trust Bank</b> ( <a href="http://www.suntrust.com">www.suntrust.com</a> ) 1369 Connecticut Ave NW (on Dupont Circle), 202.296.5527
<b>TD Bank</b> ( <a href="http://www.tdbank.com">www.tdbank.com</a> ) *open 7 days a week* 1753 Connecticut Ave NW, 202.232.4837	<b>Wells Fargo</b> ( <a href="http://www.wellsfargo.com">www.wellsfargo.com</a> ) 1100 Connecticut Ave. NW, 202.624.0416

Another convenient banking option for SAIS students is a HigherOne student checking account. In addition to a paper check, SAIS distributes student account refunds through Higher One, a financial services company that focuses solely on higher education institutions. When you receive your Higher One JHU card in the mail, activate it on the [Higher One web site](#). From there, you can choose to have your refund distributed to your Higher One checking account instantly, or routed to an existing checking account that could take up to three business days. This OneAccount is an FDIC-insured checking account with no minimum balance requirement and no monthly fees. It offers free online banking, the ability to make purchases wherever Debit MasterCard are accepted, and the ability to withdraw cash at any ATM. The SAIS ATM in the Nitze Basement does not charge a fee when OneAccount card holders withdraw funds from it. The OneAccount also allows you or your family and friends to upload money on it as needed.

International students are strongly encouraged to bring enough currency or American Express Travelers' Checks to last throughout their initial stay in the U.S. If you plan to depend on overseas wire transfers, be sure to get accurate quotes on fees banks charge for them and allot about six weeks for payments to clear. Additionally, non-U.S. citizens will need to show valid forms of identification in order to cash checks at U.S. banks. You may need to have an American bank account in order to cash checks that you receive for any type of payment or refund. If you wish to transfer money to the United States, you may need to purchase a U.S. dollar draft from a bank in your country that has a corresponding relationship with a U.S. bank in New York. Request that the dollar draft be payable to you, and deposit the draft into the bank account that you establish once you arrive in the U.S.

Debit and credit cards are also widely used in the U.S. and are necessary for many things, such as making reservations for hotels and rental cars and getting discounted airfares over the Internet. Banks may provide debit cards to international students, but may not be able to issue credit cards because of a lack of credit and debt history in the U.S. International students may be able to use credit cards and ATM cards from their home countries (particularly MasterCard or Visa) in the U.S., but fees are likely to be applied for each transaction.

All students should be aware that the deadline for filing federal and state tax returns is April 15. Tax forms are available online at [www.irs.gov/formspubs](http://www.irs.gov/formspubs) and [www.taxadmin.org/fta/link/forms.html](http://www.taxadmin.org/fta/link/forms.html), as well as at United States Postal Offices and public libraries. Helpful information can also be found through the Johns Hopkins University Tax Office via [www.controller.jhu.edu/depts/tax](http://www.controller.jhu.edu/depts/tax) or 443.997.8688.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION

All non-U.S. citizens who are admitted to SAIS and submit matriculation materials will receive instructions on applying for student visas from the International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office. Once international students arrive at the SAIS campus in Washington, D.C., the International Student and Scholar Advisor becomes your main resource for information regarding maintenance of legal status and employment options in the U.S. ISSS can also provide instructions for applying for a U.S. Social Security Number, obtaining a driver's licence and filing federal and state tax returns. Please contact the ISSS Office via email at [sais-iss@jhu.edu](mailto:sais-iss@jhu.edu) or phone at 202.663.5672 for more information.

All international students who receive U.S. income during their study at SAIS may be subject to paying federal and state taxes. Sources of U.S. income include on-campus employment, scholarships, fellowships, graduate assistantships, practical or academic training, and any compensation received for labor. Income also includes that portion of a scholarship, fellowship, or assistantship that is applied directly to housing and meal expenses. The portion applied directly to tuition, fees and books is not considered income. However, funds provided to students by check or cash are fully taxable regardless of how the student intends to use them.

