

Health & Safety

Berkeley International Office

Today's Topics

- University Health Services (UHS) and the Tang Center
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Health Insurance Details
- Safety in the Bay Area

University Health Services (UHS) & the Tang Center

UHS/Tang Center Services

- Primary Care
- Urgent Care
- Specialists
- Counseling
- Pharmacy
- Radiology
- Laboratory
- Physical Therapy
- Allergy/Travel
- Health Educators
- Social Services
- Insurance Specialists
- Health Records



The Tang Center is at 2222 Bancroft Way.

Seeking Care at University Health Services

University Health Services

Home Coronavirus Medical Insurance (SHIP) Mental Health Health Promotion Faculty & Staff Get Care at UHS!

Get Care at University Health Services (UHS) at UC Berkeley

View UHS Hours of Operation

Log into the eTang Portal

Stay Connected with UHS!

- [Sign up for our monthly newsletter](#)
- [Follow UHS on Instagram](#)
- [Follow UHS on Twitter](#)
- [Follow UHS on Facebook](#)
- [View UHS videos on YouTube](#)

Directions



A quick list of health resources for UC Berkeley students!

Schedule an appointment

Appointments are required for most **medical services** at UHS, although for urgent problems, UHS offers options including **nurse advice by phone**, day and night for students and SHIP dependents. If you arrive without an appointment, you will generally be scheduled and asked to return at that time or you may visit **Urgent Care** for sudden, serious and unexpected illnesses, injuries or conditions which require immediate medical attention.

Find out more about [accessing mental health resources](#).

Call the Advice Nurse (for students & SHIP dependents)

If you are a student or SHIP dependent and have a medical question, need home-care advice or are unsure about which services are best for you, speak with the **24/7 Advice Nurse** by calling (510) 643-7197 or sending a secure message [online](#). The Advice Nurse line will be answered by a referral line when we are closed. SHIP dependents may contact the 24/7 Advice Nurse at (925) 841-4255. If you need to speak with a

Make an appointment for standard issues

Drop-In Appointments for Urgent Care issues

Call an advice nurse

List of Services

<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/get-care-uhs>

How to Make Appointments

<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/medical/appointments>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

Counseling and Mental Health



- What is mental health?
- What is a mental health counselor?
- Mental health counselors help us deal with stress, anxiety, depression, grief, shame, guilt and emotional pain.

- At Berkeley, you are not alone!

Common Concerns of International Students

- Missing home
- Uncertainties and changes
- Adjusting to differences in the educational system
- Not being understood when you express yourself in your usual way
- Difficulty making friends
- Conflicts between values at home and in the US
- Dealing with misperceptions about your culture or country
- Concerns about family reactions to choices you make while in the US

Imposter Syndrome

- I'm an imposter – a fake.
- I'm not as smart or talented as others think.
- I don't deserve to be here; I just got lucky.
- I need to prove myself to others.
- Everyone will realize I'm weak if I ask for help.



Imposter Syndrome

- Know that you are not alone.
- Talk to a friend or counselor.
- Be compassionate with yourself.
- Ask yourself: Are my thoughts logical?
Do they have any basis in fact?



You were accepted to this University for a good reason, and you deserve to be here.
You do not need to prove to anyone that you are “Cal material.”

CAPS Services

- Brief therapy
- Referrals to the community therapists for long-term counseling, evaluation and medication
- Crisis counseling
- Groups sessions
 - Structured skill building groups (health and wellness, social skills, procrastination)
 - Support groups (grief and loss, transitions, graduate students, students of color)
 - General therapy groups
- Phone consultation
- Career exploration and career library
- Let's Talk – informal one-time, drop-in consultation for students who are not ready to start counseling

Speak with a Counselor

<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/caps>

- Non-urgent Appointments
 - Call 510-642-9494 or schedule via your [MyUCBerkeleyHealth](#) portal.
- Urgent Drop-in Counseling for Students in Crisis
 - Monday-Friday 8am-5pm, call 510-642-9494.
 - 24/7 after-hours support, call 855-817-5667.
- Path to Care Center for Victims of Sexual or Domestic Violence
 - 24/7 support, call 510-643-2005, <https://care.berkeley.edu/>

Let's Talk

Frequently Asked Questions

[expand all](#)

What is Let's Talk?

