

Section 4.00
CRIME PREVENTION

Section 4.01 CAMPUS RESIDENCE HALLS

The University, working cooperatively across departments, has developed a comprehensive program towards preventing crime through awareness and participation of the university community. While the UMBC Police Department may offer advice and assistance regarding campus safety, each individual has the primary responsibility for his/her own safety.

Crime prevention/awareness programs

1. **New Student Orientation:** Crime prevention/awareness programs begin with freshman orientation presentations.
2. **UMBC Police Department Web Site:** that has prevention information, special pamphlets and fliers, and the Crime Log.
3. **The Retriever** Articles and the Police Blotter appear weekly in ***The Retriever***, so that the university community can be informed of crime trends, safety tips and special programs.
4. **Special crime alerts** (Timely Warnings) are also made through the University's electronic mail system as noted in section 5.01.
5. **Speakers series:** Upon request from any department, student organization, or residence hall, the University Police will provide speakers on a variety of topics; including: the prevention of rape and sexual assault, theft and robbery prevention, drug and alcohol awareness, safety issues and advice about personal defense.
6. **Classroom presentation:** Members of the University Police participate in classroom discussions on crime prevention subjects when invited by the faculty.
7. **Student Government Association:** University Police officers attend Student Government Association meetings to answer questions and provide information relative to crime trends on campus.
8. **Operation Identification** allows any member of the university community to have personal property engraved with a driver's license or other identifying number to facilitate the recovery of property that is lost or stolen. Please contact the University Police Department at 410-455-5555 to request this service.

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9. **“Gotcha!”** As part of the ongoing “Gotcha!” program, faculty, staff and resident students are visited by police officers and given crime prevention notices when offices and residence hall rooms are found open and property is left unattended.
10. **Community Meetings:** University police officers periodically meet with formal community organizations in order to exchange information and ideas related to policing, security, and other related community concerns.
11. **International Student Orientation:** Crime prevention information, safety information, and information on American policing philosophies and operations is presented to new international students.
12. **New Staff / Faculty:** An orientation program for newly hired staff and faculty members.
13. **Open House:** Crime prevention and safety tips are presented to student, staff, and faculty attendees of the university’s open house programs.
14. **Resident Assistant training:** Resident Assistants for Residential Life are trained in certain aspects of drug identification and recognition.
15. **Athletic Teams:** In conjunction with the Athletic Department, information is provided to athletes concerning alcohol and drug abuse, sexual assault, and gambling.
16. **Daycare Center:** Safety presentations and literature are provided to the staff and children at the university’s on-campus daycare center.
17. **Peer Educator Training:** In conjunction with the Counseling Center, information is provided to peer counselors concerning alcohol and drug abuse and sexual assault.
18. **Alcohol Awareness:** Alcohol awareness program is available to increase student awareness about drinking responsibly.
19. **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and Security Surveys:** Agency employees evaluate security related matters and make suggestions for improvements in physical security systems. This includes lighting and foliage surveys during “Night Walks,” reviewing construction and renovation plans, and conducting related surveys of various academic, administrative, and support facilities on campus.
20. **Emergency Telephones:** Direct connect emergency and “blue light” phones are strategically placed throughout campus.

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21. **CCTV Cameras:** The University is increasing its use of CCTV systems to detect, deter, and investigate crime.
22. **Behavioral Risk Assessment and Consultation Team:** UMBC's Behavioral Risk Assessment and Consultation Team assists faculty, staff and students address situations where a person is displaying disruptive or threatening behavior. The Behavioral Risk Assessment and Consultation Team is an interdisciplinary team that examines reports of such behavior to assess and identify persons whose behaviors may endanger their own or others' health and safety. The Team is designed to provide information, recommendations and referrals to those dealing with threatening or disruptive situations. It does not adjudicate, discipline or impose sanctions against any member of the campus community, nor does it provide or mandate treatment.
23. **The Center for Mediation & Conflict Resolution:** Interpersonal conflicts are inevitable in any work or educational setting. At UMBC, strategies and tools to resolve them include formal grievance procedures, formal and ad hoc complaint investigations, mediation, counseling, coaching and, when appropriate, sanctions. However, early intervention can often avert both unnecessary suffering and workplace disruption. With a grant from the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO), the UMBC Center for Mediation and Conflict Resolution was established to provide an alternative first-step response to interpersonal conflict.
24. **Relationship Violence Team:** UMBC seeks to improve overall UMBC Community health by encouraging pro-social relationship behaviors and lifestyle changes that can positively impact our community. We are working to build a comprehensive campus-wide atmosphere of awareness and support for the prevention of intimate partner violence. UMBC wants to prevent intimate partner violence so that all UMBC students can be successful in their educational pursuits and as members of society at large.
25. **Bystander Intervention:** Men Can Stop Rape's mission is to mobilize men to use their strength for creating cultures free from violence, especially men's violence against women. They offer presentations that focus on highlighting the campus's commitment to adding new, positive resources for students who want to do something to end gender-based violence.

Residence halls on campus are locked 24 hours a day, requiring key or card access to exterior doors, elevators and individual rooms. Residence Halls are staffed with Residential Assistants. The Residential Assistants are stationed in the lobby of each residence facility for the purpose of ensuring that only those persons with ***bona fide*** business to conduct are allowed to enter those facilities.

[Link to Resident Life homepage](#)

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Campus residents are reminded that crime can happen anywhere, at any time, to anyone. UMBC is not a sanctuary or a crime free zone. Residents must take personal safety issues very seriously. Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility. Residents should be especially mindful of the below practices:

- Keep room and apartment doors locked at all times.
- **Never** prop open the exterior doors, and doors to your room.
- Secure valuables out of sight.
- "**Property at Rest is Property at Risk.**" Unattended personal property is a target for thieves. Laptop computers are made to be portable and easily carried away. Only the owner can take the necessary steps to protect their property.
- Immediately report suspicious activity or persons to the UMBC Police Department.
- Never walk alone at night (use our Escort Service) and stay in well-lit areas.

Various locations in the residence halls have Closed Circuit television cameras.

4.02 ESCORT SERVICES

The police department maintains an escort service that operates 24 hours a day. The service is offered by walking and riding escorts that provide point-to-point service. Please contact ext. 55555 from offices, residential rooms or other campus facilities. You may also contact the University Police via campus emergency telephones to request an escort any time of the day.

