DSP
Directions for Student Potential

A SUMMER PROGRAM AT UMASS BOSTON
The Directions for Student Potential (DSP) Program is a free, six-week pre-admission summer program that prepares you for academic success at UMass Boston by helping you to improve your verbal and math skills. It is designed for motivated students who do not currently meet the admission requirements of UMass Boston but who demonstrate the potential to succeed at the college level.

Successful completion of the program guarantees you admission to most majors at UMass Boston this fall.

**Lisandra Torres**

Lisandra Torres is a senior at UMass Boston and began her academic career in the Directions for Student Potential Program. Lisandra hopes to become a medical doctor for the U.S. Army. She really enjoyed the supportive professors that she met and worked with during the six-week summer program.

“The skills I learned in the DSP Program have prepared me to be successful at UMass Boston and beyond,” she says. Lisandra has gone on to join UMass Boston’s Honors College. Since completing the DSP Program, she has enlisted in the U.S. Army and volunteers at Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

**WHAT DSP OFFERS**

- A curriculum that contributes to academic success
- The advantage of working closely with advisors and tutors
- Advising and registration for fall semester classes
- The chance to meet and work with UMass Boston faculty prior to the start of the semester
- Small class sizes and individualized attention
- The opportunity to make new friends and become part of the UMass Boston community

**HOW DSP WORKS**

- DSP is offered to first-year students applying for the fall semester.
- It begins mid-June and ends in July (June 14 to July 23).
- It’s free! And we’ll even waive the $200 New Student Deposit fee.*
- Courses meet Monday through Thursday, day or evening.
- Attendance is mandatory.

*DSP students may live in the residence halls beginning in the fall semester but must pay the $300 Housing Reservation Fee. On-campus housing is not available during the summer program. A $300 deposit is required to begin the process to secure a spot.

**Samprity Ankita**

Samprity Ankita is a senior at UMass Boston majoring in biology and plans to apply to graduate school after graduating to pursue a career in biomedical research. “The DSP Program helped set my expectations for college-level coursework and gave me the opportunity to explore campus and meet friends before the semester started,” she says.

Since graduating from the DSP Program, Samprity has become a teacher’s aide at the Cambridge Community Learning Center and assists non-native English speakers with basic English-language and computer skills. Last summer she participated in a research training program hosted by UMass Boston and the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center. As a current DSP Ambassador, she enjoys speaking to future DSP students about the program’s many opportunities.
THE DSP CURRICULUM

DSP courses provide a solid foundation for your future academic success at UMass Boston. They have been carefully designed to meet the needs of a highly diverse and talented group of students. Assessment exams are used to place you in DSP classes most appropriate to your level of academic development.

- **Verbal Skills Courses** provide you the opportunity to strengthen your reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.
- English as a Second Language courses and academic support are available for non-native English speakers.
- **Math Skills Courses** help you to build a firm foundation in mathematics concepts, analysis, and the discipline of learning math.

NEXT STEPS

Be sure you complete these steps to secure your place in the DSP Program:

1. Log into your myUMB portal at umb.edu/mymoment to complete these steps:
   - Confirm your participation in the DSP Program.
   - Submit your Housing Reservation Fee if you wish to live on campus.
2. Complete both the DSP assessment and the DSP orientation.
3. Attend the DSP summer program (June 14 to July 23).