



Global Student  
Success Program



# UMASS BOSTON GLOBAL STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM

## 2023/2024 GUIDE



# WHY UMASS BOSTON?

The University of Massachusetts Boston is nationally recognized as a model of excellence for urban public universities. The scenic waterfront campus, with easy access to downtown Boston, is located next to the John F. Kennedy Library and the Presidential Museum, the Commonwealth Museum and Massachusetts State Archives, and the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate.





# Tier 1

**BUSINESS SCHOOL IN  
CEO MAGAZINE'S 2018  
Global MBA Rankings**

## 3<sup>rd</sup>

**MOST DIVERSE FOUR-YEAR  
COLLEGE IN THE U.S.  
24/7 Wall Street, 2020**

## 5<sup>th</sup>

**BEST VALUE IN  
MASSACHUSETTS  
smartasset.com**

## 10

**COLLEGES AND  
GRADUATE SCHOOLS**

## 16:1

**STUDENT TO  
FACULTY RATIO**

## #53

**BEST COLLEGE  
FOR INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY IN AMERICA  
Niche**

## #62

**UNDERGRADUATE  
ENGINEERING PROGRAMS  
U.S. News & World Report, 2022**

## #90

**TOP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
QS World US University Rankings  
2021: USA**

## 15,671

**UNDERGRADUATE AND  
GRADUATE STUDENTS  
ON CAMPUS**

## \$92,300

**MID-CAREER SALARY  
FOR UMASS BOSTON  
GRADUATES  
Payscale.com 2018**



# Boston's only public research university

Recognized for innovative research, UMass Boston offers its diverse student population both an intimate learning environment and the rich experience of a great American city.

## UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

UMass Boston provides students with the opportunity to conduct research during their undergraduate and graduate studies. More than 50 interdisciplinary research institutes and centers at UMass Boston bring faculty and students together to pursue research, teaching and service on diverse topics.

UMass Boston's prestigious research partners include the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center, IBM, Sanofi, Genzyme, New England Aquarium and the Boston Public Schools.

# #148

### REGIONAL RESEARCH REPUTATION

*U.S. News & World Report, 2020*



# \$56M

### RESEARCH FUNDING IN 2020





## Companies recruiting UMass Boston graduates



### INTERNSHIPS AND CO-OPS

Students interested in gaining real-world work experience should pursue an internship or co-op during their studies at UMass Boston. Internships are usually part-time with flexible hours and typically last one semester. Co-ops are full-time paid positions directly related to your field of study. Co-ops generally last for six months to a year and offer substantive professional work experience.

### OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING

The U.S. government's Optional Practical Training (OPT) program offers international graduates with a degree in a STEM discipline (science, technology, engineering or math) the opportunity to stay and work in the U.S. for up to three years.



# BOSTON

A vibrant, thriving city founded at the very forefront of American history, Boston has more than 50 higher education institutions and is home to over 325,000 undergraduate and graduate students from around the world.

## GETTING AROUND

UMass Boston students can get discounted transit passes and can take a free shuttle bus to-and-from a major subway station near campus. Buses also stop right on campus. Many students also walk or bike to campus and around town.

Take a train down to New York City (3.5 hours), Philadelphia (5 hours) or Washington, D.C., (7 hours) for the weekend.

## FROM HOT TO COLD... AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN

In the spring and summer, enjoy beautiful beaches, sailing, kayaking, hiking in the mountains and cycling in the parks.

In the fall, enjoy the rich, colorful foliage and apple picking. Embrace the wonderful winters by ice skating, skiing and snowboarding — all within an hour's drive of the city.





**#1**

**CITY FOR STUDENTS  
IN THE U.S.**

*QS University Rankings, 2023*

**71,000**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
IN MASSACHUSETTS.**

*Open Doors 2022 Fast Facts*

**#11**

**STUDENT CITY IN  
THE WORLD.**

*QS University Rankings, 2023*



# Student life

The best way to enhance your experience here is by getting involved! Students who participate on campus have a higher success rate in their classes, make more friends and have a better time integrating and adjusting to life in Boston.

