

DINING SERVICES

DINING SERVICES INFORMATION 2006-2007

The dining services program at UMass Dartmouth is based upon the belief that what, where, and how a person eats plays an important part in that individual's well being. In keeping with this philosophy, the dining service department's goals are to provide wholesome and nutritious food, well prepared and served attractively in comfortable surroundings – in sufficient quantities and at reasonable costs. Recognizing that taste preferences and eating habits vary extensively, selective menus are served regularly. Numerous buffet-style meals are served throughout the year using seasonal, area or ethnic food, or in observance of holidays and special occasions. UMass Dartmouth's dining service personnel are sensitive to the needs and desires of the campus community. Their aim is to respond accordingly.

MENUS AND PORTIONS: Menus are planned in advance for several weeks. They originate in the Dining Director's office and are reviewed by the Dining Committee. Food items are placed on the menu according to their popularity, costs, production, and service methods, seasonal availability, nutritional values, etc. Selections are offered in practically every menu category; for example, a choice of entrees, numerous vegetables, salads, desserts, and beverages. Diners may take what they want when passing through the Resident Dining Hall cafeteria line.

Unlimited portions are available for each entree in the Resident Dining Hall. Sampling is encouraged, as a diner may desire a small portion of an unfamiliar item to try it. There may be times when some items cannot be offered in unlimited quantities, but adequate substitutes are always available on such infrequent occasions.

ECOLOGY AND ECONOMICS: Today's emphasis on conservatism of materials and energy and costs, has a direct relationship to your dining service program. Some foodstuffs are not in abundant supply: costs of raw material and services continue to rise in a spiraling pattern. Your help in combating these considerations is most welcome. You are encouraged to take what food you want to eat at each meal, but eat what you take. Second portions are available for you in the Resident Dining Hall. Food wasted at meal times and food taken from the dining hall result in higher operating costs and prices to students, as do mishandling and removal of equipment or failure to comply with the self-bussing policy. In the interest of efficient service of good food, your cooperation in these matters will be productive and appreciated.

ATTENTION: STUDENTS WHO DO NOT WISH TO BE ON A MEAL PLAN SHOULD NOT SUBMIT ROOM & BOARD APPLICATION FOR THE RESIDENCE HALLS, AS OCCUPANCY IN THE TRADITIONAL HALLS REQUIRES PURCHASING A MEAL PLAN.

1. TRADITIONAL DINING SERVICE: Selection of a board plan is a condition of University residency except for those assigned to the student apartments. The following meal plan options are available for the 2006-2007 academic year:

Meal Plan: **All residence hall students are required to purchase a meal plan option.** Students have the opportunity to choose their Meal Plan Option of choice:

Meal Plan Options:

___ 19 Meal Plan + \$190 Snack Plan @ \$3,174.00 (includes 10 guest meals)

___ 17 Meal Plan + \$250 Snack Plan @ \$3,174.00 (includes 10 guest meals)

___ 16 Meal Plan + \$280 Snack Plan @ \$3,083.00 (includes 8 guest meals)

___ 14 Meal Plan + \$300 Snack Plan @ \$3,083.00 (includes 8 guest meals)

___ 12 Meal Plan + \$280 Snack Plan @ \$2,762.00 (includes 6 guest meals)

___ 10 Meal Plan + \$300 Snack Plan @ \$2,762.00 (includes 6 guest meals)

___ 7 Meal Plan + \$170 Snack Plan @ \$2,636.00 (includes 4 guest meals)

___ 5 meal Plan + \$200 Snack Plan @ \$2,636.00 (includes 4 guest meals)

A commitment for any meal plan is for a full year. Meal plan changes are accepted the first two weeks of the first semester only. Change of on-campus residency (from traditional Residence Halls to other on campus housing) does not constitute a release from the meal plan. Prospective students are urged to give thorough consideration to their planned weekend activities before making selections.

