Airport Transportation:

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) is located approximately 20 miles south of the University of Washington and 15 miles south of Downtown Seattle. Travel requires approximately 30 minutes by bus, shuttle, taxi, or car. Visitors have several options for ground transportation from the airport to the University of Washington, which is located in the University District (U-district) area. Suggested transportation options are listed below, and this airport map may help locate the various services.

Shuttle Express (Round-trip cost ~ $83)

Shuttle Express offers 24-hour service between the airport and any Seattle destination. Advantages of the shuttle are that it will drop you off in front of your dormitory or hotel and is less expensive than a taxi. The shuttle takes up to 10 passengers in a small van at a one-way trip fare of $36.00/single or less depending on the number of passengers traveling with you ($42.00/two people traveling together, $48.00/three people, etc.). Shuttle Express accepts cash, traveler's checks, and major credit cards; it is customary to provide the driver with a 15% gratuity or tip. Reservations are not required prior to arrival into Sea-Tac Airport, but 24-hour advance reservations are required for a return trip from your dormitory or hotel to the airport. Call 425-981-7000 or make reservations online at https://www.shuttleexpress.com/reservations.

To locate Shuttle Express at Sea-Tac airport, follow the signs to ground transportation. Starting from the baggage-claim area, proceed up one floor via escalator or elevator and walk across the sky bridge to the parking garage. Once in the garage, take an escalator or elevator back down one floor to the third floor, then follow the ground-transportation check-in signs to the Shuttle Express booth. Check in with the agent and provide the agent with your dormitory or hotel address. The wait for a shuttle is usually 10-20 minutes and the ride to the University is approximately 30 minutes depending on the time of day and the number of passengers in the shared van.

Taxi (Round-trip cost ~ $130)

Transportation by taxi is the simplest method to reach UW but also the most costly. Only one company, Yellow Cab, provides taxi service from Sea-Tac airport. Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Taxis depart from the third floor of the parking garage. Starting from the baggage-claim area, proceed up one floor via escalator or elevator and walk across the sky bridge to the parking garage. Once in the garage, take an escalator or elevator back down one floor to the third floor, then follow the ground-transportation check-in signs to the inner drive and the taxi stand. Check in with the agent and provide the agent with your dormitory or hotel address. The average fare to the University district from the airport is $50-$60 depending on the traffic and time of the day. It is customary to give the driver a gratuity or tip of 15% in addition to the fare.

Although only Yellow Cab (206-622-6500) taxi service may pick up fares at Sea-Tac Airport, any taxi service may drop off customers at the airport. Other reliable taxi services that serve the Seattle area are STITA (206-246-9999), Far West (206-622-1717), and Orange Cab (206-522-8800). All Seattle taxi cabs operate at the same rate set by King County: $2.50 meter drop, $2.70/mile, $0.50/minute waiting time, $0.50/ extra passenger over two excluding minors, etc.

LINK Light Rail and Public Bus (METRO) (Round-trip cost ~ $10.50)

LINK Light Rail followed by a METRO bus is the most economical option but is not recommended if you are arriving with a lot of luggage. LINK Light Rail does not yet reach the University of Washington but an easy bus connection in downtown Seattle makes the trip feasible. The cost is $2.75 for the light rail and $2.25 or $2.50 for the bus, depending on the time of the day that you are traveling.

To reach the LINK Light Rail station at Sea-Tac Airport, follow the signs for ground transportation. Starting from the baggage-claim area, proceed up one floor via escalator or elevator and walk across the sky bridge to the parking garage. Once in the garage, turn left and follow the LINK Light Rail signs northward about 100 yards along the
perimeter of the parking garage. At the station, purchase a ticket for the Light Rail portion of your trip for $2.75 from a vending machine, which accepts cash or credit cards, before ascending the escalator or elevator to the boarding area. Boarding and travel occur via the honor system (i.e., no one will check your ticket entering the train), but spot checks by Light-Rail agents occur frequently and you will need to show evidence of purchase. Depending on the time of day, trains leave Sea-Tac Airport every 7.5-15 minutes. LINK Light-Rail service begins at 5 am; the last train from Sea-Tac to downtown leaves at 12:10 am. The trip to downtown Seattle takes about 30 minutes.