## ACTIVITIES AND LEADERSHIP

Join one of 100+ recognized student organizations on campus. Current clubs, organizations and centers include:

- Asian Student Center
- Black Student Center
- Business and Marketing Club
- CASA Latina
- Chinese Students & Scholars Association
- Desi Student Association
- Information Technology Club
- Graduate Student Assembly
- Khmer Culture Association
- Korean Student Association
- Queer Student Center
- Pakistani Students Association
- Russian Student Association
- Vietnamese Students Association

## OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The Office of Student Activities is your one-stop shop for finding things to do outside the classroom. UMass Boston GSSP students can take full advantage of discounted tickets to major events and sites of interest around Boston.

## UMASS BOSTON GSSP NAVIGATORS

Each semester, UMass Boston GSSP seeks Navigators (student orientation leaders) to provide guidance and support to new students their initial weeks at UMass Boston. Navigators play a crucial role in helping new students acclimate to the university environment. As part of their preparation, Navigators receive training designed to develop and enhance their leadership capabilities.

## UMASS BOSTON GSSP LEADERS

(Leadership, Empowerment, Advocacy, Development)

GSSP LEADership positions are available to students who have maintained a high GPA and have actively participated in international student events. LEADers are a select group of accomplished students who take responsibility for organizing events, delivering presentations during orientation, training Navigators, and serving as role models for fellow UMass Boston students. LEADers undergo comprehensive training aimed at enhancing their leadership skills. These trainings encompass a diverse range of areas, including effective presentations, business communication techniques, cross-cultural sensitivity, and presenting student experience on your resume/cover letter.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EVENTS

UMass Boston GSSP organizes events and activities each semester to help students get to know American culture, the city of Boston and each other. Events are held both on-and-off campuses, and appeal to the many different interests of our diverse student population.

## FACILITIES AND STUDENT SERVICES

### UMass Boston Campus Center

The “living room” of the university, the Campus Center hosts most of

the social, cultural and recreational events at the university.

### Dining

Students enjoy a selection of eateries and cafés located across campus, including:

- Campus Center Food Court
- Beacon Café in University Hall
- Starbucks in the Integrated Science Complex
- Dining facility in the new residential community

### Recreation

UMass Boston prioritizes the health, safety, and overall well-being of its students by providing them with a complimentary membership to The Beacon Fitness Center. With its inviting ambiance, the center accommodates individuals at every fitness level, whether they are beginners or highly conditioned athletes. Additionally, the Clark Athletic Center offers a diverse array of recreational activities and opportunities for students to participate in intramural sports such as basketball, badminton, ice skating, and volleyball.





# Accommodation

## ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

This is the recommended option for first-year, undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP students. UMass Boston's 260,000-square-foot on-campus residence hall provides beds for first-year domestic and international students. The state-of-the-art building includes fully furnished double, triple and quad rooms, laundry facilities, a community kitchen, study areas and a dining hall.

Housing is not guaranteed for all first-year students and there are a limited number of rooms available. In order for your application to be reviewed, a deposit of US\$300 is required. For more information and to apply, please email [studentsuccess@umbgssp.com](mailto:studentsuccess@umbgssp.com). Housing is from September to May, but summer housing may be available to new students on a case-by-case basis.

## OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

### Homestay

Homestays provide international students with comfortable housing with an American family at an affordable price. Locations are always in safe urban and suburban neighborhoods in-and-around Boston.

### Apartments

#### Peninsula Apartments

A high-end, cozy, and pet-friendly apartment conveniently located directly across from the UMass Boston Residence Hall, Peninsular apartments is a short walk to campus, the subway, and only minutes from downtown Boston.

For more information and to apply, please visit: [peninsula-apts.com](http://peninsula-apts.com). Note: Peninsular apartments are not furnished.

#### Harbor Point on the Bay Apartments

Across the street from UMass Boston, Harbor Point on the Bay is located in the thriving Dorchester Bay, directly alongside Boston's 38-mile landscaped waterfront trail - the Harborwalk. It is a gated community with all sorts of amenities, including a short walk to a nearby beach and subway station.