Let's Talk is a drop in program that provides easy access to informal confidential consultations with a counselor from Counseling and Psychological Services. There is no appointment or fee necessary.

What happens at a visit to Let's Talk?

Appointments are first-come, first-served. Usually there is not much of a wait. The counselor will listen closely to your concerns and provide support, perspective, and suggestions for resources.

How is Let's Talk different from counseling at CAPS?

Counselors at CAPS provide ongoing counseling, which usually consists of weekly or bi-weekly 45-50 minute appointments. Let's Talk is not formal counseling: it is a drop-in service where students can have an informal consultation with a counselor from time to time.

Who should visit Let's Talk?

- Students who are not sure about counseling and wonder what it's like to talk with a counselor.
- Students who are apprehensive about counseling and want to discuss how it might help them.
- Students who are not interested in ongoing counseling but would like the perspective of a counselor
- Students who have a concern about a friend and want some thoughts about what to do.

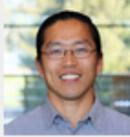
I think I have a problem that would benefit from counseling, but I don't know anything about counseling. Would going to Let's Talk help me figure out what to do?

Absolutely. The counselor will talk through your issue with you and help you determine the best way to get help. If you feel comfortable with the counselor, it's sometimes possible to meet with him or her at CAPS in an ongoing way.

Let's Talk

- Each day a few counselors will be available at various times to speak informally. You may wish to speak to a counselor who has a particular interest in your situation, but you don't have to do that. You may speak with anyone who suits your schedule.
- This is a sample schedule. (Schedules change from time to time.)
- <https://uhs.berkeley.edu/counseling/letstalk/schedule>

Wednesday

Hours	Counselor	Specialty
1 -2 pm, Veronica's WeJoinIn Link	Veronica Orozco, PhD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anxiety and Depression • Family of origin issues • Complex trauma • Intersectional identities • Grief and loss
2 -3:30 pm, 150 Chavez	Junichi Shimaoka PsyD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal / cultural identity • relationship concerns • gender & sexuality concerns • Underserved & Intl Students
3-4pm, Video Access: https://berkeley-uhs.zoom.us/j/94822253501  Phone/Audio Access: Dial 669-900-6833 and follow the prompts to enter the ID: 910 6872 4584 (passcode: 620618)	Erin O'Connor, LCSW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma and sexual violence • Chronic illness • Body image/eating disorders • Students with basic needs concerns • Muslim students
3-5pm, Cynthia Medina's Let's Talk Consultation Link 	Cynthia, Medina, PhD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holistic Health & Wellness • Complex Trauma • POC/Latinx Mental Health • Relationships/Family of Origin Concerns

Health Insurance

What is Health Insurance?

Health insurance is a plan that you purchase. If you get sick, the plan will pay for all or part of your medical bills.

All Cal students must have health insurance. Most students purchase the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP).

SHIP uses these health insurance companies:

- Wellfleet– physical and mental health
- VSP – eye care
- MetLife – dental care

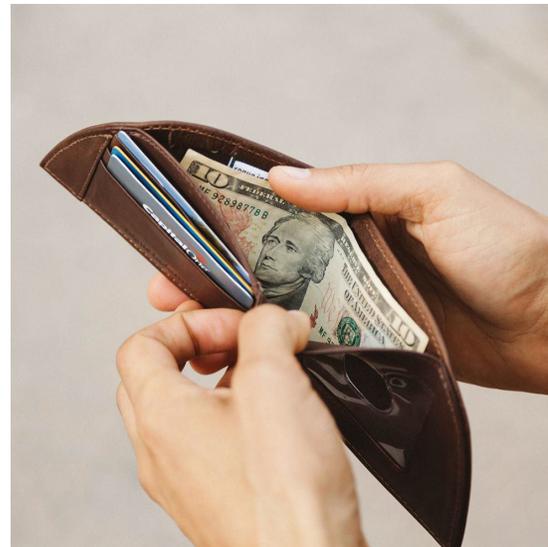
You will receive these cards in the mail or you can print them online. You may also download the apps and access your ID cards digitally.



