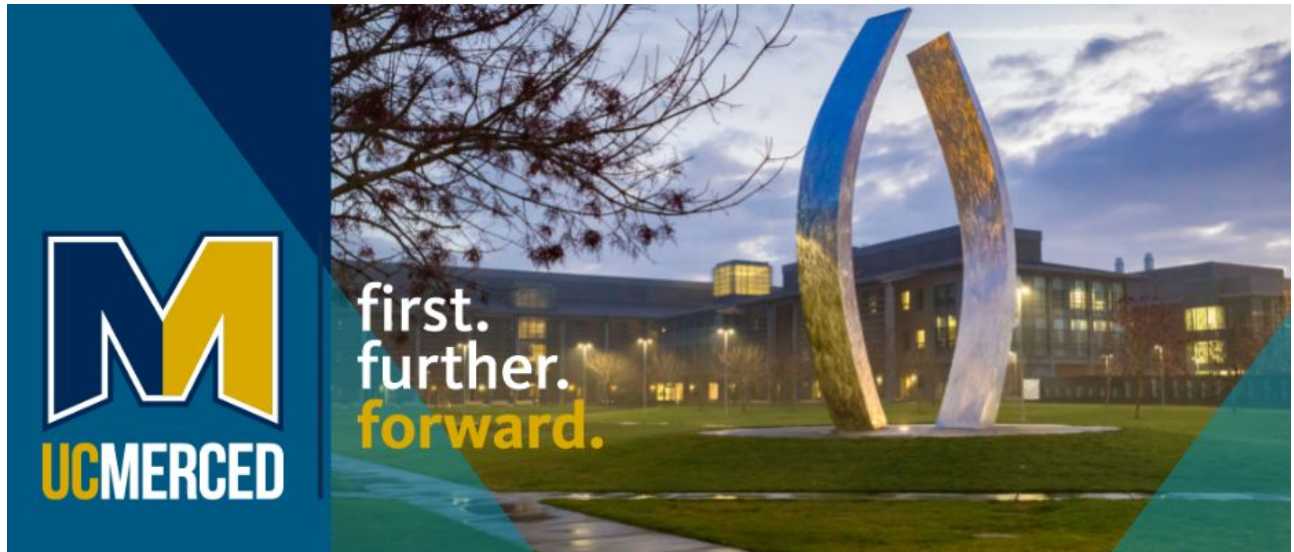


**Subject:** Welcome to UC Merced. Important Information for Incoming Grad Students

**Date:** Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 3:31:04 PM Pacific Daylight Time

**From:** Graduate Resources at UC Merced

**To:** Jess Ventura



Hello Mara,

Welcome to UC Merced, we are excited you will be joining the Bobcat community this fall! I have included information below as you prepare to begin graduate studies at UC Merced. Please note that this email was sent to your UC Merced email address.

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### **Graduate Orientation Week**

Graduate Orientation Week (GROW) encompasses a number of workshops, programs, and events each academic year. GROW sessions are hosted by the Graduate Division, campus partners, and the Merced and the Merced community. These sessions allow incoming students to take care of important pre-enrollment tasks while at UC Merced and the Merced community. All incoming UC Merced graduate students are expected to attend all workshops and sessions are required unless otherwise noted in the official schedule.

**GROW will begin on Tuesday, August 15, and in-person attendance is required for all students.**

[REGISTER HERE for GROW!](#)

**The deadline to register for GROW is Friday, July 28, 2023.**

We encourage you to check the [GROW website](#) for the most up-to-date information, including a schedule (available soon). Many of the sessions during GROW will be held both synchronously and asynchronously. For your in-person training, we will use CatCourses, UC Merced's virtual training system for teaching and learning.

collaboration. Each student will be assigned specific virtual trainings that are required of all including Teaching Assistant training, Sexual Harassment and Prevention training, Office c

Additional graduate group or school-specific sessions may also be required. Please be sure to reach out to your school representatives with specific questions.

### Teaching Commons Orientation

*Note: This event is mandatory for all incoming graduate students, regardless of whether c*

As part of GROW, [Teaching Commons](#) conducts a campuswide Teaching Assistant (TA) Orientation touch on important policies and procedures related to teaching at UC Merced, give insight into a day of teaching, provide an opportunity to ask questions about how to teach and share with pedagogical methods. The Fall 2023 sessions will be a blend of live and pre-recorded sessions and communication with other new graduate students and active participation.

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### PreGROW Series

PreGROW is a webinar series designed to provide important information on navigating the campus. Below are the dates and sessions that will be held in the months leading up to your arrival on campus. Attend as many sessions as possible to ensure that all of your questions are answered. PreGROW sessions are provided in future email communications. Recordings will also be available if you are unable to attend sessions.