For more information and to apply, please visit: [harborpointonthebay.com](http://harborpointonthebay.com). Note: Harbor Point apartments are not furnished.

## FINDING ROOMMATES

For students wishing to stay in off-campus facilities at Peninsular or Harbor Point, and in need of finding roommates, UMass Boston GSSP staff is happy to assist you with what's available.

Please contact us at [studentsuccess@umbgssp.com](mailto:studentsuccess@umbgssp.com).

## FURNISHING YOUR APARTMENT

It's rare to find an apartment in Boston that is already furnished. Students should prepare to buy or rent furniture upon arrival. There are several stores near UMass Boston where affordable furnishings can be purchased.

## AIRPORT PICK-UP

Students requiring transportation assistance from the Boston airport to their new homes must submit an online arrival form at least two weeks prior to their departure.

The form can be found at [umbgssp.com](http://umbgssp.com).



# Entry options to UMass Boston

## THE UNDERGRADUATE UMASS BOSTON GSSP

The Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP is the first year of a bachelor's degree at UMass Boston. This program consists of academic-for-credit courses and skill-development courses and provides a bridge from your high school experience to studying for a university degree in the U.S. Upon successful completion of the Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP, you will move directly into the second year of your chosen undergraduate degree program.

### Program coursework

Program offerings in business, computer science, engineering, arts, social sciences and science include coursework that builds study skills coupled with university courses. Students who complete the Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP will earn between 27-30 credits toward their bachelor's degree at UMass Boston.

### Program duration

Students may complete the Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP in two, three or four semesters, depending on their academic and English language entry credentials and ability to successfully complete the academic requirements. All incoming students will be required to take English and Mathematics placement tests to determine their initial schedule.

### English Language Program (ELP)

The ELP program is designed to help students improve their English language proficiency and prepare them for entry into UMass Boston GSSP. Classes are five days a week for a total of 20 hours.

### Honors College track

UMass Boston's Honors College presents a great opportunity for academically ambitious and motivated students. In the Honors College, students will take 18-21 credits, which meet general education requirements for degree completion. UMass Boston GSSP applicants should earn a cumulative 3.7 GPA or equivalent in high school, or have a minimum of 3.4 GPA and no grades lower than B upon completion of their first semester at UMass Boston to be considered for the Honors College.

### Honors College benefits

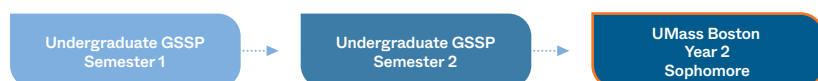
- close contact with outstanding honors faculty researchers, scholars and teachers
- the opportunity to study alongside academically committed peers
- priority course registration every semester
- unique academic and social Honors College events
- special recognition at graduation
- practical as well as theoretical learning that complements every major
- hands-on research and scholarly activities





## UNDERGRADUATE STUDY PLAN OPTIONS

### Undergraduate GSSP: 2 SEMESTERS (IELTS 6.0 / TOEFL 75)



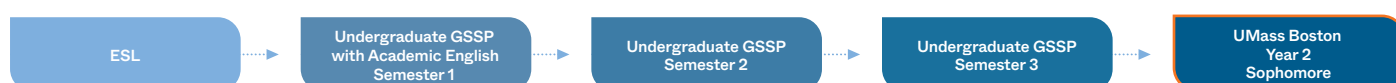
### Undergraduate GSSP: 3 SEMESTERS - 1 YEAR (IELTS 5.5 / TOEFL 69)



### Undergraduate GSSP: 3 SEMESTERS WITH ACADEMIC ENGLISH- 1 YEAR (IELTS 5.0 / TOEFL 59)



### ESL + Undergraduate GSSP: 4 SEMESTERS (IELTS 4.5 / TOEFL 49)



Please refer to page 13 for academic and English language entry requirements for each study plan option.

## UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES OFFERED

- Africana Studies
- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Art
- Asian Studies
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Classical Languages
- Classical Studies
- Communication
- **Computer Engineering**
- **Computer Science**
- Community Development
- Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Early Education and Care in Inclusive Settings
- Economics
- **Electrical Engineering**
- English
- Engineering Physics
- **Environmental Sciences**
- Environmental Studies and Sustainability
- Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy
- Exercise and Health Sciences
- French
- History
- Human Services
- **Information Technology**
- International Relations
- Italian
- Labor Studies
- Latin American and Iberian Studies
- Management
  - Accounting
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Finance
  - Information Systems and Business Analytics
  - Interdisciplinary Business
  - International Management
  - Leadership and Organizational Change
  - Marketing
  - Sport Business
  - Supply Chain and Service Management
- **Mathematics**
- Music
- Nursing
- Philosophy
- Philosophy and Public Policy
- **Physics**
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Sports Leadership and Administration
- Theatre Arts
- Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

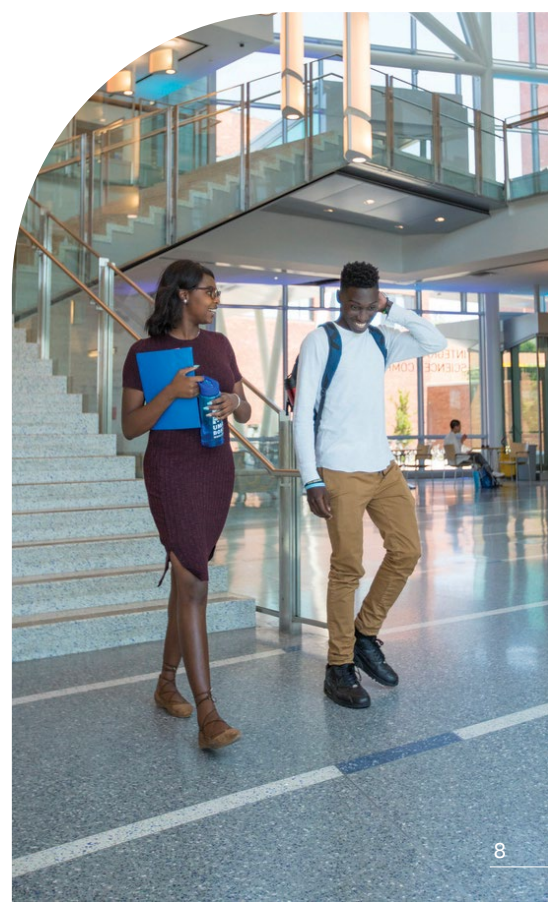
#### NOTE:

**\* Degrees listed in orange are STEM-approved.**

Some programs may have different entry requirements. Please contact the GSSP team for more information.

For the most updated list of undergraduate programs, please visit:

<https://www.umb.edu/academics/program-finder>





# Support for your future

## ENGLISH, MATH SKILLS AND ACADEMIC WRITING SUPPORT

The UMass Boston Global Student Success Program (GSSP) offers support courses to help improve students' skills in English grammar, critical reading, academic writing, effective listening, discussions and note-taking. Additionally, UMass Boston GSSP offers regularly scheduled math support tutorials to assist with math studies in a structured learning environment.

## ADVISING AND GUIDANCE

Adjusting to a new environment can be a stressful experience for some students. The UMass Boston GSSP staff provides students with individual attention and personal support in their academic, social and personal life. Students also have access to UMass Boston's medical and counseling services.

## INTEGRATED LEARNING SKILLS

The Integrated Learning Skills course provides students with the necessary skills to succeed in university studies and to help students adjust to the university and surrounding community. This course is compulsory for all undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP students.