In the U.S., federal income taxes are prepaid by the employer based on the estimate of liability provided by the employee on the Form W-4. Since the withholding is only an estimate, employees are given a yearly opportunity to reconcile the amount taken out with how much was owed on a “Tax Return” form. The Tax Office has purchased a license for CINTAX federal tax preparation software for all international students. Details can be found at <http://finance.jhu.edu/depts/tax/students.html>.

**Miscellaneous Note:** Electrical sockets are different in the U.S. than in most other countries. We recommend you purchase a transmitter prior to your arrival in D.C. Sockets in the U.S. are 120 volts, whereas European sockets are 220. Converters cost approximately \$20.

## TELEPHONE SERVICE

Rather than having a telephone line installed in your apartment (“landline”) and arranging for long distance coverage, it may be more convenient and cost-efficient to use a mobile phone (“cell”) for local and long distance calls for the duration of your residence in the U.S. Student discounts through Johns Hopkins University may be available for AT&T as well as Verizon wireless service. See [www.it.johnshopkins.edu/restricted/telecom/services/cellular/index.html](http://www.it.johnshopkins.edu/restricted/telecom/services/cellular/index.html) for details.

Some international cell phones will work in the U.S. but will require setting changes and/or new SIM cards. Alternatively, some providers offer free phones when you purchase a plan. You will need a social security number to contract with a cell phone company.

To set up a landline, you will need to call a customer service representative of a local service provider. The customer service representative will ask for your preference in regards to a long distance service provider and will coordinate with the company of your choice on your behalf. Be prepared to spend about thirty minutes on the phone and to provide the following information to the representative: current address; previous address and phone number; current or previous employer; desired date of activation for telephone service; number of lines needed (telephone; internet connection, fax line); long distance service you intend to use; options such as calling waiting or answering service that you may or may not want. Expect service fees for installation, deposits and additional phone jacks.

From landlines, most telephone calls placed within the Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and Maryland metropolitan area are considered local and accrue no additional charges. Dial the area code first. Local area codes include 202 (DC), 703 (Northern Virginia) and 301 (Maryland). Phone numbers with 1.800, 1.888 and 1.877 prefixes are toll free and paid for by the receiving party. Long-distance calls require dialing “1” before the remaining ten digits of the phone number. To place an international call, dial 011+ country code + city code + phone number. If you do not know the country code of the country you are calling, dial “0” and the operator will assist you.

## SHOPPING

### TEXTBOOKS

SAIS does not have its own bookstore. Required texts for courses will be listed online through [MBS Direct](http://www.mbsdirect.com). All required readings are also placed on reserve in the SAIS Library. Most professors post required readings electronically through the Library’s Electronic Reserves on [Blackboard](http://www.blackboard.com). New or used texts may also be purchased online through sites like [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), <http://www.bookfinder.com> or <http://www.barnesandnoble.com>, or perhaps in person at local bookstores such as:

- Barnes & Noble 555 12<sup>th</sup> St. NW, 202.347.0176
- Books-A-Million 11 Dupont Circle NW, 202.319.1374

### GROCERIES

- Safeway [www.safeway.com](http://www.safeway.com): 1701 Corcoran St. NW; 1747 Columbia Rd. NW; 1855 Wisconsin Ave. NW and more
- Giant [www.giantfood.com](http://www.giantfood.com): 4303 Connecticut Ave. NW (Van Ness). Giant also provides home delivery through the Peabody service for minimum orders of \$60; delivery fees of up to \$10 apply.
- Whole Foods Market [www.wholefoods.com](http://www.wholefoods.com): 1440 P St. NW; 2323 Wisconsin Ave. NW (Tenleytown)
- Trader Joe’s [www.traderjoes.com](http://www.traderjoes.com): 1101 25<sup>th</sup> St. NW
- Fresh produce: daily (except Monday) at Eastern Market [www.easternmarket.net](http://www.easternmarket.net); year-round Sunday market in Dupont Circle behind bank at 20<sup>th</sup> and Q Streets NW; and seasonal Saturday markets in Adams Morgan (18<sup>th</sup> St. & Columbia Rd) and U Street (14<sup>th</sup> & U Streets).