### PreGROW Sessions

- Wednesday, June 21 - Welcome to UC Merced Office Hour with Grad Div Staff
- Wednesday, June 28 - Office of International Affairs (OIA) Office Hours
- Wednesday, July 12 - New Hire Paperwork/Graduate Student Funding Workshop
- Wednesday, July 19 - Health Services Workshop
- Wednesday, July 26 - Navigating Advisor/Advisee Relationships
- Wednesday, August 2 - Graduate Division Office Hours

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### Payroll Processing

Please watch your UC Merced email for updates and information on completing payroll paperwork. Payroll is time sensitive, so please pay close attention to dates and deadlines to ensure that you can be paid and get paid in a timely matter.

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### Graduate Student Housing

We encourage you to please start thinking and planning for housing. Several apartment listings are available, so please plan accordingly. Listed below are several websites to help guide you in finding housing.

The UC Merced Off-Campus Housing Website - A database where local property owners can list their properties. You can search for roommates and sublease options. Information on the Off-Campus Housing (OCH) website and other campus resources such as apartment contacts can be found here: <https://och.ucmerced.edu>

- List of Merced CA property management companies: <https://cdn.offcampusimages.com/public/resource/iybw7isjdiwq4ujqmr>
- UC Merced Classified Facebook Page (not maintained by the university): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/UCMClassifieds/>

- Merced Social Graduate Students (not maintained by the university): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1452249318380902>
- UC Merced Students: Off-Campus Housing (not maintained by the university): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/140045992743363>
- [Merced Station Apartments is the newest community located close to campus on Yosemite Blvd.](#)

To learn more about off-campus housing options, UC Merced campus resources, and answer your questions, you can:

- Email [och@ucmerced.edu](mailto:och@ucmerced.edu) with your questions or schedule a meeting with a member of the Off-Campus Housing Consultant team to assist with your rental search process.
- Call [209-325-6529](tel:209-325-6529) or [209-325-6650](tel:209-325-6650)

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### Register for Classes and Prepare for Your Student Bill

Registering for classes is the first step toward preparing for your arrival. If you have not been assigned an advisor regarding course registration, please contact your graduate program staff for information on who you should register for.

Engineering: [soe-grstaff@ucmerced.edu](mailto:soe-grstaff@ucmerced.edu)

Natural Sciences: [snsgrads@ucmerced.edu](mailto:snsgrads@ucmerced.edu)

Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts: [ssha.grad@ucmerced.edu](mailto:ssha.grad@ucmerced.edu)

You can also find additional resources about the registration process on the Office of the Registrar's website.

If you are not an ASE or GSR, you are responsible for paying [campus-based fees](#) by August 16. You must take at least one course before you will be able to pay those fees. Your bill will include additional fees if you are appointed as a teaching assistant or graduate student researcher, or if you have been awarded a fellowship. If you have financial support, your other fees will be paid by that financial support. Additional fees include mandatory health insurance, a student services fee. If you do not have financial support, you should [check your student bill](#) to see the balance owed by the August 16 deadline.

**A special note for financial aid recipients:** The money you receive before your academic bill is applied to your bill, so your bill will appear to be for a larger amount than you are actually responsible for.

[Watch](#) this video to learn how to register for classes.





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### Get (or Waive) Health Insurance

All students are automatically enrolled in and charged for the campus-based Anthem Blue Cross of California health insurance plan. If you carry your own medical insurance, you may file a Medical Health Insurance Waiver application. Waiver applications for 2023-2024 can be submitted [HERE](#). Waiver applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on **August 1, 2023**. For more information, please contact the [Health Services Center](#).

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### Stay in Touch

Be sure to check your UC Merced email regularly as we will be sending information on housing, dining, and GROW.

Additional information for incoming students can be found on our [website](#) or in the [Admitted Graduate Student Guide](#).



Please don't hesitate to contact the [UC Merced Graduate Resource Center](#) with any questions or requests for help in welcoming you to campus this fall!

Sincerely,

UC Merced Graduate Division and the GROW Committee

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### 2023 Grow Committee

Graduate Division  
English Language Institute (ELI)  
Office of International Affairs (OIA)  
Office of Research and Economic Development  
Payroll Services  
School of Engineering  
School of Natural Sciences  
School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts



[grad@ucmerced.edu](mailto:grad@ucmerced.edu)



**GRADUATE  
DIVISION**

This email was sent to maraschwiesow@gmail.com by "Graduate Resources at UC Merced" <grad@ucmerced.edu>. [Unsubscribe](#) from University of California, Merced Graduate Admissions.