



AMDA

2016

**NEW YORK CITY**

**Welcome and Orientation Guide**

**ALL ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES ARE  
MANDATORY FOR ALL STUDENTS**



## GOOD TO KNOW

Your housing assignment will follow in a separate mailing and will include:

- 1 The type of room you have been assigned to
- 2 The name of your roommate (if applicable)
- 3 AMDA Housing License
- 4 AMDA NY Residence Hall Flyer



## WHAT TO BRING?

We recommend bringing the following items:

- ☐ **LINENS:** Standard twin-size bedding, pillows and towels
- ☐ **TOILETRIES**
- ☐ **ALARM CLOCKS:** 1 electric, 1 battery-operated
- ☐ **HANGERS**
- ☐ **EXTENSION CORDS and POWER STRIPS**

Additional items, such as kitchen supplies, should be purchased after you've seen your room. Remember that space is limited. It is best that you pack lightly and acquire additional items as needed after your arrival. Basic furniture is provided in student housing; you do not need to bring any with you.



## INFORMATION

Please refer to the following sources for more information regarding AMDA policies and student life.

### HOUSING LICENSE

Complete policies for those residing in AMDA housing, including those regarding guests, roommates, keys, security, maintenance, and conduct.

### AMDA CATALOG

The Catalog is the primary source of information on academic life at AMDA: academic policies, financial aid and student accounts, program information, and course descriptions.

### 2016 STUDENT HANDBOOK

The essential guide for student life at AMDA, the handbook contains information on living in the city, transportation, AMDA departments and resources, and our Code of Conduct.

**You will either receive copies of these publications or can download them from [amda.edu](http://amda.edu).**

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# WELCOME TO AMDA

**We are eagerly awaiting your arrival on campus!**

This will serve as your orientation guide for the weekend as well as a guide to the city and upcoming events.

During orientation you will move-in, register, participate in placements, be introduced to AMDA's campus and student life, and take your first steps as a New Yorker on the Upper West Side. We encourage you to bring this guide with you during orientation and to share this information with your parent, guardian or support team. If you have questions regarding orientation or any information contained in this guide, do not hesitate to contact your Admissions Advisor.

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**For additional orientation schedule information, visit:**  
[amda.edu/orientation](http://amda.edu/orientation)

# FINANCIAL AID

As you get ready to start classes, there are a few items that must be completed in order to ensure that your Federal Stafford and PLUS Loans are processed successfully. AMDA will not be able to process your Stafford loan funds until you submit your Stafford Master Promissory Note (MPN), and Stafford Entrance Counseling. These are required federal documents that must be submitted prior to disbursement. For Federal PLUS Loans, parent borrowers must also complete a PLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN) online. Please submit these documents immediately so we can process these funds and post them to your account once you start classes. If these documents are not received prior to the start of classes, your loans will be canceled and you will be billed for these full loan amounts. In order to complete the Stafford and/or PLUS Master Promissory Note and Stafford Entrance Counseling, you will need to have your US Department of Education federal login information, which you used to sign your FAFSA. Once you have your federal login information, please follow the below link to complete these forms: [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov).



# MOVE-IN AND HOUSING



## THE AMSTERDAM RESIDENCE

207 West 85th Street, New York, NY, 10024



## THE STRATFORD ARMS RESIDENCE

117 West 70th Street, New York, NY, 10023

Your Housing Assignment contains information about your assigned residence hall and where to check-in. This will be sent to you prior to your arrival. If you are not living in AMDA housing, you should report to the 61st Street campus for registration.

Please make travel plans according to your move-in date. A list of hotels is included in this mailing for those arriving in New York prior to move-in. If you have a conflict with your move-in time, contact your Admissions Advisor.

Please be sure to contact your roommate prior to move-in to introduce yourself and coordinate anything you might need to bring for your new home.

Each student will receive their room number and keys at housing check-in.

## Mailing Items to AMDA Before Arrival

Students who will be living in AMDA student housing may wish to mail some of their belongings to New York in advance. Personal items should arrive no sooner than the Monday before move-in. Remember that space is limited and it is important to pack lightly. This applies to the things you bring with you on move-in day as well as anything you wish to send in advance. Please see your Housing Assignment for specific mailing instructions.



During orientation AMDA conducts a Housing Seminar for students to address questions regarding housing regulations, rules, or any other concerns. Attendance by all students is mandatory, regardless of campus housing participation.



