Getting to and from SeaTac Airport

Updated 7-1-2011

Related transit websites are provided. Please verify all information directly with these websites to ensure that you have the most current information.

Overview
Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is located about 100 miles from Western Washington University. WWU does not operate a campus airport shuttle. There are several ways to get to and from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport without a private vehicle. Deciding how to go depends on factors such as day of the week, flight departure or arrival time, cost and time available to travel.

Single-Day Transportation Options
Airporter Shuttle (http://airporter.com/) is a daily commercial service providing scheduled connections between Bellingham and SeaTac. Travel time from Bellingham to SeaTac is about 2 hours, 45 minutes. Airporter Shuttles run every day of the year except Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. The closest shuttle stop to WWU is at the Guesthouse Inn on Lakeway, about one mile from campus.


Public transit via commuter express routes is an option for weekday travel between Seattle and Bellingham, with transfers at Everett, Mount Vernon and Bellingham. This option is available Monday-Friday only. One advantage of this option is cost; one way travel costs $5-8.

Amtrak* (http://amtrak.com) offers daily departures to and from Bellingham and Seattle. Travel time from Fairhaven Transportation Center to King Street Station (in Seattle) is about 2 hours, 2 minutes.

Greyhound* (http://greyhound.com) offers five daily departures to Bellingham. Greyhound Stewart Street depot is located near Sound Transit’s Central Link Light Rail Westlake station. Cost varies; ranging from $14-24. Discounts are available. Travel time from Fairhaven Transportation Center to Seattle is about 2 hours.

*Bellingham Amtrak and Greyhound stations are located at the Fairhaven Transportation Center, about 2 miles from campus. Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) routes connect the station and the university, see http://www.ridewta.com/ for more information. Cab fare to campus is about $7.

Alternative Options
Overnight in Seattle – Travelers who want to add a day or evening in Seattle may choose to spend a night in Seattle on their way to or from the airport. The American Hotel is a Hostelling International hostel in the International District, close to the Central Link International District station, Amtrak’s King
Street station and bus routes serving SeaTac. For more information about HI – Seattle’s American Hotel see http://www.hiusa.org/seattle. King County Metro’s website http://metro.kingcounty.gov/ provides information about bus connections to SeaTac.

**Bellingham International Airport** is about 9 miles from campus. WWU does not provide shuttle service to Bellingham International Airport. The closest WTA bus stop is about one mile from the arrival gate and service is relatively infrequent. Cab fare from the Bellingham Airport to WWU is about $20-25. A less expensive alternative is to take a cab to WTA’s Cordata Station (about $7) and ride the bus back to the campus area.

**Guidelines**
- Arriving or leaving on the weekend? Choose Airporter Shuttle, Link+Amtrak, or Link+Greyhound.
- Morning departure? Choose Airporter Shuttle.
- Evening arrival? Choose Airporter Shuttle or Link+Greyhound
- Traveling alone for the first time? Airporter Shuttle has no-hassle, direct service.
- On a budget? Travelling on a weekday? Link+public transportation may work for you.

**SeaTac to Bellingham – Planning Your Trip**
What time does your flight arrive?
Add about an hour for flight delay, deplaning, baggage claim
That’s when you’re likely to leave the airport

**Bellingham to SeaTac – Planning Your Trip**
What time does your flight leave?
Subtract two hours to allow time for check-in and security screening
That’s when you need to arrive at SeaTac
If you need to arrive by noon, Airporter Shuttle is the best way to get to SeaTac

**If you have questions or need further information**
Contact Sustainable Transportation at 360.650.7960, or Transportation@wwu.edu