

Where to Eat—U of Illinois at Chicago Summer 2009

The UIC Neighborhood

The University is located in an interesting area of the city, where several diverse neighborhoods converge. Within close walking distance of campus, you'll find not only the Loop, which is the commercial downtown area of Chicago, but neighborhoods which over time have still retained their distinctly ethnic character.

Grocery Stores

Many of you will decide to do your own cooking while you stay in Chicago, others will only want occasional groceries or small items. There are several possibilities quite close to campus.

Jewel is a grocery store located on Roosevelt and Ashland about a ½ mile west of the residence hall. Here you'll be able to find most of the basic necessities for cooking at fairly reasonable prices. The campus shuttle will be able to take you to and from the grocery store. We will have maps for the UIC shuttle in your arrival folders in your dorm rooms.

A more 'upscale' option is the **Dominick's** grocery store, located about a ½ mile east of the residence hall on Roosevelt Road on the other side of the expressway. This is a much larger store with a wider selection, although the walk there should perhaps be avoided at night. Here you'll also find a deli/café, which offers freshly prepared dishes ranging from roast chicken to sushi.

The **Seven-11** is a convenience store located on Halsted about ½ a block south of the residence hall. Prices will be the highest here, and the selection is limited, but it is open 24 hours a day and is a good place to get the morning newspaper and a cup of coffee.

"Semi-Homemade" Meals

Dinner by Design is located on Maxwell just east of Halsted and is a home meal prep kitchen, with pre-set menus and all the ingredients and recipes needed to prepare healthy, delicious and quick dinners in the comfort of your apartment. This may be an economical and healthy option when shared with your roommates. Check out their Web site for more details:
<http://dinnerbydesignkitchen.com/dinner.aspx?f=home>

Restaurants

One advantage to the location of the Institute is the number and variety of restaurants within close walking distance. Although campus dining services offers the most convenient location, the hours are limited. You may want to consider some neighborhood options.

On Maxwell (at Halsted) you will find:

Morgan's (bar & American cuisine)
Lalo's (Mexican)
Hash Brown's (breakfast & lunch)
World of Wings (chicken)
Perry's (deli sandwiches)
Juniors (bar & American cuisine)
Kohan (Japanese and some Korean)
Jamba Juice
Caribou Coffee
Cold Stone Creamery (ice cream)

Just south of Maxwell:

Quizno's
Reggio's Pizzeria
Joy Yee Noodle (Chinese, Thai, Japanese)

Just north of Maxwell:

Franconello (an upscale Italian restaurant)

Massa (an Italian café – paninis, salads, espresso bar and delicious homemade gelato), located a block north of Maxwell at the corner of Roosevelt and Halsted, in Barbara's Bookstore

Around the neighborhood:

If you're in the mood for Chicago-style pizza and other Italian-American dishes head up North on Halsted (& Van Buren) to find **Giordano's**, something of a favorite with some participants in past years. Farther north you'll find **Greek Town** where there are many Greek restaurants, which offer relatively good values. The most expensive and crowded of these is **Costa's**, located at the corner of Halsted and Van Buren Streets. Other options abound, however, such as the **Parthenon**, **Greek Islands**, **Estia**, and **Artopolis**, all just a few buildings farther north.

Just off the southwest corner of campus is Taylor Street, a historically Italian neighborhood. Wander through the streets north of Taylor Street and you'll find an old, quiet, and still distinctive residential neighborhood. Taylor Street itself offers many opportunities for dinner or a quick lunch. On Polk Street, just south of Taylor, are **Fontano's** and **Carm's**, quick Italian-American sandwich shops. A little farther west on Taylor Street is **Che Cafe**, a Cuban-Mexican restaurant, a popular spot with UIC staff and faculty for lunch and **Thai Bowl**, both of which offer very generous portions of food at a low price. At Taylor and Morgan Streets you'll also find a more expensive restaurant such as the posh **Tuscany**, which offer more authentic Italian cuisine and continuing farther west, **Francesca's and Rose Bud**. On the west end of Taylor, near Ashland Avenue you will also find more affordable Italian restaurants such as **Pompei** and **Leona's**. For more details about restaurants around UIC as well as Chicago, go to www.metromix.com.