# ORIENTATION

The AMDA Student Affairs Office organizes several orientation activities designed to help new first year and transfer students become acquainted with AMDA, program coordinators, mentors, advisors and classmates. Because the orientation program is key to successful transition to AMDA, **participation is required.**



## Welcome Table

You will receive your orientation packet and weekend schedule, a welcome bag, and your group assignment.

## Admissions

This will be your last chance to turn in any missing documents. Admissions will have copies of forms. In order to expedite the registration process, please be sure that you have mailed in all documents before you arrive.

## Financial Aid

Please make sure to complete your Stafford Entrance Counseling and Stafford MPN (Master Promissory Note) at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) prior to Orientation. Financial Aid counselors will be available for any questions.

## Student Accounts

Please be sure that your payments are current; that you have verified your billing address; and that Student Accounts is up-to-date on stipend and refund contacts before your arrival. If you have not done this prior to your arrival, you will need to check in with Student Accounts. A Student Accounts representative will be available to answer questions.

## Health Services

Student Affairs will discuss your pre-existing health concerns and options for local health care providers. You

can also discuss any questions you have about the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

## Temporary Student Store

A temporary student store is set up during Orientation so that students may be photographed for their Student Identification Cards and may purchase textbooks, dancewear, and school merchandise. Please note that you will need your textbooks for the first day of class. Cash and all major credit cards will be accepted for purchases.

## International Students

International student check-in is a chance for AMDA's International Student Advisors to meet with international students individually prior to the start of classes.

**NOTE: You will need to bring your I-20, passport and visa with you to the international student check-in.**

The International Student Registration table will retrieve and print your I-94 number. If you would like to retrieve your I-94 number before registration, you may do so at <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/request.html>. Your number will be available 24 hours after your arrival in the United States.

## AMDA Craft Services

Take advantage of pre-paid card options offering 10% off campus dining at 61st Street!



## FOR THE PARENTS: AMDA ADMINISTRATION Q&A

Parents, family and guests are invited to a Q&A reviewing what to expect and introducing some important members of the AMDA Administration. An informal reception follows. ***This session is not mandatory.***

# PLACEMENTS

During orientation all new students will present Placements. A meeting detailing information about Placements will take place following registration. Placements are a private demonstration by each incoming student for a panel of select faculty and administration, which take place throughout orientation. These placements are not auditions but rather demonstrations of your work that allow us to form class sections which will foster your success in the classroom. The following information will give you details about what you need to prepare.

## STUDIO STUDENTS

**MONOLOGUE PLACEMENT:** You will be required to present two memorized monologues of contrasting styles. Each monologue should be one minute in length and should be from a published play. You are encouraged to present the same pieces from your audition for admission, although the monologues must be shortened to one minute each for placement. It may be helpful to bring a copy of each monologue.

## INTEGRATED STUDENTS

**VOICE PLACEMENT:** You will be required to sing either a memorized 16 bar or one-minute song selection from the musical theatre or classical repertoire. You are encouraged to present the same song you performed for your admissions audition, although the song must be shortened to the required length. Please remember to bring sheet music in your key and in a 3-ring binder. A professional accompanist will be provided.

**MONOLOGUE PLACEMENT:** You will be required to present a memorized one-minute monologue immediately following your voice demo. You are encouraged to present the same monologue you performed for your admissions audition, although the monologue must be shortened to one minute. Monologues should be from a published play. It may be helpful to bring a copy of your monologue.

**Musicianship Placement:** You will be required to take a sight-singing/musicianship test during the Placement Preparation Meeting. This test will assist us in placing each student in the appropriate level of Musicianship 1. All students are required to take Musicianship 1 regardless of level.

**Dance Placement:** You will be asked to demonstrate basic steps and techniques in a series of combinations that are suited for your level and experience. You will be placed in appropriate dance levels in each dance



discipline. No preparation is necessary. AMDA offers beginner, intermediate and advanced classes in all dance disciplines. Appropriate clothing and shoes are required. Please see the Dance Attire page for details.

## DANCE THEATRE STUDENTS

**DANCE PLACEMENT:** You will be asked to do a ballet barre and a variety of dance combinations. Please be prepared, as you will be asked to perform a 90-second solo piece in the discipline of your choice. You are encouraged to present the solo piece from your admissions audition. Please provide a CD or MP3 of your solo music.

