

## **Money & Banking**

There are several banks in the area where students can set up a savings or checking account. You will need to bring your passport with you in order to do so. Many Wheaton Students use North Easton Savings Bank since it is within walking distance of campus and located at 25 West Main Street, Norton, MA 02766. The phone number is 508-285-9833. They require a minimum deposit of \$10 US to open a checking account. However, if you are planning on traveling a lot and having your parents send you money through the account you open here in the U.S. it is better to use Bank of America, since it is everywhere across the country and money can be directly deposited. The closest one to be found is in Mansfield right across the train station and the closest ATM is at Roche Bros Gatra Stop (first stop from Wheaton).

You may find that these banks set up informational booths on-campus during Orientation Week.

ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) are widespread in the US. There is one located in Balfour-Hood Student Center, which allows students the convenience of not having to leave campus to withdraw funds. Do note that each transaction at an ATM charges you around \$1.50 - \$3.00 (subject to change). You can also use ATM cards in most locations in and around Norton for purchasing items. The most widely used and accepted cards in the US are Visa and MasterCard.

## **Telephone & Internet Usage**

All Wheaton students are provided with telephone & Internet access in their dorm rooms. Long distance and International calls can be very expensive so we highly recommend purchasing a calling card at one of the local convenience stores or online.

Cell phones are widespread among the student population at Wheaton, but if you decide to purchase a cell phone you should be very careful about determining whether or not you want to sign a contract (you are often given a large discount on the phone purchase when you sign up for a 2-year agreement) because if you plan on going home each summer you will still need to pay for the monthly service fees. Pay-as-you-go cell phones are also available in stores, however these phones typically cost much more per minute than do monthly cell phone plans.

There is a Radio Shack Store not far from Wheaton College (located at 175 Mansfield Avenue, Norton, MA 02766 and easily accessible via the GATRA shuttle bus). You can investigate multiple cell phone carriers here. There are Verizon Wireless, AT&T and T-Mobile stores in Mansfield Crossing. AT&T has very good service in this area and one of the cheapest plans (\$45/month with unlimited calls, texts and data - however these change every now and then so make sure to ask about all the options once you go to the store). There are also Verizon Wireless stores at both the Emerald Square Mall and the Providence Place Mall. Be sure to ask if there are any back-to-school or student discounts!