

Cell Phones

FOR FULL-TIME DUKE STUDENTS ONLY

DUKE'S OIT CELLULAR SERVICE

STUDENTS: <http://www.oit.duke.edu/phones-pagers/student/wireless/>

Once you have your Duke Net ID and password, you can obtain a phone. Fill out the online order form at the website above. Within 3-7 days, you will receive an email telling you that your phone is ready to be picked up at the Wireless Center Office located on Coal Pile Drive. Tel. 684-2200, option 2. To view terms and conditions, rates, and other information please visit

<http://www.oit.duke.edu/phones-pagers/student/index.html> or call the OIT Help Desk @ 684-2200, option 2.

WIRELESS NON-CONTRACT PHONES

The quickest option for someone who is not a full-time Duke student and here for a short period of time (less than one year) is to purchase a phone and minutes from the local grocery or department store. If you are a big talker, this may not be the cheapest option, but you can purchase and activate your phone in a matter of minutes.

Most of the local grocery stores (Kroger, Food Lion) have cell phones and calling cards located in the front of the store. Harris Teeter does not have cell phones. Super stores (Walmart, Target, Kmart) have cell phones and calling cards located in the Electronics Section of the store.

Food Lion TracFone; AT&T Go Phone; Net 10 Phone www.TracFone.com www.att.com/gophone www.NET10.com	Target AT&T Go Phone; Virgin Mobile; Verizon Inpulse www.att.com/gophone www.virginmobileusa.com http://vzwshop.com/%5Fprepay/
Kroger i Wireless Phone www.iwirelesshome.com	Walmart AT&T Go Phone, Verizon Inpulse; TracFone www.att.com/gophone http://vzwshop.com/%5Fprepay/ www.TracFone.com
Harris Teeter No cell phones	Kmart AT&T Go Phone; Virgin Mobile; TracFone www.att.com/gophone www.virginmobileusa.com www.TracFone.com

Northgate Mall Electronic Stores (10 minute walk from East Campus bus stop)

Verizon Wireless, tel. 286.1900 www.verizonwireless.com

Cricket Communications, tel. 286.1849 www.mycricket.com

Suncom, tel. 416.9095 www.suncom.com

Sprint, tel. 286-5732 www.sprint.com

South Square Area Shopping Mall (five minute drive from West Campus)

AT&T, 3415 Westgate Drive, Suite 1010, Durham NC 27707, tel. 403-2590

Durham Festival Center (fifteen minute walk from West Campus up LaSalle Street)

ALLTEL, 3409 Hillsborough Road, Suite H Durham, NC 27705, tel. 233.3243

www.alltel.com

You do not need a social security number for a contract plan with Alltel. However, you do need either a debit card or a credit card. You will need to pay a deposit of \$300 - \$500. You can also get a pre-paid phone and plan. Alltel is located in the same shopping plaza as Kroger on the corner of Hillsborough and LaSalle Street.

IF YOU DO HAVE A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER & WILL BE HERE AT LEAST ONE YEAR...

VERIZON (1058 West Club Blvd, Northgate Mall, Durham, Tel. 286.7336)

www.verizonwireless.com

Need SSN for all 1 or 2 year contracts. Plans start at \$40 per month (plus taxes) and higher. There probably will be a \$300 - \$400 deposit.

AT&T 3415 Westgate Drive, Suite 1010, Durham NC 27707, tel. 403-2590

www.attwireless.com

Need SSN for all 1 or 2 year contracts. Plans start at \$40 per month (plus taxes) and up. There probably will be a \$300 or \$400 deposit.

TERMS & ADVICE for MOBILE PHONES

OIT Terms and Conditions and FAQ's for Duke's Cellular Service

<http://www.oit.duke.edu/phones-pagers/student/wireless/terms.html>

<http://www.oit.duke.edu/phones-pagers/student/wireless/faq.html>

Incoming Calls

In the US, mobile phones are charged both for receiving and for making calls. Please be aware that incoming calls are deducted from either your "free minutes" (contract phones) or your prepaid account.

Using Prepaid Phone Cards with your Mobile Phone

Please note that phone service charges in the US are very different than those in most other countries! We strongly discourage you from using prepaid phone cards (such as those bought at grocery and drug stores) to make lengthy calls from your mobile phone unless you do so at times when your service contract allows you to have unlimited minutes (possibly nights and weekends).

TOLL-FREE CALLS WILL STILL BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR ALLOTTED MINUTES PER MONTH AND YOU WILL BE CHARGED PER MINUTE FOR ALL TIME BEYOND WHAT YOU ARE ALLOWED. Some students have unexpectedly received bills of more than \$500 because they were not aware of this.

If you have any concerns about cost-efficient mobile phone usage, please contact your service provider, OIT, or I-House. You will not be able to dispute charges because you did not understand how charges would be applied.

Prepaid (Non-Contract) Phones

Compared to contract phones, prepaid accounts often have significantly more expensive rates. Some companies' charge a flat fee simply for placing each call (up to 25 cents per call), and then charges 10 cents (or more!) for each minute the call lasts. Daytime calls are more expensive than evening ones and may cost 35 cents per minute or more. Money deposited in a prepaid account also expires if it is not used in a specific period of time, which can be as short as a month.

GSM/SIM Technology

If you already have a GSM mobile (i.e., with a SIM card) that is unlocked (i.e., able to be used on a network other than the one you use in your home country), you should consider joining a GSM network — AT&T or T-Mobile. Please note that AT&T mobiles are locked against switching SIM cards when you return to your home country, but many websites offer unlocking services for less than \$50. HUTCH connections are also not reliable in Durham. Some students have found that even if you have a foreign account that will work on these networks, it is worthwhile to at least look at Verizon and other local providers.

Trial Periods

If you are unsure of which network to choose, it is possible to ask for a trial month to test a service provider. Please be advised that there is a breach of contract fee of approximately \$175 should you change service providers in the middle of a contract.