

Roadmap for getting started:

Editors' Introduction to the Guide

Welcome to *The GRO-Hopkins Guide to Living in Baltimore*. The goal of this handbook is to help make your transition to Hopkins and Baltimore a little less overwhelming by offering advice and information on life at the Homewood and East Baltimore campuses, as well as in and around Baltimore.

We've tried to pack a lot of information into this little book. If you are a new graduate student checking out this book for the first time at the beginning of the school year, you may find the following sections useful immediately:

Chapter 1 Housing (p. XX), Banking (p. XX), Registration (p. XX), Health Insurance (p. XX), Parking, (p. XX), Safety and Security (p. XX).

Chapter 2 Housing (p. XX), Transportation/ Shuttles (p. XX), Banking (p. XX), Registration (p. XX), Health Insurance (p. XX), Parking, (p. XX), Safety and Security (p. XX), Identification (p. XX), Child care (p. XX).

Chapter 3 Moving related issues including neighborhood descriptions are the focus of this chapter.

Chapter 4 Transportation (p. XX), General/ Specialty Markets (p. XX), Furniture (p. XX), Kitchenware, (p. XX), Financial (p. XX).

The *Guide* is published every two years by the Graduate Representative Organization (See p. XX), and is designed and written by members of the graduate student community. Like the staffs of previous editions, we've done our best to make sure that the information contained in the *Guide* is as accurate and complete as possible. Nonetheless, change is inevitable; businesses open, close and relocate; policies, prices and services change. We are proud of how much information we provide in the *Guide*, but we've almost certainly overlooked some resources. And our own preferences and experiences color those selections we've included. We rely on the feedback of *Guide* readers to improve future editions. Please

send your suggestions and corrections to the GRO at gro@jhu.edu.

I would like to extend my thanks to our incredible staff for all of the hard work and creativity that went into the *Guide*. The famous restaurant chapter has received a significant touch up from the previous years, thanks to the amazing team in charge. We have also added an extended guide to buying houses written by a graduate student who graciously offered to share his experience with the rest of us. We believe many of you, especially those with families, will find this section incredibly useful. Thanks to the new look provided by our layout and design editor who despite leaving her program stayed committed to the *Guide*. Otherwise, everyone else has been very patient and presented great work. Thank you all.

In the name of the staff, I also wish to thank the amazing GRO E-boards, current and past for coming ever so promptly to our aid in times of crisis. Very special thanks to Chris Long and Ben Tilghman for their support and patience and for picking up Chapter 1 when nobody wanted to do it. We are greatly indebted to them. Thank you also to John Baber, our very own GROGuide nag, for reminding people of their deadlines and keeping them on track. Thanks as well to Lu Zhang for keeping track of our finances.

A Thank you is due to Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell for the funding and support that makes the *Guide* possible.

The *Guide* is revised biannually by members of the JHU graduate community. The *Guide* is now in its seventeenth edition. A final thanks to the staffs of previous editions for their contributions, many of which appear in this edition of the *Guide*.

We are certain that readers will enjoy both the print and online versions of the *Guide* as much as we enjoyed preparing them. Welcome to Baltimore!

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Check out the GRO website for new graduate students at