The University of Massachusetts Lowell is located in the historic industrial city of Lowell, 25 miles northwest of Boston, with the campus spanning more than 125 acres along the Merrimack River. More than 17,000 resident and commuter students of all backgrounds pursue bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees as well as professional certificates in the arts, humanities and sciences; education; engineering; health and environment; and management. Internationally recognized for its excellence in science and engineering, UMass Lowell is a leader in nanotechnology and nanomanufacturing, biomanufacturing, bioinformatics and advanced materials. The University is a nationally ranked research institution that receives a significant percentage of funding from federal agencies and private industry.

Over the past eight years the University has witnessed a period of unprecedented growth with enrollment up nearly 50%, research up 80% and our physical campus size increased by 70%. All of these factors have resulted in UMass Lowell being the second fastest rising national university and one of only six universities to climb every year since 2010. This growth will continue in the coming years with the new Manning School of Business currently under construction and student enrollment expected to continue its upward trajectory.

As UMass Lowell expands, it has become one of the primary drivers of the Lowell region’s economy. The City of Lowell has embraced this growth as a benefit to the city and welcomes the idea of becoming more of a “college town.” The University shares this goal as it looks to attract students and faculty, in part because of the benefits it can obtain from successfully establishing Lowell’s identity as a college town as. One of the key factors that differentiate communities that intuitively feel like college towns from places that simply host a college or university is where the faculty and staff choose to live. When faculty and staff live in a city or town in greater concentrations, their investment has a positive influence on the culture of the community. As a result, UMass Lowell is interested in actively encouraging and supporting its faculty and staff to choose to live in the City of Lowell through its new “Live-in-Lowell” program. The University has created this program as an incentive to faculty and staff to not only work, but to live in Lowell.

The University will be providing a direct financial incentive to its employees who relocate to the City of Lowell. Through this Request for Information the University is looking to identify companies who are willing to offer additional incentives directly to UMass Lowell employees who choose to relocate to the City of Lowell. These incentives may include discounts or other benefits related to housing expenses that would help create further inducements for our employees to Live in Lowell and help further create a true “college town”. The list may include but not be limited to:
• Reduced rent
• Rental credits
• Interest rate incentives
• Discounts on brokerage fees
• Discounts on closing costs
• Discount on moving costs

Participants agree that by offering incentives to UMass Lowell employees via this Request for Information they are certifying and representing that they are in compliance with all applicable local, state and federal codes, laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, compliance with the City of Lowell’s Rental Property Ordinance (Chapter 176 of the City of Lowell’s Code of Ordinances http://ecode360.com/12360647).

Businesses that wish to offer incentives in response to this Request for Information may submit them to Procurement Services, University of Massachusetts Lowell, 600 Suffolk St., Wannalancit Business Center, Suite 415 Lowell, MA 01854-5105. Those businesses whose submissions the University deems to be in support of the Live-in-Lowell initiative will be placed on an informational list provided to our employees. The University reserves the right to include or remove participants from this list or eliminate the list in its entirety at any time.

Such list will be provided solely as a convenience to our employees but will not constitute an endorsement by or a business relationship with the University of any kind with any individual company or business included on the list. Any transaction conducted between a business offering incentives as part of the Live In Lowell program and any UMass Employee will be strictly between those two parties. The University shall not be a party to and shall have no liability in connection with such transaction.