

## HAVING A CAR IN BOSTON

There are many wonderful aspects of life here in Boston; unfortunately, owning and driving a car is not one of them. Especially within Boston city limits, off-street parking is usually an expensive proposition, while on-street parking is often difficult to find consistently. If you do not have a specific need for a car in your first year (such as a commute requiring one), we strongly recommend that you leave it at home.

Some things to keep in mind as you consider whether to bring your car to school:

- Within 30 days of moving to Massachusetts, you must either:
  1. Register your car with the police department of the city you live in and with Tufts University Police here on the Boston campus. The relevant form for the city is located at: [www.mass.gov/rmv/forms/20098.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/rmv/forms/20098.pdf). There is no fee for this registration, but failure to comply with this requirement could result in a \$200 fine.
  2. Register your car with the state of Massachusetts as a Massachusetts resident at the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Failure to comply with this state law may result in a fine. To register a car in Massachusetts, you must first obtain an insurance policy through a licensed Massachusetts insurance agent. Insurance rates are set by the state but vary according to where you live, what kind of car you have, and your driving history; these rates tend to be quite expensive within Boston city limits. There is a Registration Conversion fee of \$36 plus a title fee of \$50, plus a license conversion fee of \$90. If you never paid a sales tax on your car in your home state (NH residents, for example), you will be required to pay a 5% tax on the sale price of your car. For more information on registering your car, check the RMV website at [www.mass.gov/rmv/](http://www.mass.gov/rmv/).
- If you live in a Boston neighborhood that requires an on-street resident parking permit, you must follow one of the above procedures before you can qualify for a permit. Resident parking permits are obtained at Boston City Hall and are free of charge. For more information about resident parking permits, please visit the city of Boston website: [www.cityofboston.gov/transportation/parkprogr.asp](http://www.cityofboston.gov/transportation/parkprogr.asp).
- Posner Hall residents will NOT qualify for a Chinatown resident permit. You would have to store your car at a private garage, which in the vicinity of campus will cost upwards of \$250 per month. We strongly discourage students intending to live in Posner from bringing a car.
- Students who commute by car may park at the Tufts Medical Center Herald St. garage (located ¼ mile from campus, open Monday-Friday 5am to 2am) for a fee of \$4.50 per day. Spaces are available on a first come first served basis. You must bring your student ID and car registration to the Tufts Medical Center parking garage in order to be issued a decal. The Parking Office is open Monday through Thursday from 7am to 6pm, and Friday from 7am to 4pm. It is located on the first floor of the Tufts Medical Center Parking Garage at 274 Tremont Street. For more information, contact the Parking Office at (617) 636-5580.