*Placements for Monologues and Voice are run by a stage manager. The stage manager will tell you where to go and what to do. When it is time, the stage manager will bring you backstage. You will walk onto the stage, announce your name, announce your pieces, and then you will present your pieces. Once you finish, you will say, "Thank you," exit the stage and go back to your waiting area. Further instructions will be given at the Placement Preparation Meeting.*



# APPROPRIATE ATTIRE FOR PLACEMENTS

Because the AMDA experience reflects a professional environment, students must maintain a neutral appearance for placements and all class sessions. Students must prepare for Placements with the same preparation required for a professional audition or rehearsal, both in terms of work preparation and personal appearance. Remember that you are presenting yourself for the first time as a student to the members of the AMDA faculty and administration.

## GENERAL APPEARANCE

Clothing should be age-appropriate and professional. Long hair should be worn up or pulled away from your face. No excessive body ornamentation is permitted. All jewelry, including body piercings, must be removed. Hair coloring of an extreme nature is not appropriate.

## APPROPRIATE ATTIRE FOR WOMEN

### Monologue and Voice Placements

Women are expected to wear dress pants, skirts or dresses of at least knee length. Long or short-sleeved blouses may be worn. Character shoes with a 2-inch heel and either a single strap or a T-strap that buckles over the instep are recommended. Flat shoes or traditional heels are an acceptable substitute. Blue jeans, sweatpants, T-shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, flip-flops, mules, open-toe or open-heel shoes and sneakers are not acceptable attire.

## APPROPRIATE ATTIRE FOR MEN

### Monologue and Voice Placements

Men are expected to wear long-sleeved dress shirts, slacks and dress shoes. Ties and jackets are optional. Blue jeans, sweatpants, T-shirts, flip-flops and sneakers are not acceptable attire.

## DANCE ATTIRE

Please see the dance attire section in this guidebook for appropriate dance placement attire. Dance Theatre students should wear the appropriate clothing and footwear for their solo piece. Appropriate ballet attire as listed in the dance attire section should be worn for the barre and combination demonstration.



# REQUIRED SUPPLIES

You are required to have specific items for your first day of classes, including textbooks, dancewear, dance shoes, and basic classroom supplies.

Please budget accordingly for these materials. You may already own some materials, such as dancewear, so be sure to bring them with you to school. Other materials will be requested per specific class/instructor throughout the term.

## REQUIRED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

- spiral notebook
- 1.5" 3-ring binder
- recording device (a cell phone may be used at the discretion of the instructor)
- pens and pencils
- highlighters
- small hand mirror (for Voice Production and Speech class)

## RECOMMENDED SUPPLIES

- daily planner (can be electronic)
- rolling carry-on suitcase or duffle bag (to carry dancewear and/or props)
- locker rental (available at the 61st St. location via the Student Store; \$15 per semester, free for commuter students)



## Sheet Music and Play Scripts

Throughout the semester, you will be required to purchase play scripts and/or sheet music. The AMDA Performing Arts Library has a wide selection of sheet music, play scripts, and various additional collections available for purchase or in-house reading. Copies of sheet music for classroom or personal use cost \$1 for up to three copies per song. (Sheet music sells for an average of \$5 per copy at other locations). A student copy machine is also located across the hall from the Library and costs 5¢ per copy. Play scripts are available for purchase from The Drama Bookshop, Inc. ([dramabookshop.com](http://dramabookshop.com)) for about \$10 per play.

## Costumes and Props

For scene and musical theatre work, you will need to bring or purchase costume and prop materials. Materials will vary depending on the scene or song chosen. These are suggested standard costume guidelines:

**Women:** An elegant dress outfit such as a skirt and top or dress, and high-heeled shoes.

**Men:** Sport coat or blazer, dress slacks, and black hard-soled shoes such as loafers or dress shoes.

# TEXTBOOKS

You will need to have the required textbooks before the first day of classes. You are able to purchase all books at the AMDA Student Store during Orientation Week. Additionally, most are available for purchase via Amazon and other major booksellers.

Students are only required to purchase the books listed for your program under the "Program(s)" column. There are six required textbooks for Integrated students, three for Studio students, and one recommended (but not required) for Dance Theatre students. All students may need to purchase additional textbooks in their 2nd and 3rd semesters.

