



URGE Resource Map for MIT-WHOI Joint Program

Prepared by the WHOI MC&G URGE Pod 1

This is a draft Resource Map for Pod 1 at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. This was adapted from the "Sample Ph.D. Mentoring Plan" developed by Vashan Wright (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) and Karin Block (City College of New York and CUNY Graduate Center), License: [CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](#). Some of these will be resources common to all and some will be questions for identifying specific resources based on needs/interests identified during initial meetings while implementing the mentoring plan. The intent of this resource map is (1) to prove current and up-to-date information on resources specific to BIPOC JP students and (2) to formalize advice and "word-of-mouth" tips that may be shared in spaces not accessible to BIPOC students.

- **Core Work Resources**

- There is a [WHOI corporate credit card](#) that JP students can apply for through WHOI that may be used for expenses such as travel and lab supplies so that a grant can be charged for the costs rather than the student holding the charge on their personal credit or debit card.
- The [MIT Student Assistance Fund](#) can be used for conferences, computer equipment, and lab equipment funding.
- The [WHOI Academic Programs Office](#) will reimburse up to \$750 for conference travels for each calendar year
- The [MIT Graduate Student Short-Term Emergency Fund](#) can be used for student experiencing "one-time, non-recurring financial emergencies, including unexpected and unavoidable expenses, when they have exhausted all other resources". Students that have used this resource say that it was very straightforward to apply to and immensely helpful. Although they say for "non-recurring financial emergencies" students have gotten funding from this source twice.
- Any JP students in PAOC have access to the [Houghton fund](#), \$2000 to be used during the first three years. Can be used to purchase textbooks, technology, etc.
- Can get safety gear (googles, steel-toed boots, hard hats) at no charge from the [WHOI stockroom](#). The website can be difficult to navigate, so it's recommended to go to the stockroom in person or call, all you will need is your WHOI employee number. To purchase other equipment from the stockroom you will also need a grant number.

- WHOI IT HelpDesk will help you with any computer/wifi problems. They will help you with installations, malfunctions, connectivity problems, printing, etc. Very helpful for setting up a new laptop. They can also pick out a laptop for you if you don't want to research it or feel overwhelmed by all the options.
 - Phone: (508) 289-2439
 - Email: helpdesk@whoi.edu
 - In-person: Basement of Clark, down main Clark stairs
 - You can also submit a request in their online system, but either need to be on the WHOI network locally or through a VPN
 - Can ask advisor for computer
- **Community Support and Mental Health Resources**
 - WHOI JP Slack - Can contact the [JP Reps](#) to join
 - Affinity groups at MIT
 - One way students have found identity related groups at MIT was through the club fair
 - Affinity groups at WHOI
 - Gay Lesbian and Others in Woods Hole ([GLOW](#))
 - AAPI Slack channel - contact Adam Subhas
 - Accessibility Slack channel - contact Amy Bower or Adam Subhas
 - [MIT Medical Mental Health & Counseling](#) resources - when you call to make your first appointment they ask if you would prefer to talk to someone who is male or female, so you may be able to request a BIPOC counselor.
 - On the MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan, 52 off-campus mental health visits with no out-of-pocket cost are allowed.
 - The Academic Programs Office used to subsidize a membership to Anytime Fitness on Main Street in Falmouth, but this gym location has closed. The students haven't been notified of another gym membership that will be subsidized.
 - [241 Fitness](#), located in the Falmouth Sports Center, has a variety of exercise classes available. The age range of the students in class ranges from grad students to people in their 60s, so all ability levels are welcome. It's a very fun and non-competitive environment.
 - **Housing/Moving Resources**
 - There is no graduate housing in Woods Hole that can be used as a primary residence (see point below on housing at Oyster Pond) and finding housing in Woods Hole/Falmouth can be challenging, especially during the tourist season (Memorial Day - Labor Day). The [WHOI Community Housing List](#) is a useful tool for searching for housing, but note that the posting party is not necessarily affiliated with WHOI. Craigslist can also be used to find housing, but scams are prevalent and it should be used with caution.

- The Oyster Pond units are available to students during their first summer, and in following years as transient housing - you are required to show a lease for housing in Cambridge.
 - Resources to find graduate student roommates and apartments in and around Cambridge include the [MIT off-campus housing website](#) and the Facebook group “Harvard MIT Housing”.
 - If you are living in MIT graduate housing and need to break your lease to move down to Woods Hole, this falls under the approved termination category. There are restrictions on what months you can end the lease, but as long as you abide by this you should not have to pay any fees to end the lease early. You will need to submit a termination form and will need a letter from APO stating that you are a graduate student in the MIT-WHOI Joint Program and that you are required to move to Woods Hole in order to conduct your PhD research.
 - Buy nothing Facebook groups (e.g. Buy Nothing Falmouth, Buy Nothing Cambridge, Buy Nothing Somerville) are great resources for getting various items for free. The goal of these pages are to reduce waste and build community, so the people are usually very kind and helpful!
 - Use your status as an MIT/WHOI graduate student when inquiring about housing! There are a lot of renters in Woods Hole that prefer to rent to JP students, so consider emailing from your whoi.edu address.
- **Accessibility/Transportation Resources**
 - WHOI provides transportation between Cambridge and Woods Hole via the JP bus twice a week during the MIT semester, or reimbursement of the public Peter Pan bus between South Station and Woods Hole.
 - WHOI provides transportation via the WHOI shuttle between Woods Hole Village, Quissett Campus, Shipping & Receiving, and Oyster Pond
 - There are public transportation options in Woods Hole/Falmouth ([Sealine](#), [WHOOSH Trolley](#)), however, the routes are limited and may change depending on the season, and passes must be purchased.
 - There are students who do not own cars, but many students find that having a car is almost a necessity. There are various dealerships in the area, but often there are scientists (JP students, postdocs, etc.) moving away that are selling their car. These ads usually come in the form of emails.