2. SCHEDULE OF MEALS: The Dining Service schedule for resident students follows the academic calendar. Meals are provided when the University is in official session and follow a weekend meal schedule on holidays (Columbus Day, Patriot's Day, etc.) even though classes may be suspended for that particular day. Meals are not provided during regular academic recess periods - Thanksgiving, Mid-Year, and Spring Recess. Meals are available on a cash basis in the commuter cafeteria during the January intersession. Resident students are served cafeteria style in their own dining hall adjacent to the Campus Center, Monday through Sunday.

3. UNIVERSITY ID CARDS: Each student is issued a university identification card by the UMASS PASS Office which bears the student's photograph, name, student identification number and status. This card is permanent and is valid as long as a student is registered for classes at UMass Dartmouth. The card must be presented to the Dining Hall checker at each meal. **The card may be used exclusively by the person whose photograph appears on it. Students who loan their card to another person are subject to a \$5.00 fine and disciplinary action.** The **UMASS PASS OFFICE** is the place where university identification cards are made, UMASS PASS deposits are received, meal plan contracts accepted, meal plan changes made and lost identification cards replaced. Lost University identification cards will be replaced at a cost of \$25.00 by contacting the UMASS PASS office in the Campus Center.

4. ILLNESS: If a student is ill and confined to a University residence, a light meal may be authorized and picked up at the Resident Dining Hall. The ill student's meal card must be presented to the supervisor on duty by the person taking the meal.

5.REFUNDS: Refunds on pre-paid board are considered only if a student officially withdraws from the University, or is absent from residency for ten or more consecutive days due to illness which is verified in writing by University Health Services or a physician. A resident who withdraws from UMass Dartmouth will be granted a refund of dining charges according to the following schedule, based on the day of withdrawal notice and room keys are received.

1st By October 2, 2006 –
Semester: Pro-Rated/Daily Rate
 After October 2nd –
 No Refund

2nd By February 26, 2007
Semester – Pro-Rated/Daily Rate
 After February 26th –
 No Refund

6.SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS: Provision will be made by Dining Services to arrange special diets or modified menus when required. Consultation with an A.D.A. Dietitian is available to all board students. Arrangements for special dietary requirements may be made through The Dining Services Office on the first floor of the Resident Dining Hall, 508-999-8993.

7.UMASS PASS OFFICE: The UMASS PASS office, located in the Campus Center, is the place where university identification cards are made, UMASS PASS deposits are received, meal plan contracts accepted, meal plan changes made and lost identification cards replaced for \$25.00.

8.GUEST MEALS: Students other than residents, parents, campus personnel and campus visitors may be guests in the Resident Dining Hall by paying cash to the checker on duty for that particular meal. Individual meal prices are subject to change. Individual meal prices may be obtained by calling or visiting the Dining Services Office, located on the first floor of the Resident Dining Hall, telephone 508-999-8993.

9.DINING COMMITTEE: A group of representative students and food service personnel make up a committee which meets regularly to evaluate the dining services, review operations, offer suggestions, make recommendations, and plan special dining events. Your committee welcomes your comments, they are dedicated to maintain UMass Dartmouth's dining service program at the highest level of performance and acceptability for the campus community.

10.CATERING SERVICE: Arrangements for special food services, parties, banquets, picnics, receptions, etc., may be made with the Conferences and Events Office in the Dining Hall, where menus, prices, and suggestions can be considered. Notice of at least two weeks in advance of a proposed event with food service must be given in order that arrangements may be carried out properly. The Conferences and Events Office is on the ground level of the Dining Hall, telephone extension 508-999-8143.

11.MEAL PLAN ONLY: Students who are not required to contract for a meal plan may elect to do so separately through the UMASS PASS office in the Campus Center. The University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth now offers a **Declining Balance Program**. This allows students to choose from four declining

balance programs' that can be utilized at any of the fourteen food service retail outlets on campus. Information about the various dining plans and contract forms are available by contacting the UMass Pass Office. Payment in advance for one semester is required and the second installment is billed in advance of second semester.

DINING INFORMATION: For further information concerning the resident dining plan and policies, or for answers to questions not covered in this document, please contact the UMass Pass Office in the Campus Center, telephone extension 508-999-6913.