

MPS 2014 FAQs

HOUSING

- ***When will I know what dormitory my student will be in?***

As soon as we get confirmation from UMass Conference Services regarding our assigned dormitory, you will be sent both an email and a letter via snail mail.

- ***Are the dormitories air-conditioned?***

No. We recommend that you consider bringing a portable fan.

- ***How many students are in a dorm room and may I choose my roommate?***

There are 2 students to a dorm room. Students will be housed with other students at random to enhance the experience of meeting new friends and working with new people. If a specific roommate is desired, a request must be made by both roommates prior to July 20. NO EXCEPTIONS will be made after this date.

- ***What kind of dorm supervision takes place?***

Approximately 20 adult staff members will be staying in the dormitory with the students providing 24 hour supervision.

- ***Is there "free time" available to the students for recreational activities?***

No. This is an academic and educational workshop.

- ***Is there a Camp Nurse to administer my student's medications?***

No. We have a staff member who can store and administer student medications or students can do this themselves. Ultimately we leave this decision to the parent.

- ****Please Note***

We ***strongly urge*** all students to leave any valuables not pertaining to the Seminar at home. This includes computers, iPods, jewelry, cameras, Kindles/Nooks, etc.

The Mobile Percussion Seminar and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

MEALS

- ***Where are meals provided?***

All meals are provided for Seminar students at the Berkshire Dining Commons. The cost of meals is included in the Resident Student tuition. We recommend bringing some additional money for snacks and drinks from the vending machines if desired.

- ***What are my options if I am a Commuting Student?***

Students may bring their own “bagged” lunches and dinners , purchase individual meals at the dinning hall (\$8.00-\$13.00 per meal), leave campus with their parents for meals, etc. Please inform our staff if you plan on leaving campus for meal breaks.

- ***Does the Dining Commons cater to students with dietary restrictions?***

Yes. Serving over 20,000 students on campus each year, the Dining Commons offer a variety of foods for those with various dietary restrictions and allergies. Please visit <http://www.umassdining.com/nutrition> for more information.

Daily Schedule

What is the basic schedule of the camp?

Morning Session

- physical warm up/stretching
- marching basics (battery percussion only)
- percussion warm up (exercises)
- large ensemble

Afternoon Session

- break up into smaller, more individual attention groups
- music reading fundamentals
- Section Leader “Leadership Sessions” (for those who enroll in Section Leader Track)

Evening Session

- music review with full ensemble (Marching Percussion, Mallets, and Drum Set students)

EQUIPMENT

Are drums and harnesses provided for Marching Percussion students?

All Students who play snare, tenors, bass, and cymbals should make every effort to bring their own instruments and harnesses. Cases for drums are optional and we encourage labeling drum cases with the student's name if bringing one.

Students enrolled in the Mallet Percussion Track will be provided with instruments.

Students enrolled in the Drum Set Program should bring their own sticks, hi-hat, hi-hat stand, ride cymbal and stand, and drum seat.

What if I do not have access to my school's instruments and cannot bring a drum and harness?

If a student is unable to bring a drum and harness, the Seminar has a limited number of snares, tenors, and bass drums for loan. Requests to borrow equipment must be made in advance by either phone or email.

All equipment borrowed from the Seminar will be of "College/Drum Corps" weight. This means that the drum will mostly likely be heavier than what most high school students are accustomed to. We will provide a drum stand for all Seminar drums that are borrowed and encourage students to use them.

Have a question that wasn't answered here?

Please send us an email at office@percussion.org.