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| Congratulations! We are thrilled to welcome you to Boston University Graduate Medical Sciences. We know it was likely very hard to make the commitment to BU and GMS, but we are *very excited* that you will be joining us this fall. We are optimistically looking forward to a return to campus and our vibrant community. Boston’s South End, the neighborhood where BU’s Graduate Medical Sciences and School of Medicine are located, was developed and built in the mid-1800s to relieve overcrowding. Now, the South End is one of the most culturally diverse and vibrant neighborhoods in the city. GMS students enjoy trendy coffee spots and cafes ([Flour Bakery](https://flourbakery.com/) and [The South End Buttery](https://www.southendbuttery.com/) are favorites among our community), the unique hand-made goods available at [SoWa Open Market](https://www.sowaboston.com/sowa-open-market), and delicious food and drink at the many brunch spots, dive bars, and local restaurants.Being so close to downtown, GMS students have access to the incredible and historic restaurants, public spaces, shops, and museums that dot the city, plus the nearby beaches and harbor islands. Your GMS classes, which take place at 72 E. Concord St., are only a short distance from historic locales such as Fenway Park, Faneuil Hall, and the Boston Common, as well as plenty of mouth-watering restaurants. Check out this [South End neighborhood guide](https://www.bu.edu/articles/2019/getting-to-know-your-neighborhood-the-south-end/) and our [Living in Boston page](https://www.bumc.bu.edu/gms/about/living-in-boston/) for more information on how to best experience all that the city has to offer.We are conveniently located near the MBTA’s Silver Line and also have access to the BU Shuttle ([the BUS](http://www.bu.edu/thebus/)) which is free for all students. We have a number of active student groups on campus and our students are engaged beyond the classroom. Visit our [Student Life](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/gms/students/student-life/) page to learn more about our many student organizations, how we have fun and give back to the great BU and Boston community. BU students get free admission to the Museum of Fine Arts, the Institute of Contemporary Art, the Isabella Steward Gardner Museum, and more! The U Arts Initiative has compiled a list of all the [arts and culture related discounts](https://www.bu.edu/arts/in-boston/) you can receive as a student. If that is still not enough, the New England coast has plenty to offer in terms of surprising vistas and great eats. We hope you are excited to start your journey with us in Boston and look forward to your arrival. If you have any questions about life in Boston or would like to know more, just reach out to us at gmssa@bu.edu.  We hope you and your families and friends stay healthy and look forward to meeting you on campus.Best regards,Kimberly |
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