



TRANSITION TO *Graduate* School



\$ Paying the Bills \$

- **Income** (Thank you Baylor! ☺)
 - Graduate Apprentice Stipend (20 hours/week): estimate \$750/month for 12 months= \$9,000 year
 - Tuition Stipend *Does not cover "fees" or parking decal ☹
- **Where All Your Money Will Disappear To**
 - Baylor Fees (1,379/semester)
 - Books (\$400+?) (Think about buying used &/or ONLINE, or borrow from 2nd year cohort members)
 - Housing & Utilities
 - Transportation (payments, gas, tags, decals, etc)
 - Health Care/Insurance
 - FOOD
 - Entertainment/Misc.
- **When the Stipend Just Isn't Enough**
 - Option A: Sweet talk mom & dad
(selling point: education is an investment!)
 - Option B: Financial Aid! (located in Clifton Robinson Tower)
 - Step One: File your FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Step Two: Get Approved: Receive a BU Financial Aid Packet
 - Step Three: Decide how much money you REALLY need
 - Step Four: Apply for Loans & Online Student Loan Counseling
<http://mappingyourfuture.org/Graduate> (great resource!)
 - Step Five: Receive your money \$: Goes to cover your Fees first, THEN you get the beloved REFUND!
 - Step Six: Making it last a WHOLE semester! Get Thrifty!

Where Do I Live? Finding On/Off-Campus Housing

- **On-Campus** Graduate Housing (The Quadrangle & Browning Square)
<http://www.baylor.edu/graduate/index.php?id=42521>
- **Off-Campus** Housing (SO MANY OPTIONS & PRICES!)
 - Baylor Web site: List of off-campus apartments/condos/rentals/etc., & roommate finder
<http://www.baylor.edu/offcampushousing/>
 - BearCribz: Virtual Tours, Pricing & Amenities info for almost every complex near campus
<http://www.bearcribs.com/>
 - Ask current cohort members! Where do they live, what are the reputations of certain places, etc.
- **What to Look for in Housing Options**
 - How close is it to campus? (Is it a safe walk to campus?)
 - Does it included cable, internet, utilities, washer/dryer, alarm system
 - Is the price by the ROOM or for the full apartment?
 - Do they allow pets? (cost extra?)
 - Is it furnished?
- **Who Do I Live With** (I don't know anyone!)?
 - Finding roommates—Baylor/Truett/Law students, Let your Apt. Match you, OR your cohort
<http://www.baylor.edu/offcampushousing/index.php?id=000610>

Getting around Campus (walk, jog, run...O wait, that's the BearTrail!)

- **Car:** \$225 for student parking pass (apply online before you arrive
<http://www.baylor.edu/parking/>
 - Save \$: Cohort Carpooling
- **Bike:** Live close enough to campus, plenty of bike racks & eco-friendly ☺
Can sometimes find cheap used bikes on Craigslist or at Thrift shops
- **Baylor Shuttle** (it's FREE, goes all over campus, & runs every weekday)
<http://www.baylor.edu/bus/>



Other Stuff to Get Done Before the Big Move!

- **The Baylor “Bear” Necessitates**
 - Send in your FINAL transcripts to the Graduate School after graduation
 - Register for Classes! (Just Kidding! Julie Baker does it for us! YAY!)
 - Health forms: All incoming students must complete and return a Health Form to Health Services BEFORE CLASSES START! If you have been enrolled recently at Baylor, you may not need to complete a new health form, (254)710-1010 Download @ <http://www.baylor.edu/content/services/document.php/78331.pdf>
 - Insurance (If you are off your parents’ plan, Baylor can provide you with health insurance.)
http://www.baylor.edu/health_center/index.php?id=13935
- **Cohort Communication**
 - We know it may sound cliché, but become “Facebook Friends” & start a Facebook group!
 - Become “friends” with current cohort members & feel free to ask them any questions/concerns you have...we have all been there & we care about you ☺
 - Let people know when you are moving, free labor?
- **Preparing for your Apprenticeship**
 - Keep in contact with your supervisor—start building that relationship early
 - Know what date you are expected to start working.
 - We suggest moving to Waco at least one week prior, to give time to settle & get acquainted to Waco.
- **Random Thoughts: Stuff Not to Forget Before You Move**
 - Drivers license/car tags renewed (if needed)
 - Bring social security card, passport, birth certificate with you
 - Call Your Credit Card Company: If they don’t know you moved to Texas, they may freeze your accounts (no fun! Trust me!)
 - Spend LOTS of time with your family & friends! It may be a while before you get to go home again ☹
 - Start thinking Student Affairs: Get familiar with SA current issues & happenings (ex. www.chronicle.com)
 - Read for fun! Get in the habit of reading & learn “How to Read a Book”

Once You Are at Baylor

- Order your **Textbooks**: If you buy online, leave at least three weeks (if possible) for shipping.
- Get your Baylor **ID Card** (Clifton Robinson Tower)
- Fill out all your **HR paperwork** for your apprenticeship (will need your Social Security Card!)
- **Get “Oriented”**: Grad School/Student Life/Apprenticeship Orientations & Training (August 11!)
- Learn your way around **campus**: find your classrooms, quickest routes, parking
- **Explore Waco!** <http://www.wacocvb.com/>
- Start the Great **Church Search** (www.buchurches.com) (<http://www.baylor.edu/spirituallife/index.php?id=56279>)
- **Cohort Bonding!**

My Graduate Student Wish List: Good “Investments”

- **Laptop**: yes, there are TONS of computers on campus, but it's still nice to have one of your own.
- **GPS**: it may get you lost, or keep you from getting lost.
- **External Harddrive**: computer crashes the night before the big test, no worries!
- **“Smart Phone”**: a nifty gadget that can simplify & complicate your life all at the same time!
- **Microsoft Office** (& other computer software): MAJOR DISCOUNTS for Baylor Students @ the Campus Bookstore & online at <http://www.journeyed.com>
- **Bike**: There are 14,000+ people and not that many parking spaces. Be eco-friendly & get healthy at the same time!
- **Rain boots/Umbrella**: SURPRISE! It does rain in Texas! And when it rains it POURS!
- **Large Backpack**: Some classes have multiple text books, and you read them simultaneously...
- **Calendar**: Get organized from day one. Attempt to balance your busy life.

Think of More Questions?

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