TITLE	AUTHOR(S)	AMDA PRICE	ISBN NUMBER	PROGRAM(S)
<b>Broadway: The American Musical</b>	Laurence Maslon & Michael Kantor	\$35.00	978-1-42349-103-3	Integrated
<b>The Real Little Ultimate Broadway Fakebook: 5th Ed.</b>	Hal Leonard	\$35.00	978-0-7935-8246-4	Integrated
<b>Pocket Music Dictionary</b>	Hal Leonard	\$8.00	978-0-7935-1654-4	Integrated
<b>The AMDA Musicianship, Sight Singing, and Theory Workbook: 9th Ed.</b>	Peter M. Susser, DMA	\$15.00	Available on-campus only.	Integrated
<b>Speak With Distinction</b>	Edith Skinner	\$25.00	978-1-55783-047-0	Integrated, Studio
<b>A Pronouncing Dictionary of American English</b>	John S. Kenyon & Thomas A. Knott	\$18.00	978-0-87779-047-1	Integrated, Studio
<b>The Compact Bedford Introduction to Drama: 7th Ed.</b>	Lee A. Jacobus	\$75.00	978-1-4576-0633-5	Studio
<b>Technical Manual and Dictionary of Classical Ballet, 3rd Revised Ed.</b>	Gail Grant	\$5.95	0-486-21843-0	Recommended for Dance Theatre Conservatory
<b>ACTIONS The Actors Thesaurus</b>	Marina Caldarone & Maggie Lloud-Williams	\$16.00	978-0-7935-1654-4	Recommended for all students
<b>Appreciating Dance</b>	Harriet Lihs	\$25.00	978-0871273185	Dance Theatre Conservatory

**AMDA  
ONLINE STORE**  
[amda.edu/store](http://amda.edu/store)

The AMDA Online Store provides you with most things necessary to be successful at AMDA. Whether you need a memorable gift or something for yourself, the AMDA Online Store will provide you with a diversified collection of apparel and a variety of dance wear. The AMDA Online Store also offers all of the textbooks required your classes.



# REQUIRED DANCE ATTIRE

All students are required to have the appropriate dance attire. Below you will find the attire items required for each program for women and men. Colored tops or bottoms may be permitted in class, but only at the teacher's discretion. On the first day of class, be sure to follow the guidelines on the "Day One" sheet and your teacher will announce in class if he or she will permit you to wear other colors or items. You may already own some of the items listed, so be sure to bring them with you.



MEN	
REQUIRED ITEM WITH DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM(S)
<b>Black or White Fitted Tank Top or T-Shirt*</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Full-length Jazz Pants or Similar Form-Fitting Pants*</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Character Shoes</b> Rubber must be added to the bottom sole, which can be done at any shoe repair shop.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Jazz Oxfords, either lace-up or slip-on</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Tap Shoes</b> Tap shoes should have regular solid taps with no jingle.	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Ballet Slippers</b>	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Full-Length Dance Theatre Tights*</b> Must be worn inside shoe or slipper. Must be men's tights, which are thicker than women's tights. An elastic waistband with suspenders is recommended to keep tights in place.	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Dance Belt</b> This is not a belt, but a supportive undergarment required for men in dance attire.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre

\*Available for purchase at the AMDA Student Store.



## WOMEN

REQUIRED ITEM WITH DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM(S)
<b>Black Leotard*</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black Rehearsal or Character Skirt*</b> Skirt should be knee-length and circular, 24" in length is recommended.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black or Tan Character Shoes</b> Character shoes should have either a single strap or T-strap that buckles over the instep. Heels must be a minimum of two inches. Rubber must be added to the bottom sole, which can be done at any shoe repair shop. Bracing heels for additional support is recommended.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black or Tan Tap Shoes</b> Tap shoes should have regular solid taps with no jingle and have either a single strap or T-strap that buckles over the instep. Heels should be between two inches and two and a half inches.	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black or Tan Jazz Oxfords, either lace-up or slip-on</b>	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Black, Tan or Pink Ballet Slippers</b>	Integrated, Dance Theatre
<b>Black, Pink, or Tan Convertible/Transition Tights</b> Transition opening allows the tight to be worn as a full foot or footless and must be the same color of the shoes or slippers you are wearing in class.	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Proper Bra or Supportive Undergarment</b> Multiple straps should not be visible	Integrated, Studio, Dance Theatre
<b>Pointe Shoes</b>	Dance Theatre; recommended only if you already have Pointe shoes.