MetLife

Where Should I Keep My Health Insurance Card?

Keep it in your wallet!



Subscriber Name:	University of California, Berkeley
Subscriber ID: XEL	Group No.: W01 Benefit Plan: PPO Plan
WELLFLEET	
Rx PCN:KPP Rx Group No.: KU031 Rx Bin No.: 012882 Network RX Copays: Tier 1 \$10 Tier 2 \$35 Tier 3 \$50 Specialty 20% Coinsurance up to \$250	Network Copays: Primary Care Office Visit \$15 Mental Health Office Visit \$15 Urgent Care \$50 Specialty Office Visit \$25 Emergency Room \$250

Providers: Precertification must be obtained for services as specified in the member's plan. For precertification, call the number shown on this card.

REFERRAL REQUIRED for most non-emergency services. Contact the SHIP Office to obtain a referral.

Notice: Possession of this card or obtaining precertification does not guarantee coverage or payment for the service or procedure reviewed. Please call the number on this card to verify eligibility.

What If I Don't Have Health Insurance?

If you get sick, you will have to pay full price for your doctor and hospital visits. These prices are often extremely high.

Find your health insurance benefits and find care that will be covered by SHIP at <https://uhs.berkeley.edu/ship>.

SHIP Updates and Accessing Care

Insurance and getting care easier wherever you may be including no referrals needed for medical and mental health care.

Berkeley SHIP (Student Health Insurance Plan)

All registered¹ students at the University of California are required to meet the university's [health insurance mandate](#). Registered¹ UC Berkeley undergraduate and graduate students are automatically enrolled in the Berkeley [Student Health Insurance Plan](#) (SHIP) as a way to meet this mandate.

Berkeley SHIP is a comprehensive major medical insurance plan, providing [medical, counseling, prescription, vision](#) and [dental](#) services. Learn about [how to use SHIP here](#) (including claims and billing). Remember, all students can use the Tang Center, whether you [waive SHIP](#) or not.

¹Registered students refers to students registered in programs eligible for SHIP. See the [SHIP Fees and Enrollment](#) for more details on who is eligible to enroll in SHIP.

Enrollment

Eligibility, Coverage Period & Premium

Benefits

Medical/Mental Health, Rx, Dental & Vision

Access Your Health Plan Online

ID Card, Find Providers & Claim Status

Access Your Health Plan Mobile App

ID Card, Find Providers & Claim Status

Dental Plan

MetLife PDP Plus

Vision Plan

VSP Choice

I Feel Sick. How Can I Get Help?

How urgent is the issue?	What sort of problem is it?	Get help at...	SHIP insurance coverage from
Emergency	any type	911 or nearest hospital	Wellfleet – If SHIP agrees that the situation was an emergency.
Urgent Care or Primary Care	Physical and mental health	Tang Center Drop-in or make an appointment.	Wellfleet
	Vision	Tang Center or Minor Hall Drop-in or make an appointment.	VSP
	Dental	MetLife website Search for a dentist. Make an appointment.	MetLife

Don't Lose Money!

For non-emergencies, go to the Tang Center first.

If doctors think you need further treatment from a specialist outside of the Tang Center, they will give you an authorization or **referral** to that specialist.

Can you just go directly to a specialist without going to the Tang Center first?

Yes, but you will probably have to pay full price. SHIP will probably not cover these visits.



