On Campus

While there are no residence halls designated specifically for graduate students, the housing department does attempt to group graduate students into a “Graduate Student Community” in the same building. The community location/building varies by year, but more information on pricing for each building can be found on the housing website. Keep in mind that some residence halls include a kitchen and others do not; for halls without kitchens, you may be required to purchase a meal plan. For information about living in a residence hall on campus, visit the Housing and Residence Life site.

Off Campus

If you plan to live off campus in an apartment, check out the UNC Charlotte off campus housing site. Keep in mind that many complexes on this site rent by the room, so searching for “1 bedroom” may bring up 2-4 bedroom apartments where 1 room is available. In general, apartments closer to campus have lower costs, and many are within walking distance which would potentially keep you from having to buy a parking pass. When searching on third party sites for apartments near the university, you can use “University City” as the neighborhood.

If you are interested in living closer to Uptown Charlotte, there are a lot of great neighborhoods to consider. This would increase your commute time to campus to 20-30 minutes. While prices tend to be higher the closer you get to Uptown, this may be worth it to you if you prefer to live in an area with young professionals and nightlife rather than college students. Some neighborhoods to consider are Dilworth, South End, Elizabeth, Plaza Midwood, and NoDa. South End, Dilworth and NoDa all have Light Rail stations nearby, which could potentially save you money on a parking pass. All of these neighborhoods have a ton of restaurants, bars, breweries, art and music venues, and are generally more walkable than some other neighborhoods. Rent in these areas varies drastically, but a 2 bedroom apartment could range from $1,000-$1,500/month or more depending on the amenities and location.

Finding a Roommate

The best way to save money is to live with a roommate. There are a couple ways to find a roommate if you are moving to Charlotte without knowing anyone. First, you can contact the MPH Program Director and ask to have an email sent to your incoming cohort on your behalf. Many of our students move to Charlotte and are searching for a roommate, so a fellow MPH student could be interested in sharing an apartment. You can also use the roommate search website set up by UNC Charlotte. On this site you can create a profile and filter your searches to match your preferences.
Parking

Commuter Permit
Available to commuter students only. Permit is valid on campus 24/7 in all yellow and orange color-coded parking areas
Cost: $480

Lot 6A Permit
Available to commuter students. Permit is valid 24/7 in parking lot 6A on Cameron Blvd. This is a discounted lot served by Silver NinerTransit bus; it is located roughly 1 mile from the College of Health and Human Services and is about a 20 min walk. Quantities limited.
Cost: $360

Lot 27 Permit
Available to commuter students. Permit is valid 24/7 in parking lot 27 on Toby Creek Rd near the Harris Alumni House. This lot is not served by campus buses, but there is a bus stop about 1/10th of a mile away on Alumni Way. This lot is located less than 1 mile from the College of Health and Human Services and is about a 15 minute walk. Quantities limited.
Cost: $225

North Deck
Available to commuter students only. Permit is valid 24/7 in North Parking Deck, located near the campus Light Rail station. This deck is located about ½ mile from the College of Health and Human Services and is about a 10 minute walk. Quantities limited.
Cost: $360

Resident Permit
Available to on-campus resident students only. The resident permit is valid 24/7 in all blue and orange color-coded areas.
Cost: $480

For more information about parking permits, NinerTransit, Disability Transit, or other transportation questions, visit the Parking and Transportation Services website. Parking permits generally go on sale about 4-6 weeks prior to the start of the semester and if you’d like a discounted permit, these go quicker. You must pay for your parking permit out of pocket (it does not get charged to your student account). Light Rail passes are included in student fees and do not cost extra (you’ll use your student ID as a ticket/pass).
Employment

Many MPH students have jobs either on or off campus. Keep in mind that the Graduate School allows full-time students to work a maximum of 20 hours per week only; this is to reduce schedule conflicts and stress associated with balancing both work and school. Below are some resources on campus for a variety of positions.

Graduate Assistantships
Graduate assistantships pay full-time students a stipend to work up to 20 hours per week within the University setting. Tasks range from administrative office work to teaching or grading undergraduate class assignments to data entry and analysis. The tasks, stipend amount and number of hours may vary depending on the position. *Students are automatically considered for Department assistantships, if available, upon being accepted into the program.* You will be notified via UNCC email when Department assistantships open with instructions for how to apply. Additional assistantships may become available between August and October and, to a lesser extent, throughout the year. There are also assistantships offered through other departments within the College of Health and Human Services and across campus. For positions in other departments across campus, check the [Hire-a-Niner portal](http://www.hireaniner.com).

Part Time Job Fair
In early fall, the UNC Charlotte Career Center hosts a job fair. UNC Charlotte’s Part-time Job Fair connects UNC Charlotte students with employers hiring for positions that are part-time, temporary, seasonal, or full-time non-degreed jobs. On average, 80 employers attend this event annually. The event is free for candidates to attend. When detailed information about the event is available, you will be able to find it on the Career Center’s [website](http://uncchcareers.com).

Tuition and Fees

The estimated total cost of the MPH program for in-state, full-time students who complete the program in 2 years is $18,500. The typical time to complete the MPH program for a full-time student is 5 semesters – 4 full time semesters and one part-time semester between the first and second year to complete an internship (3 credits). Full time students take 9-12 credits per semester.

For the complete breakdown of tuition and fees, see the [UNC Niner Central website](http://ninercentral.uncw.edu). Notice that the table is separated by how many credits are taken and by residency status. If you plan on attending the university as a full-time NC resident, your total cost per term will be
approximately $4,110. If you are a full-time non-resident or international student, your total cost per term will be approximately $10,827.

Also note that the estimated tuition and fees does not include expenses like transportation, books or health insurance (which is required by the university). The cost of a student health insurance plan is approximately $1,313 per semester. If you already have health insurance or are on a parent's plan, you can submit a waiver to the university. For more information about the student health plan, see the [Student Health Center’s site](#).

## Cost of Living

This is just a rough estimate of basic living expenses. Please carefully plan out your own budget and cost of living based on your individual needs and income. Don't forget to calculate the cost of car insurance, gas, books/school supplies, travel, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Approximate Cost</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing (w/ roommate)</td>
<td>$600/month</td>
<td>$7,200/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groceries</td>
<td>$250/month</td>
<td>$3,000/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance*</td>
<td>$1,313.50/semester (equivalent to $218.92 per month)</td>
<td>$2,627/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous/Fun Money</td>
<td>$100/month</td>
<td>$1,200/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monthly Total: $1,168.92</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yearly Total: $14,027</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on Student Health Insurance premiums for 2019 – if you are on a parent’s plan or a private plan your rate will be different.