



### **MOVING TO ST. THOMAS:**

Please research your upcoming move to the Virgin Islands. Two great resources are <https://www.vimovingcenter.com> and <http://www.uvi.edu/administration/about-uvi/us-virgin-islands.aspx>

### **ESTABLISHING RESIDENCY:**

See handbook for details.

**It is highly recommended that you get a car.** The island is sizable with steep and winding roads, and we drive on the left here. There is limited public transportation and it is not recommended to rely on a bicycle or scooter for transportation. There are new and used car dealerships, car rental companies that sell their older cars, and private party sellers through word of mouth, the Island Trader (link below) and Facebook. Alternatively, cars may be shipped to the island from the Miami/Ft. Lauderdale area. Shipping costs with registration and taxes ranges between \$1,000 - \$2,500 (this is just an estimate – contact shipping directly for estimates).

Below are resources that current and past students have recommended for finding housing, cars, etc. **Please note, the MMES program and UVI do not endorse any of these resources and we are not responsible for any loss or damages due to your interactions with them. Please use caution when using any public resources that are not connected to the University.** We have had instances of students being scammed on resources like Craigslist. However, others have had good experiences and so they are included. **In general, use caution and common sense!** Here is the list of the resources:

- Island Trader: <http://www.virginislandsdailynews.com/edition/islandtrader/>
- Virgin Islands Craigslist: <http://virgin.craigslist.org/>
- The VI Daily News classifieds: <http://virginislandsdailynews.com/classifieds>
- St. Thomas Source: <http://stthomassource.com/>
- The Facebook page “**St Thomas and St John Bargains, Sales and Trades**” and “**What’s Going on St. Thomas**” is a place to find all kinds of stuff including cars, apts, and furniture.

### **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS:**

The 2017 hurricane season was particularly brutal for the USVI, and we are still experiencing residual impacts. Please visit <http://www.vitema.vi.gov/plan-prepare/hurricanes> to learn about how to prepare yourself in the event of a hurricane in the VI. Be encouraged to include some of the following items in your packing list: solar-powered lanterns and chargers, headlamp, solar camp shower, portable phone charger (power pack). These are items that are difficult to get on St Thomas and are extremely useful during outages.



**HOUSING:**

UVI does not offer graduate student housing. Many MMES students decide to share housing, or live in independently in studios/one bedroom apartments. Please consider creating a roommate agreement form and discussing details of the shared living arrangement BEFORE entering a roommate relationship. Basic rules like quiet hours, guests, cleanliness, etc are important to establish early on to create a supportive living arrangement.