SHIP Waiver

International students studying in their home country were eligible to apply for a waiver of SHIP insurance if they had national healthcare.

The Fall 2025 waiver period was from May 1, 2025 to July 15, 2025.

- All waivers received between July 16, 2025, and August 15, 2025, are subject to a late fee of \$75.
- No waiver applications accepted after August 15th, 2025.
- More info on waiving: <https://uhs.berkeley.edu/insurance-ship/waiving-ship>

For questions, contact SHIP.

- Phone: 510-642-5700
- Email: ship@berkeley.edu
- Online: [MyUCBerkeleyHealth](#)

Safety On and Off Campus

Safety on Campus

Berkeley Night Safety Services

Home SafeWalk Escort Night Safety Shuttle Door to Door Service Links



SafeWalk

Dusk – 3:00AM

Walking a short distance? [Book](#) your SafeWalk escort online or call (510) 642-9255, no earlier than 15min before your pick-up time. Last call is 2:30 am.



NIGHT SAFETY SHUTTLES

7:30pm – 3:00am, 7 Days A Week



Door-to-door service

3:00am – 5:30am

View a [map](#) of our service area. [Book](#) your pick up online, 15 minutes before pick-up.

Berkeley Night Safety Services

<https://nightsafety.berkeley.edu/home>

In an Emergency

- Campus emergency info hotline: (800) 705-9998
- Campus emergency radio: KALX 90.7 FM
- For help in an emergency, dial 911 from a campus phone or (510) 642-3333 from a cell phone
- WarnMe/Nixle Alerts
- UCB Police Department
- Emergency.berkeley.edu
- Emergency Management
- Safe and Well (Red Cross)
- UCB Police Facebook
- UCB Police Twitter

WarnMe/Nixle is UC Berkeley's alerting and warning service for students, staff, and faculty. It is activated to contact you when there is an immediate threat to safety or health affecting the campus community. WarnMe/Nixle can alert you by email or text message.

By default WarnMe/Nixle will send (1) emergency alerts, and (2) advisory and community messages to your Official UC Berkeley Email Address in the CalNet directory.

To receive WarnMe/Nixle emergency alerts via text message, you must register your SMS number.

Berkeley Warn Me / Nixle

<https://warnme.berkeley.edu>

Safety in Berkeley and the Bay Area

Berkeley Police Department and the UC Police Department are here to protect and serve you.

	On Campus	Off Campus
Emergency	Call BPD emergency number. (911) Then call UCPD. (510-642-3333 or any blue light phone on campus)	Call BPD emergency number. (911)
Non-emergency	Call UCPD. (510-642-3333)	Call BPD non-emergency number. (510-981-5900)

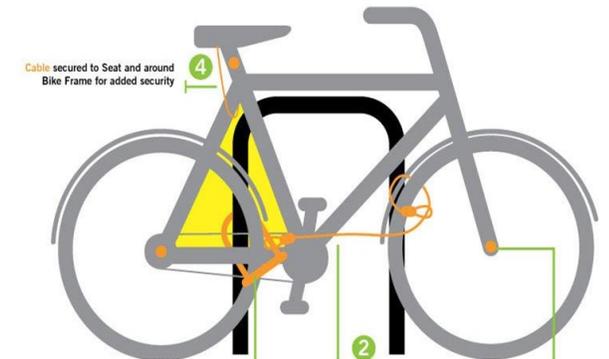


Immediately dial 911 in an emergency.

Dialing 911 anywhere in the US connects you to the emergency response team of police department nearest you.

Safety in Berkeley and the Bay Area

- Lock doors and windows.
- Do not leave valuables visible in cars or on tables at restaurants or libraries.
- Stay aware at ATMs. Do not count money in public.
- Do not carry immigration documents with you. Leave passports, I-20s, DS-2019s and SSN cards at home in a secure spot.
- Hold electronics, wallet and purse tightly, especially on public transit.
- Be aware of your surroundings, especially at night and especially when using electronics. Use a UC Berkeley night service to get home safely.
- Use a high-quality U-lock and cable on your bike.



