



College of the Atlantic Packing List

Welcome to COA! The following is a list of recommended items that may be useful to you during your time at the college.

You may want to buy some things after you arrive, rather than bringing them or shipping them from home. There are several shops in Bar Harbor within walking distance (Sherman's Book and Stationery store, Hannaford Supermarket, A&B Naturals, Ace Hardware, Walgreens), as well as a 30-minute drive away in Ellsworth (WalMart, TJMaxx, etc.) where you can buy more supplies locally. It might also make sense to pack for one season at a time and switch items when/if you go home during breaks. You may also want to talk to roommates about sharing some items for the room to avoid duplicates.

Dorm rooms include basic furnishings: extra-long size twin bed, desk, desk chair, and storage (such as a dresser, under-bed drawer unit, closet, or armoire).

Each house has its own kitchen with a set of pans, dishes, and basic cooking equipment, but if you like to cook and have favorite kitchen items, you may want to bring them.

Essentials:

- Bedding: Sheets (extra-long twin) and pillowcase; blanket or comforter; mattress pad/cover (extra-long twin, optional) - *Note: first-year **international students** will be provided with sheets and a comforter*
- Pillow(s) for your bed
- Clothing & shoes
- Toiletries & personal care items including soap, shampoo, medications, toothbrush, etc.
- Towels
- Clothes hangers
- Laundry supplies: detergent; quarters for laundry machines (each wash costs \$1, each dry costs \$0.75); laundry bag or basket
- School supplies: pens/pencils, notebooks, other supplies you regularly use for your studies
- Water bottle, reusable mug
- Outdoor/weather-appropriate gear including: sunscreen; raincoat; hiking shoes/boots; warm coat/hat/mittens/socks/boots and layers for winter; swimsuit
- Laptop/computer - *please note this is strongly recommended, but there are public access computer labs for students who do not have their own computer*
- Chargers for electronic devices
- Personal identification (drivers' license, health insurance card, passport if needed - two forms of ID are necessary for work-study employment paperwork)
- Bag or backpack for carrying books & essentials

Optional - The following are additional items you may want to bring for your own comfort or convenience:

- For your room/house (note that some rooms may already have several of these items):
 - Lamp for bedside and/or desk
 - Full-length mirror
 - Small trash can/recycling bin
 - Fan
 - Bulletin board or dry-erase board
 - Picture hanging supplies (double-sided tape, wall putty, command strips/hooks)
 - Storage bins/bags
 - Drying rack for laundry (dorms do have dryers and outdoor clotheslines)
 - Items from home that will make your room cozy
- Winter clothing/gear:
 - Many students are new to cold, snowy Maine winters. For your first winter, we recommend layers of warm clothes, so you can adjust to warm indoor temperatures and cold outdoor temperatures. Layers could include: a thermal wool or synthetic base layer under regular clothes, with sweaters and warm outerwear on top. *Some students wait until arrival to acquire winter clothing best suited for Maine.*
 - Warm mittens and a warm hat that covers your ears
 - Insulated winter boots with good traction
 - Ice grippers (like Kahtoola) - these can be helpful for outdoor activities in icy conditions
- Miscellaneous
 - Shower caddy to carry toiletries
 - Flashlight or headlamp
 - Musical instrument
 - Shower shoes (flip-flops)
 - Printer (most papers will be submitted electronically, and there are several public printers on campus for student use - black & white printing is currently free for students)
 - Headphones
 - Additional school/study/art supplies as desired: tape, scissors, memory card or flash drive
 - Surge protector
 - Tablet or other personal electronic devices
 - Sports/fitness gear
 - Reusable dishes or food containers/tupperware
- For international students
 - Adapters for electronic devices (both a three-prong grounded adapter and a two-prong ungrounded adapter can be useful)
 - Please refer to the [international student handbook](#) for more information on what to bring
 - Note: Bedding (sheets and comforter) are provided for first-year international students
 - It may be advisable to purchase your winter gear/clothing/boots once you arrive in the US if you don't have easy access. The international student office also has some winter clothing/gear available for first-years.