**MAKE YOUR TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO A U.S. UNIVERSITY EASIER**



**BE A UMASS BOSTON STUDENT FROM DAY ONE**



**RECEIVE INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION AND PERSONAL SUPPORT**



**ATTEND WEEKLY TUTORIALS AND SEMINARS**



**EARN CREDITS TOWARD YOUR UMASS BOSTON DEGREE**





**Shouaib, Saudi Arabia**

*"I chose to study at UMass Boston because it has many faculties to select from. As it is my first time studying abroad, I'm enjoying it here because the GSSP advisors are really helpful. Whether you are going through difficult or easy times, they are available to help you 24/7. This university is a great place for new international students because you can easily make new friends and be surrounded by good people."*



**Rhema, India**

*"I really like the small classes at UMass Boston GSSP. As a smaller group, I'm able to constantly interact with my peers and form strong friendships. I'm the first in my family to study abroad. My advisors, professors, and peers I'm working with made me feel welcomed in the program and the country."*



# Scholarships and bursaries

## GLOBAL STUDENT SUCCESS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

UMass Boston GSSP provides a limited number of merit-based scholarships each semester to continuing students who maintain their enrollment in UMass Boston GSSP.

Scholarship applicants must demonstrate academic excellence and commitment to fostering intercultural understanding through their active engagement within the university community to be eligible.

## FAMILY BURSARIES

UMass Boston GSSP offers financial support in the form of family bursaries. A bursary applies where two or more students from the same family study with a member institution.\*

The bursary is equivalent to 10 percent of the tuition fee of your program of study.†

\* The Navitas bursary applies to students studying at Fraser International College (FIC), International College of Manitoba (ICM), Toronto Metropolitan University International College (TMUIC), Wilfrid Laurier International College (WLIC), Richard Bland College of William & Mary Global Student Success Program (RBC), UMass Boston Global Student Success Program (UMB), and Queens College Global Student Success Program (QC) in North America.

In addition to the North American Navitas member institutions, Navitas member institutions are located in colleges and campuses across the world; <https://www.navitas.com/what-we-do>.

For the purpose of this bursary, a family member is defined as a husband, wife, brother, sister, mother, father, son, daughter or stepchild† Certificate programs may also be known or registered as Foundation Studies or University Transfer Program Stage I. Diploma programs may also be known or registered as University Transfer Program Stage II or Global Student Success Program (GSSP).

The bursary is not applicable to any English language program or any component of an English language program offered by a member institution.

This information is correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change without notice or at the discretion of the UMass Boston GSSP staff.



### Charlie, Taiwan

*"As a student at UMass Boston GSSP, you will receive an exceptional level of emotional support. Whenever you feel down or unhappy, you can simply talk to the advisors. In Boston City, everyone is outgoing and friendly. You will have the opportunity to meet many people from different cultures. It's a completely new experience for me, and I wouldn't have had it in my home country. It's like a dream come true."*



# Academic calendar

Year	Orientation	First day of Class	Last day of Class
Fall 2023	August 29-September 1, 2023	September 5, 2023	December 21, 2023
Spring 2024	January 16-19, 2024	January 22, 2024	May 17, 2024
Summer 2024	May 21-24, 2024	May 28, 2024	August 21, 2024
Fall 2024	August 27-30, 2024	September 3, 2024	December 19, 2024

\*Dates are approximate at the time of printing. Semester dates are subject to change without notice. For the most up-to-date information, visit [umbgssp.com/how-to-apply/umass-boston-important-dates/](https://umbgssp.com/how-to-apply/umass-boston-important-dates/).

# Your investment

(2023/2024 ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE; ALL FEES IN US\$)

Tuition*		
Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP (Year 1 - Freshman Year)*	2 or 3 semesters	\$36,059
ESL English as a Second Language	Per semester	\$5,281
Other Fees and Charges (Mandatory)		
New Student Fee	One time	\$711
Student ID Fee (New Student)	One time	\$75
Student ID Fee (Returning Student)	Per academic year	\$12
International Student Fee	Per semester	\$165
MBTA Fee	Per semester	\$20
Medical Insurance	Per academic year	\$3,471

\* Estimated tuition is calculated based on 2023-24 rates for 30 credit hours, your specific program may differ. Students will be charged per credit hour and the actual cost may be higher or lower depending on specific course choices and writing assessment results. Tuition, fees and charges are subject to change without notice.