\*Available for purchase at the AMDA Student Store.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Q Where is AMDA New York located?**

The main AMDA facility is located at 211 West 61st St. between Amsterdam and West End avenues. The 61st Street location houses classrooms, performance spaces, Administrative offices, the AMDA Performing Arts Library and the AMDA School Store. Additionally, we have performance spaces and classrooms at the historic beaux arts Ansonia building located at 73rd and Broadway. The New York City campus is located on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, one of the most favored and safest neighborhoods in the city. Students have easy access to Central Park, the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Lincoln Center, the New York City Ballet, the Metropolitan Opera and the Broadway Theatre District.

## **Q Do I have to move out of my assigned room at the end of each semester?**

Not necessarily. Students living in AMDA housing will be required to sign a Housing License every semester. Students may elect to stay in their rooms between breaks, but occasionally, the housing department may need to move students to an alternate room.

## **Q Are Orientation Weekend events required?**

Yes. All orientation events are mandatory for incoming students (first semester, NY Experience and LA Transfers). The agenda has been carefully planned to orient our new students to AMDA and their new home of Manhattan. If you have any conflicts, contact your admissions advisor.

## **Q When will I receive my class schedule?**

Class schedules will be distributed to every student at the conclusion of Orientation Weekend. Typically, class schedules are given out on the Sunday before classes begin on Monday. Schedules will also be available via the Student Portal. Access to the portal and AMDA email will be given upon arrival.

## **Q How do I open a bank account in New York City?**

A representative from an area bank will be available at registration to discuss personal banking options. If you

decide to set up a checking or savings account, you will have an opportunity to arrange for this service during check-in. In New York, you must be at least 18 years old and have two valid forms of ID to have a personal bank account. Students under the age of 18 should consider using an account (with an ATM/Debit card) in their hometown until they are able to set up an account in New York City.

## **Q What if I am interested in pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree after AMDA NY?**

Students interested in a BFA degree in Acting, Musical Theatre, Dance Theatre or Performing Arts have the option of continuing their education at the Los Angeles campus upon completion of the Two-Year Conservatory Program in New York. Students may complete an AMDA Alumni Letter of Intent which can be found online at [www.amda.edu](http://www.amda.edu). Any college work completed prior to AMDA should be submitted to the Los Angeles campus for transfer credit evaluation. AMDA graduates are awarded 60 of the required 120 credits for completion of the Two-Year Conservatory Program. At this time, all BFA degrees are conferred through the Los Angeles campus.

## **Q When can my non-AMDA friends and family see me perform?**

All students will have a showcase in their 4th semester. This is the time for any outside guest to see you perform. The only other opportunity for others to see you perform would be if you were involved in Dance Workshop or the Café Series, which are auditioned-based extracurricular courses that rehearse outside of the regular class schedule. Other extracurricular opportunities are available in other disciplines, but do not necessarily have a performance component. A full list of what is available every term will be emailed to students at the beginning of the term. All extracurricular courses are free of charge.

## **Q How am I notified about upcoming events and important dates?**

Upon your arrival, you will be issued an IT packet where you will be given information regarding AMDA email and Student Portal instructions. A weekly email from



the Education Services Department will be sent to all students outlining upcoming events, important deadlines and special offers. It is important to check your Student Portal daily for class cancelation notifications and make-up classes.

**Q What information does my parents have access to when I become a student?**

FERPA is an acronym for the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (also referred to as the Buckley Amendment) and is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of student education records. When a student reaches the age of 18 or begins attending a post-secondary institution, FERPA rights are transferred from the parent to the student. Parents may obtain and discuss their student's grades, attendance, and financial information with a signed consent from the student.

**Q How do I maintain my AMDA Scholarship for my second year?**

You must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA, from one academic year to the next, to sustain any merit-based, institutional scholarship. Additionally, you must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA in order to maintain any Federal Financial Aid funds. Merit-based, institutional scholarships are transferable to the BFA program, as long as you begin the BFA program within one year of completing the Conservatory program.