### HOME FURNISHINGS

- Target [www.target.com](http://www.target.com): 3100 14th St. NW (Columbia Heights)
- IKEA [www.ikea.com](http://www.ikea.com): 10100 Baltimore Ave., College Park, MD, 301.345.6552

- Mattress Discounters [www.mattressdiscounters.com](http://www.mattressdiscounters.com): 1212 18th St. NW, 202.785.3045 or 800.BUYABED
- True Value Hardware [www.truevalue.com](http://www.truevalue.com): 1623 17<sup>th</sup> St. NW, 202.462.3146
- RadioShack [www.radioshack.com](http://www.radioshack.com): 1150 Connecticut Ave. NW, 1830 K St. NW, 1100 15<sup>th</sup> St. NW
- Macy's [www.macys.com](http://www.macys.com): 1201G St. NW (Metro Center); 1000 S Hayes St., Arlington Pentagon City Fashion Centre
- Bed Bath and Beyond [www.bedbathandbeyond.com](http://www.bedbathandbeyond.com): 709 7th St. NW (Gallery Place); 3100 14th St. NW (Columbia Heights)

For those without a car, **Zipcar** offers a convenient way to rent cars by the hour (gas and insurance are included). You will need to apply with your driver's license number, which can take some time, so be sure to sign up in advance. For more information, visit [www.zipcar.com](http://www.zipcar.com). For larger purchases, moves, or trips coordinated with groups of students, you may want to consider renting a **U-Haul** truck. See [www.uhaul.com](http://www.uhaul.com) for details.

## ATHLETICS

YMCA National Capital, 1711 Rhode Island Ave. NW, 202.862.9622 [www.ymcadc.org](http://www.ymcadc.org) (\$62 monthly student rate).

The local YMCA is close to SAIS and offers discounted rates for students. It features a pool, weight room, aerobic classes, indoor basketball court, saunas, indoor track, circuit weights, as well as nautilus and life cycle equipment.

Alternatively, the following are popular gyms in the Washington, D.C. area:

- [Vida Fitness](#)– locations include 601 F Street NW, 1515 15th St. NW (Logan Circle) (\$89 special SAIS monthly student rate and \$94 instead of \$199 enrollment fee)
- [Washington Sports Clubs](#)– locations include Dupont Circle, Connecticut Avenue, Columbia Heights, Glover Park, and Capitol Hill (\$59 one-location monthly rate or regional passport for \$64). Contact [carter.green@town-sports.com](mailto:carter.green@town-sports.com).
- [District of Columbia Jewish Community Center](#) (DCJCC)– located at 1529 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW (\$75 monthly young professionals rate)
- [Fitness First](#)– locations include Dupont Circle, Maryland, Virginia (\$30 monthly student rate)
- [Gold's Gym](#)– locations include Dupont Circle, Van Ness, Capitol Hill (\$20-40 monthly student rate)
- [RESULTS](#)– locations include Dupont Circle, Capitol Hill, U Street (\$74 monthly student rate)

In addition to participating in SAIS Activity Clubs for sports like soccer, you have the opportunity to join a variety of informal sports leagues that are organized and managed by Washington, D.C., community members. Many teams use the public area between the National Mall and the Lincoln Memorial for evening and weekend practices and games. The following websites are provided as an introduction to local team sports:

- Neighborhood Athletic Association: [www.recleagues.com](http://www.recleagues.com)
- The World Adult Kickball Association: [www.kickball.com](http://www.kickball.com)
- Independent Flag Football League: [www.iffll.us](http://www.iffll.us)
- DCJCC: <http://washingtondcjjc.org/sport-and-fitness/leagues>

The following parks and trails accommodate running, bicycling and hiking. See also the Recreational Bicycling Guide to the D.C. area at [www.bikewashington.org](http://www.bikewashington.org).

- Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Park [www.nps.gov/choh](http://www.nps.gov/choh)
- George Washington Memorial Parkway [www.nps.gov/gwmp](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp)
- Rock Creek Park [www.nps.gov/rocr](http://www.nps.gov/rocr)
- Capital Crescent Trail [www.cctrail.org](http://www.cctrail.org)

## MOVIE THEATERS

Here are some of the theatres closest to SAIS. For showtimes, use google (e.g. Movie Theatres 20036), visit [www.moviefone.com](http://www.moviefone.com) or call the numbers indicated below.

<b>AMC LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14</b> 3111 K St. NW 888.262.4386	<b>AMC LOEWS UPTOWN 1</b> 3426 Connecticut Ave. NW 888.262.4386
<b>LANDMARK E STREET CINEMAS</b> 555 11 <sup>th</sup> St. NW. 202.452.7672	<b>IMAX THEATER - NATIONAL AIR &amp; SPACE MUSEUM</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> St. and Independence Ave. SW 202.633.4629

<b>IMAX THEATER – NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY</b> 10th St. and Constitution Ave. NW 202.633.4629	<b>REGAL CALLERY PLACE</b> 707 7 <sup>th</sup> St. NW 202. 393.2121
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## IV. STUDENT LIFE AT SAIS

### STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Numerous opportunities exist for students to form meaningful connections with each other, and enjoy personal and professional development experiences outside the classroom.

As one pathway, the SAIS Student Government Association (SGA) is the official umbrella organization for all student groups and student-based initiatives at SAIS. SGA officers are elected by the student body to manage student advocacy, help coordinate academic, cultural, social and career-related activities, and serve as liaisons between the student body and the administration and faculty. Your participation is essential for an active and responsive student government.

To become a member of any SGA Committee or to get involved, stop by the SGA office in the Nitze Basement, email [saissga@jhu.edu](mailto:saissga@jhu.edu) or visit [www.sais-jhu.edu/students/sga/index.htm](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/students/sga/index.htm). All students are encouraged to present ideas and concerns.

### STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

There is an exciting variety of SAIS Career Clubs, Activity and Regional Clubs, and student publications, [described online here](#). SGA also organizes several hallmark school-wide events during the year, such as the International Dinner, Cherry Blossom Ball, SAISAPALOOZA talent show and weekly Friday happy hours. The volunteer club, or SAIS Corps, organizes local and international community service activities.

- **SAIS Career Clubs:** These clubs work closely with the Career Services Office and focus on particular fields, including Consulting, and Finance.
- **SAIS Activity Clubs:** These clubs work with the Office of Student Life and include the African Diaspora Association, German Club, China Club and Soccer Club.
- **SAIS Publications:** Student publications include the [SAIS Observer](#) newspaper and [SAIS Review](#) journal of international affairs.

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND FACILITIES

**Student Computer Facilities and Internet Access:** The Computer Center is located in Room 317 of the Nitze Building. Assistance using the computers or printers is available. Additional computers are located in the Multimedia Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Rome Building. Each student receives 1,000 free pages of printing per semester through the J-Card. Additional pages are charged at a rate of \$0.05 per page. Fees are subject to change.

There are two wireless networks available to SAIS students: “JHGuestnet” for basic internet access and “Hopkins” for secured access to administrative applications. Assistance connecting laptops to the networks is provided at the beginning of the semester. For more information, visit [www.sais-jhu.edu/library/tech/wireless.htm](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/library/tech/wireless.htm). For more information on the various technology options available to SAIS students, including discounts, see [www.sais-jhu.edu/it/students/index.htm](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/it/students/index.htm).

**JHED Account:** Each student is assigned a JHED account upon matriculation. This login ID (LID) is required to access various applications and resources within the Johns Hopkins organization, including the [Library](#), [Blackboard](#), and the [Integrated Student Information System \(ISIS\)](#). First-time users will need to follow these steps to create a JHED password:

- Go to the Johns Hopkins Enterprise Directory website (<https://my.jhu.edu>)
- Click the “First time JHED user” link in the box on the left corner
- Enter your JHED LID in the First Time Login box
- Follow the prompts to verify your identity and create a password (Note the minimum requirements of 8 characters with 2 alpha and 2 numeric. Passwords need to be renewed every 180 days.)

