Cardless Check-In at UMD Dining

Cardless Check-In allows members to access their dining halls without a UMD ID card. No need to fumble around to find a card... just scan your palm and you're in!

How does Cardless Check-In work?

Accessing the dining halls has never been easier! Once you’ve enrolled, you check in by waving your hand through the scanner, the gates open and you are now in the dining hall to enjoy whatever you choose.

How do I enroll?

As soon as a physical scanning unit arrives on campus, we will ask returning-to-housing students to come enroll. We’ll take four scans of your palm. Enrollment should only take about a minute to complete.

Does this mean UMD Dining will have my palm print?

No. We’ve partnered with Wave Biometrics, a leader in the biometric industry, to develop this convenient and secure new way to check in to the dining halls. By scanning your palm, we chart the distance between a few distinct points that are unique to you and come up with an identifying number based on those distances. Neither we nor Wave Biometrics store your palm prints, nor can the data we store be re-created into a palm print image. Additionally, we do not sell, lease, rent, trade or otherwise transfer the data to any third parties.

After the dining halls activate the Cardless Check-in system will I still need my UMD ID card?

Not to come in for meals! If you bring a guest, you will need your UMD ID card to use a Guest Pass or Dining Dollars to allow their access. If you are shopping at a café or C-Shop on campus, you will need your card to use Dining Dollars or Terrapin Express, and should probably carry your card for building access and general identification – but not for regular resident student access to the dining halls. Come on in any time!

How do I provide feedback about the program?

We want to hear from you! Please contact us today and let us know how you feel about the new Cardless Check-In program. Email umfood@umd.edu