## HEALTHCARE SERVICES

**Health insurance is recommended for all students. Medical diagnosis and treatment must be found outside of AMDA; we do not provide onsite health care.**

Most health plans will allow dependent children to continue coverage until age 25, sometimes longer. Dependent coverage may be more affordable than participating in a plan as a primary member. We recommend selecting a doctor in your network prior to the start of school. Most medical needs are time-sensitive and class attendance is of paramount importance.

***Suggested area resources for physical and mental health needs of students without health insurance:***

## HEALTHCARE LOCATIONS

**Urgent Care Manhattan**

199 Amsterdam Ave  
New York, NY 10023  
212.721.4200

[urgentcarenhattan.com](http://urgentcarenhattan.com)

**NY Counseling Center**

160 West End Avenue,  
Suite 1N, New York City  
212.362-1086

[www.nycgs.com](http://www.nycgs.com)

**Urgent Care Manhattan** is located a few blocks from AMDA's Stratford Arms and Ansonia buildings. AMDA has a relationship with their primary doctors. This facility – open 7 days a week – is ideal for common illnesses, injuries and minor emergencies. It is fully equipped with x-ray machines and other equipment necessary for immediate evaluation. Services are affordable without insurance but they also accept most major providers.

**AMDA NY Mental Health Counselor**

AMDA NY offers mental health counseling to help meet the emotional and psychological needs of our students. Our goal is to create a campus environment that facilitates the health and wellbeing of all of our students while advancing our academic and performance mission. Our counselor can also provide referrals to community resources as needed.

AMDA also has a relationship with the **NY Counseling Center**, which charges those without insurance on a sliding scale.

**The Ryan Center** is another great medical resource for those without insurance. This is a community clinic so waits tend to be long, but this is an affordable alternative for those with non-emergency needs. Ryan Center has multiple locations; for info, see [ryancenter.org](http://ryancenter.org).

For emergencies requiring more than a primary care physician or an urgent care center, **Mt. Sinai Roosevelt Hospital** is located two blocks from our main campus at 58th Street and Amsterdam Ave.

Please speak with Student Affairs during Orientation for additional resources for preexisting medical, mental health, and specialist needs or concerns.

# GETTING TO AMDA

## FROM REGIONAL AIRPORTS AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

### From LaGuardia and JFK Airports

**TAXI OR YELLOW CAB:** A cab should cost approximately \$45-\$60 plus tip and tolls to get to AMDA. All cabs originating from JFK to Manhattan have a set flat rate of \$52 plus tolls and tip. Cabs originating from LaGuardia will run on the meter and should cost approximately \$45. Depending on the best available route your driver might have to go over a toll bridge or through a tunnel, which should cost approximately an additional \$8.00-\$13.00. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare. Cabs should only be picked up at designated cabstands. *Do not accept a ride from a driver who solicits you outside of a cabstand or is not a NYC Yellow cab driver.*

**PRIVATE CAR COMPANY OR LIMO SERVICE:** There are many private companies through which you can arrange a curbside or baggage claim area pickup. It is advisable to ask for a rate in advance when scheduling the pick-up. Two companies you might contact are High Bridge at 212.927.4600 or Dial-7 Car Service at 212.777.7777. Many others are available and can be found online.

**SHARED BUS OR VAN:** These services must be arranged in advance. They pick up from the baggage claim area and deliver to major hotels and tourist sites in Manhattan. These services start at approximately \$25 one way.

**SUBWAY OR PUBLIC BUS:** Cost and instructions of use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](http://mta.info).

**FROM LAGUARDIA:** Take the M60 Bus and ask the driver for a transfer to the "A" train at 125th Street. Take the "A" train Downtown and exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street.

**FROM JFK:** Take the "A" train to Manhattan. Exit the train at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street.

### From Penn Station

**TAXI OR YELLOW CAB:** A cab should cost approximately \$25 plus tip to get to AMDA. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare.

**SUBWAY:** Take the "A" train Uptown. Exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street. Cost and instructions of subway use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](http://mta.info).

### From Port Authority Bus Terminal:

**TAXI OR YELLOW CAB:** A cab should cost approximately \$20 plus tip to get to AMDA. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare.

**SUBWAY:** Take the "A" train headed Uptown. Exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street. Cost and instructions of subway use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](http://mta.info).

### From Grand Central Terminal:

**TAXI OR YELLOW CAB:** A cab should cost approximately \$30 plus tip to get to AMDA. A standard tip for cab drivers is 15-20% of the fare.