**Email:** A Johns Hopkins University email address is provided by SAIS free of charge and is the primary way faculty and staff communicate with students. You may access your mailbox from any location with Internet access. If you choose to use an email account other than your JHU account, be certain to either forward the JHU account to your primary account or continue to check the JHU account frequently. To set up your Outlook Live (OL) mailbox, login to <http://my.jhu.edu> and accept the Johns Hopkins Outlook

Live Terms of Service. The initial password for your OL email account is MMDD99999 where MMDD are the month and day of your birthday and 99999 is the last five digits of your social security number (or your assigned number if you are an international student). Your address is your [LID@johnshopkins.edu](mailto:LID@johnshopkins.edu) where LID is your JHED login ID.

**Johns Hopkins Student ID card (J-Card):** This card will get you access to all SAIS buildings, allow you to check out materials from the Library and make copies, and buy food from the cafeteria. Please upload your J-Card picture [online](#) or have it taken at the Computer Center in Nitze 317. You may pick up your J-Card at the Computer Center or during Pre-Term and Orientation check-in.

Contact [saishelp@jhu.edu](mailto:saishelp@jhu.edu) or 202.663.5666 if you have any questions or problems with the services above.

**Student Lounges:** There is a lounge in the basement of the Nitze Building where students can relax, study, play pool or ping pong and catch up on the latest news on TV. Vending machines and a student refrigerator are available. There is also a lounge adjacent to the cafeteria on the first floor of the Nitze Building, where study groups often meet. In the Rome Building, there are vending machines and a small lounge area on the first floor.

**SAIS Library:** The Library is located on the sixth, seventh and eighth floors of the Nitze Building. A professional and friendly staff will be glad to assist you with general questions about SAIS or JHU libraries, and detailed research and reference queries. The entrance to the Library is on the sixth floor via the elevator, and the stacks and quiet study space on the seventh and eighth floors are accessible through an internal staircase. All incoming students are encouraged to attend a Library tour conducted by library staff when you arrive at SAIS. A schedule will be provided during Pre-Term and Orientation. For more information on hours, services and resources, visit [www.sais-jhu.edu/library](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/library).

**Cafeteria:** A small café is located on the first floor of the Nitze building. Currently, breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Snacks are available from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Students are required to pay a \$100 cafeteria fee per semester. Purchases made with the J-Card are tax-free and are debited from your balance. You can add funds to your J-Card by using a credit card machine in the Library on the sixth floor.

## MAIL

You may receive mail at SAIS while you are in the process of securing a permanent residence in the D.C. area. Individuals wishing to send materials to your attention at SAIS should address mail in the following manner: Name, SAIS Student, 1740 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20036 and include a telephone number. Mail can be picked up in the Mailroom, Nitze 401, Monday through Friday, between 8:30-10 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and 4-5:30 p.m. Students can also send mail via FedEx Prepaid, USPS and UPS at the Mailroom.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2012-2013

Visit the online [Academic Calendar](#) for registration deadlines, class start and end dates, exam dates, school breaks and other information. Note that the calendar is subject to change.

## ACADEMIC POLICIES AND INFORMATION (HONOR CODE)

Many important policies, behavioral standards, deadlines, regulations and procedures for SAIS students are compiled in the Academic Procedures Manual, also known as “The Red Book.” Of particular importance is the Honor Code, which covers all activities in which a student presents information as his/her own, whether this information be in written papers, examinations, oral presentations, or materials submitted to potential employers or other educational institutions. It requires that students be truthful and exercise integrity and honesty in their dealings with others, both inside SAIS and in the larger community. See [www.sais-jhu.edu/academics/academic-affairs/redbook.htm](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/academics/academic-affairs/redbook.htm) for the full policy.

## DIRECTORY OF ADMINISTRATION

Visit the SAIS Facebook tab at <http://my.jhu.edu> for Faculty and Staff contact information. Or dial the school’s main number at 202.663.5600 to be directed to the appropriate office.