^ Fees and charges listed are current for the academic year. Tuition and fees are subject to change and typically increase between 3-5% annually each Fall semester. Fees do not include accommodation or meals.

## PROGRAM FEES INCLUDE:

- tuition and orientation program
- access to UMass Boston facilities (campus center, library, athletic center, computers, health services, etc.)
- participation in UMass Boston student clubs and associations
- UMass Boston academic and career advising, international student advising, IT services and other services available to all students on campus
- 24-hour access a on-campus security department
- access to UMass Boston health services (additional fees may apply)

## HEALTH INSURANCE

In accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Qualifying Student Health Insurance Program, all UMass Boston GSSP students must carry health insurance. Therefore, if you do not have health insurance under another plan with comparable (equal or better) coverage, you must join the UMass Boston Student Health Insurance Plan.

Please note that the following items do not meet the state's criteria for comparable insurance coverage:

- foreign (international) health insurance
- Uncompensated Care Pool (free care)

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

In addition to your tuition and other fees, you will need approximately US\$15,000 to US\$17,000 to meet your living expenses each year. Typical expenses include accommodations, meals, books, stationery, transportation, utilities, telecommunications, recreation and entertainment. These will vary according to your individual requirements. Please remember that living in a metropolitan area might make it tempting for you to spend more, so you should plan your expenses according to your budget.



# Undergraduate Entry requirements

## MINIMUM ENTRY CRITERIA FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

	Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP: 2 Semesters	Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP: 3 Semesters	Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP: 3 Semesters with Academic English	ESL + Undergraduate UMass Boston GSSP: 4 Semesters
Academic qualification	Completion of Year 12 (or equivalent)*	Completion of Year 12 (or equivalent)*	Completion of Year 12 (or equivalent)*	Completion of Year 12 (or equivalent)*
GPA	2.0†	2.0†	2.0†	2.0†
Standardized tests	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required
IELTS	6.0	5.5	5.0	4.5
TOEFL iBT	75	69	59	49
Pearson Versant	56	50	46	38
Duolingo	95	90	80	70
iTEP	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.1

\* Visit [umbgssp.com/how-to-apply/undergraduate-admission-requirements/](http://umbgssp.com/how-to-apply/undergraduate-admission-requirements/) for equivalent academic entry requirements for different countries.  
 † The minimum GPA for Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering is 2.75. Students must also attain at least a B grade in all math courses as well as a B in a calculus course.  
 UMass Boston GSSP regularly reviews its English language and academic entry requirements. This information is correct at the time of printing; however, if there are any changes to these requirements they will be updated at UMBGSSP.com. Students requiring additional language support will be required to complete an academic English course.



### Daniel, South Korea

*“I chose UMass Boston GSSP because when I first toured the university, I realized that it was incredibly diverse and gave off a welcoming vibe. I could feel that I wanted to study here and meet new students. The instructors are very supportive of my academic progress and make sure that I am keeping track of it. Studying at the university offers an opportunity to meet new people, explore the city, and experience different cultures.”*



# How to apply

**Submit your application  
to study at UMass Boston:  
[umbgssp.com/apply](http://umbgssp.com/apply)**

- 1.** Select your program of study.
- 2.** Send any outstanding documents and receive your offer.
- 3.** Accept your offer. Please return your signed acceptance form and pay your deposit as listed in your letter.
- 4.** Receive your UMass Boston Acceptance Letter and I-20!
- 5.** Apply for your student visa. Please apply for your visa as soon as possible to allow sufficient time before departure.
- 6.** Make your housing and flight arrangements.
- 7.** Arrive at UMass Boston for new student orientation.











Global Student  
Success Program

## UMass Boston Global Student Success Program

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F +1.617.287.7644  
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Navitas is an affiliated educational provider  
of UMass Boston.

This school is authorized under federal law  
to enroll non-immigrant, international students.

The information contained in this guide is correct at  
the time of publication; however, UMass Boston Global  
Student Success Program (GSSP) reserves the right to  
alter, amend or delete details at any time without notice.



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