**SUBWAY:** Take the "S" (Shuttle) train to 42nd Street/Port Authority. Then transfer to the "A" train headed Uptown. Exit at 59th Street/Columbus Circle. Walk west on 60th Street to Amsterdam Ave. Turn right on Amsterdam Ave., head north one block, then turn left onto 61st Street. AMDA is on the right/north side on 61st Street. Cost and instructions of subway use can be found on the NYC Public Transportation Information section of this guide or at [mta.info](http://mta.info).

# DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO AMDA NEW YORK CITY

## Approaching from the South or West

1. Take I-95 (New Jersey Turnpike) to the Lincoln Tunnel (Exit 16E)
2. Go thru the Lincoln Tunnel (toll)
3. Exit to the left 40th Street/ West Side Highway (Joe DiMaggio Hwy)
4. Follow signs to West Side Highway North (follow Dyer Ave and turn left onto 42nd Street)
5. Follow 42nd Street to the entrance of the West Side Highway North.
6. Exit West Side Highway at 79th Street (exit is to the right)
7. Turn right onto West End Avenue to 61st Street
8. Turn left onto 61st Street

## Approaching from the Northwest

1. Take I-95 (New Jersey Turnpike) south to the George Washington Bridge
2. Go over the George Washington Bridge (toll)
3. Exit onto Rt. 9A/ Henry Hudson Parkway/ 178th Street
4. Merge onto Henry Hudson Parkway/ Rt. 9A South
5. Take the West 79th Street exit
6. Go around rotary to West 79th Street
7. Turn right onto West End Avenue
8. Turn left onto 61st Street

## Approaching from the Northeast

1. Take I-95 South/ I-678 South
2. Take Exit 6A (towards the George Washington/ Whitestone Bridge)
3. Merge left onto I-95/ Cross Bronx Expressway
4. Exit at the Rt. 9A/ Henry Hudson Parkway (towards 181st Street)
5. Take Rt. 9A/ Henry Hudson Parkway South
6. Take the West 79th Street exit
7. Go around rotary to West 79th Street
8. Turn right onto West End Avenue
9. Turn left onto 61st Street

## Parking

Street parking is at your own risk. Please read parking signs carefully! NYC tows illegally parked cars frequently and parking/towing fines are considerable. Garages are located near AMDA housing and main campus.



## Helpful Hints When Driving or Cabbing in New York City

Most streets in Manhattan (at least the ones on the Upper West Side) are set up as a grid. Most avenues run north or south. Broadway is an avenue that runs both north and south. Streets run east to west. Generally, even numbered streets run west to east; odd numbered streets run east to west. They are numbered sequentially south to north from 1 to 214 (in Manhattan). For example 42nd Street is 30 blocks south of 72nd Street. AMDA is located at 211 West 61st Street between West End Avenue and Amsterdam. West End Avenue runs north and south; Amsterdam runs only north.

AMDA is located on the Upper West Side. Manhattan is divided into two halves or sides by 5th Avenue (below 59th Street) and Central Park (Above 59th Street). This creates the East Side and the West Side. Addresses therefore read as 112 West 72nd Street or 222 East 59th Street. These two locations are on opposite sides of town. The lower the building number, the closer to the center dividing line the location will be. Building addresses increase as they get further from the east/west divide.

When looking for any location (e.g. a restaurant or hotel) make sure to ask for cross streets. Finding a location is simple when you know the cross streets involved. Two examples: AMDA is located on 61st Street between Amsterdam and West End Avenue. The Stratford Residence is located on 70th Street between Broadway and Columbus Ave. The Amsterdam Residence is located on 85th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam.





# AREA HOTELS

The following is a list of some hotels near AMDA. You are encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible. You may also visit websites that list availability of hotels and room rates, such as: [hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com), [expedia.com](https://www.expedia.com), and [roomkey.com](https://www.roomkey.com).