Recognize Identity Theft, Phishing & Scams

Define terms: Identity theft, phishing, scam

What do identity thieves look for?

- Personal information and passwords
- Social security numbers and bank account information

Phishing emails and texts often...

- claim to have noticed unusual activity in your bank account or immigration record.
- ask you to confirm personal information, download software or make a payment.
- offer money – discounts, refunds, and coupons.

Scammers and identity thieves often...

- claim to represent government agencies, banks, credit card companies, insurance agents.
- make unexpected, urgent demands for information or payment.
- threaten severe, immediate consequences.



Avoid Scams & Identity Theft

- Keep your computer anti-virus software up to date.
- Do NOT log into sensitive websites via a public Wi-Fi connections. (For example, do not check your bank account at a café or at the library.)
- If someone calls you, do NOT offer or confirm any information about yourself. Try to get the phone number and name of the caller.
- Do NOT send payments in any form – through a wire transfer, through cash or through gift cards.
- Notify banks, Berkeley International Office and police as necessary.
- [The BIO website](#) has details on several types of scams

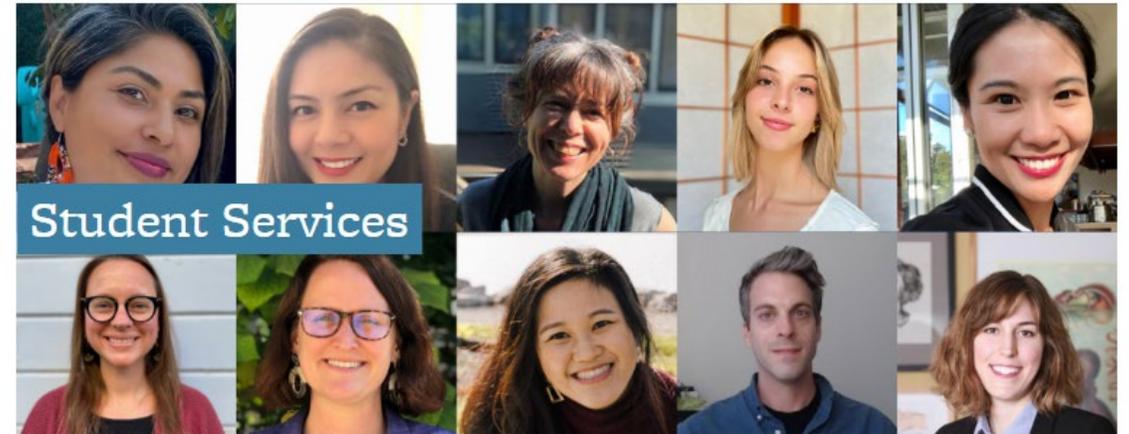
Don't Be a Stranger!

We at BIO are here to support you!

<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/students/student-services>

Home » Students » Student Services

Student Services



Berkeley International Office's student services model includes options for both virtual and in-person services.

Student advising hours are intended for UC Berkeley international students only. Parents of students may only join advising hours with their student. Faculty or staff with questions about international students should email internationaloffice@berkeley.edu or call the BIO Front Desk at 510-642-2818.

Advising Services

Self-Service Advising Resources

Most questions that international students have can be answered by checking the BIO website, including information about CPT (internships) and our extensive post-completion employment OPT and STEM OPT tutorials.

Still have further questions after reviewing the BIO website? Contact us:

Send Us an Email

A BIO advisor will respond to your questions within 3 business days.

Virtual Drop-In Advising

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday | 10 AM - 12 PM | No appointment needed

Travel Signatures

Have upcoming international travel? Check if you need a new travel signature and how to request one!

In-Person Drop-In Advising

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday | 1 - 4 PM | No appointment needed