



STAYING SAFE

Boston is the 23rd largest city in the U.S. With a population of just shy of 600,000 people, it is the largest city in Massachusetts and New England. For a city of its population, Boston is a very safe place to live. Rates of dangerous crime are lower than the national average and lower than other cities of comparable size. However, in a location with as many students as Boston has and all the personal affects they bring with them, theft is an unfortunately common problem. Being safe and keeping your property secure in Boston is a combination of using common sense, and knowing where to go when you need assistance or have questions.

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

www.cityofboston.gov/police

Boston Police Headquarters

One Schroeder Plaza

Boston, MA 02120-2014

617-343-4200 (non-emergency)

Arguably the oldest police force in the country, the Boston Police Department (BPD) is responsible for law enforcement and maintaining order in Boston. If you don't live on the BUMC or Charles River campuses, the BPD is going to be the first contact in case of a crime emergency or problem. For emergency situations, dial 911 to reach the police. For general information, use the number located above.

The city of Boston is split into 11 policing districts which roughly follow the layout of the neighborhoods in the city. Each district has a headquarters, captain, and community services specific to that district. If you need to report a crime, or want information about a specific neighborhood, call the district headquarters for more focused service. In the neighborhood section of the guide you can find the district headquarters for each section of the city.

The BPD, in addition to its general duties, maintains crime

statistics for the entire city and runs a number of programs designed to connect citizens with the police force, including neighborhood crime watches and the crime stoppers program. The BPD has adopted a lot of modern technology in its attempts to make the city safer; citizens can call-in anonymous tips at 800-494-8477, text "TIP" to CRIME (27463), or check out their twitter feed: @Boston_Police.

The BPD website is the first resource to investigate if you want to know more about the safety of a particular neighborhood in the city. The comprehensive crime statistics and district maps will give you a good idea of which neighborhoods will be a better fit for you, safety-wise.

The BPD also maintains a news blog with information about events and issues of safety taking place in Boston:

www.bpdnews.com

Other Area Police Departments

Brookline Police

www.brooklinepolice.com

350 Washington Street

Brookline, MA 02445

617-730-2222 (non-emergency)

<http://blog.brooklinepolice.com>

Cambridge Police

www.cambridgema.gov/cpd

5 Western Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02139

617-349-3300 (non-emergency)



BOSTON UNIVERSITY POLICE

BU Safety Resources

Department of Public Safety

www.bumc.bu.edu/publicsafety

Control Center
750 Albany Street
Boston, MA 02118
617-414-4444

The BUMC Department of Public Safety is responsible for providing a safe and secure campus environment. Public Safety personnel are involved in continuous training programs that address all relevant aspects of policing and BUMC operations. The Department is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Service calls for security, facilities, and emergency response are dispatched from the Command Control Center located at 750 Albany Street. The Command Control Center can be reached at 617-414-4444.

Emergency call boxes located within and around the perimeter of the Medical Campus contain auto-dial phones connecting a caller directly to the Command and Control Center once the emergency button is pushed. Emergency call boxes are easily identifiable by the blue light located above the blue metal call box.

The security department provides vehicular and pedestrian escorts to the garages, lots and surrounding Medical Campus buildings during night and weekend hours upon request. You can request an Escort by calling the Command and Control Center.



BU Police Department

www.bu.edu/police

32 Harry Agganis Way
Boston, MA 02215
617-353-2110 (non-emergency)

BU maintains a police department that serves the safety and law enforcement needs of the University. Officers are deputized and fully authorized to make arrests. Students living on the Charles River campus should contact BUPD instead of 911 in case of an emergency taking place at home. The BUPD can respond faster to locations on campus, usually, than the BPD can. All of the blue light phones located on the Charles-River campus are wired directly to the BUPD. In case students are not near a blue light phone, the emergency line of BUPD is 617-353-2121. Emergency response time is usually under three minutes.

The BUPD also patrols the BUMC, and all of the BUPD programs are open to BU students, regardless of campus location. BUPD also runs a number of public-safety programs to help inform students about urban living, including laptop registration systems.

Additional Safety Resources

If you are interested in more information about safety in the different neighborhoods of Boston, the web can be a great resource to help you get what you need.

MBTA Police

www.transitpolice.us

The MBTA maintains a police force that serves the public transit system and maintains a safe environment for commuters and travelers. The website has a number of useful links, but the most informative is the Crime Statistics Map which reports the number of crimes on a station-by-station basis throughout the T system.

Citizen Observer

www.citizenobserver.com

Citizen Observer is a community alert resource designed to send out email notifications to citizens who have requested information about crimes in their neighborhood. If you want to be updated when safety issues come up in your neighborhood, you can register to get instant notification from the Boston and Cambridge Police Departments.

Universal Hub Crime Maps

www.universalhub.com/crime/home.html

Universal Hub is a general interest Boston website, and has a comprehensive section on Boston crime that features easy to understand maps of high-crime areas. You can also see a map of crimes within a particular neighborhood.