## Comfort Inn Central Park West

31 West 71st Street  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 721-4770  
[comfortinn.com](https://www.comfortinn.com)

## Mandarin Oriental New York

80 Columbus Circle  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 805-8800  
[mandarinoriental.com](https://www.mandarinoriental.com)

## Hudson Hotel

356 W 58th Street  
New York, NY 10029  
(866) 539-8430  
[hudsonhotel.com](https://www.hudsonhotel.com)

## Hotel Belleclaire

250 West 77th Street  
New York, NY 10024  
(212) 362-7700  
[Hotelbellclaire.com](https://www.hotelbellclaire.com)

## Salisbury Hotel New York City

123 W57th Street  
New York, NY 10019  
(888) 692-5757  
[Nyclaisbury.com](https://www.nyclaisbury.com)

## The Lucerne Hotel

201 West 79th Street  
New York, NY 10024  
(800) 492-8122  
[Thelucernehotel.com](https://www.thelucernehotel.com)

## Holiday Inn Midtown

440 West 57th Street  
New York, NY 10019  
(212) 581-8100  
[ihg.com](https://www.ihg.com)

## New York Inn

765 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10036  
(212) 247-5400  
[newyorkinn.com](https://www.newyorkinn.com)

## Hotel Beacon

2130 Broadway  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 787-1100  
[beaconhotel.com](https://www.beaconhotel.com)

You may also want to consider short term rentals such as private rooms, studios, or even entire apartments. You can find rentals on these sites: [airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com), [9flats.com](https://www.9flats.com), and [roomorama.com](https://www.roomorama.com)

# CONTACTS

## ADMISSIONS OFFICE

When mailing or contacting the AMDA New York Admissions Office, please use the information provided below:

211 W. 61st Street  
New York, NY 10023  
800-367-7908

**Karen Jackson**  
National Director of Admissions  
[kjackson@amda.edu](mailto:kjackson@amda.edu)  
212-957-3313  
323-603-5912

**Elliott Kerr**  
NY Assistant Director of Admissions  
[ekerr@amda.edu](mailto:ekerr@amda.edu)  
212-957-3376

**Rosa Chapa**  
Admissions Advisor  
[rchapa@amda.edu](mailto:rchapa@amda.edu)  
212-957-3311

**Erin Dowling**  
Admissions Advisor  
[edowling@amda.edu](mailto:edowling@amda.edu)  
323-603-5902

**Oliver Mayes**  
Admissions Advisor  
[omayes@amda.edu](mailto:omayes@amda.edu)  
212-957-3357

**Cheryl Lim**  
Admissions Advisor  
[clim@amda.edu](mailto:clim@amda.edu)  
212-957-3397

**Aidan Ryan**  
Admissions Advisor  
[aryan@amda.edu](mailto:aryan@amda.edu)  
212-957-3375

## FALL 2016 - SUMMER 2017 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Please refer to dates pertaining to your enrollment semester.

### FALL 2016/17

THUR. OCT. 12 - SUN. OCT. 16	Orientation
MON. OCT. 10	Classes begin (4th-semester students)
MON. OCT. 17	Classes begin (all other students)
THUR. NOV. 24	Thanksgiving Break Thu. Nov. 24-Fri. Nov. 25
MON. DEC. 26	Winter Break Mon. Dec. 26-Fri. Jan. 6, 2017
FRI. FEB. 3, 2017	Classes end (4th-semester students*)
SAT. FEB. 4, 2017	Graduation
FRI. FEB. 10, 2017	Classes end

### SPRING 2017

THUR. FEB. 16 - SUN. FEB. 19	Orientation
MON. FEB. 13	Classes begin (4th-semester students)
MON. FEB. 20	Classes begin (all other students)
FRI. MAY 26	Classes end (4th-semester students*)
SAT. MAY 27	Graduation
MON. MAY 29	Memorial Day: no classes
FRI. JUN 2	Classes end

### SUMMER 2017

THUR. JUN 22 - SUN. JUN 25	Orientation
MON. JUN 19	Classes begin (4th-semester students)
MON. JUN 26	Classes begin (all other students)
TUES. JUL. 4	Independence Day: no classes
TUES. SEPT. 5	Labor Day: no classes
FRI. SEPT. 29	Classes end (4th-semester students*)
SAT. SEPT. 30	Graduation
FRI. OCT. 6	Classes end

\* 4th semester end dates vary depending on production schedule. Please contact Education for more information.

† Orientation start dates vary depending on program. Please contact Admissions for more information.



# CONNECT WITH AMDA

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VISIT: 211 West 61st Street, New York, NY, 10023

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CALL: 800.367.7908 /// [LEARN MORE: amda.edu](https://www.amda.edu)

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WATCH: [amda.edu/videos](https://www.amda.edu/videos)

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