Disembark the LINK Light Rail in the bus tunnel downtown when it reaches its final stop, Westlake Center. The buses to the University travel through the Light-Rail tunnel and stop at the same bay as the LINK Light Rail. You may take any 71, 72, 73, or 74 bus, including buses labeled "Express". Departure times usually occur once every ten minutes for most times of day. Upon entering the bus, purchase a ticket using exact change, cash only, for $2.25 during off-peak travel or $2.50 during peak travel. The bus ride usually takes 20 minutes to the University district. Exit the bus at NE Campus Parkway and Brooklyn Avenue NE (see map for "70" bus stop). You are now one block from the main campus and directly in front of Lander Hall (to the West) and Alder Hall (to the East). If you are staying in McMahon Hall, you can either walk across campus to the dorm (~ 1/4 mile) or ask the bus driver for a transfer and walk one half block East to the next bus bay at NE Campus Parkway and University Way NE, where you can take the #65 bus to the corner of Stevens Way and Pend Oreille Road, just south of McMahon Hall (see map).

For more schedule and route information call 206-553-3000, or see METRO's Riderlink online at http://metro.kingcounty.gov. Also, when in doubt, please ask the driver – Seattle bus drivers are very helpful!

Rental Car

Renting a car is not recommended unless you are planning trips out of town. Most everything you need should be within walking distance from your dormitory or hotel, and parking near the University of Washington is difficult at best. Furthermore, the METRO bus system is quite convenient for sightseeing purposes in Seattle. Should you rent a car from the airport, however, all agencies are located at the Sea-Tac Rental Car Facility, an off-site unit that is reached by shuttle. Follow the signs for ground transportation. From baggage claim, exit the sliding glass doors near carousel #1 or #15 and walk to one of the two designated shuttle-bus pick-up areas near the north or south ends of the terminal. Shuttle buses depart regularly 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you are returning a vehicle, take SR518 and follow the signs for the Rental Car Facility.

Companies operating at the Rental Car Facility

Alamo: 1-800-462-5266 or www.alamo.com
Avis: 1-800-331-1212 or www.avis.com
Budget: 1-800-527-7000 (local reservations), (800) 527-0700 (out-of-town reservations) or www.budget.com
Hertz: 1-800-654-3131 or www.hertz.com
National: 1-800-328-4567 or www.nationalcar.com
Advantage: 1-800-777-5500, (206) 824-0161 or www.advantage.com
Dollar Car Rental: (206) 433-5825 or www.dollar.com
Enterprise: (206) 246-1953 or www.enterprise.com
Thrifty: (206) 246-3005 or www.thrifty.com
EZ Rent-A-Car: 1-800-277-5191 or www.ezrentacar.com
Fox Rent A Car: 1-800-225-4369 or www.foxrentacar.com
Payless: 1-800-PAYLESS or www.paylesscar.com
Sixt Rent A Car: 1-888-SIXTCAR (888-749-8227) or www.sixt.com

Getting Around Seattle:

For bus transportation: Seattle Metro trip planner
**Driving and Staying on Campus**

If you are staying on campus, you will first need to check in at your assigned check-in location (Lander front desk or McMahon front desk). If you are going to Lander, first go to Gate 1 (see map and directions below) and ask for a 1-day permit ($15). If you are going to McMahon, first go to Gate 3 (see map and directions below) and ask for a 1-day permit. Tell the gatekeeper where you are checking in and they will assign you the closest available lot. When you check in at the residence, you can then purchase a long-term parking permit.

**Driving Daily to Campus**

Go to Gate 1 (see map) and purchase an all day permit ($15). Tell the gatekeeper that you will be at Kane Hall and they will assign the closest lot (most likely the Central Garage, which has an elevator to Kane).

**Driving Directions to Campus:**

**Lander and Alder Halls Directions:**

**From Interstate 5,** take exit 169, NE 45th Street and turn East (right if traveling North, left if traveling South) onto 45th Street. Travel East on NE 45th Street approximately 10 blocks to 15th Avenue NE and turn right (South). Continue driving South several blocks on 15th Avenue NE until you see the Central Garage on your left hand side at 41st street, just after the pedestrian overpass. Gate 1 is just inside.

**Via WA State Route 520,** take the Montlake Blvd NE exit. Turn North onto Montlake Blvd, proceed over the bridge, and merge into the far left lane. Turn left (West) onto NE Pacific Street, continue past the U.W Medical Center on your left. Turn right (North) onto 15th Avenue NE. Continue driving North two blocks until you see the Central Garage on your right-hand side at 41st street. Gate 1 is just inside.

**McMahon Hall Directions:**

**Via Interstate 5,** take exit 169, NE 45th Street and turn East (right if traveling North, left if traveling South) onto 45th Street. Travel East on NE 45th Street approximately 12 blocks to 17th Avenue NE and turn South (right) onto campus. Turn left (East) onto Stevens Way and loop around the campus until you reach a stop sign at Pend Oreille Road. Turn left (East) onto Pend Oreille and go down the hill. Gate 3 is just down the hill.

**Via WA State Route 520,** take the Montlake Blvd NE exit. Turn North onto Montlake Blvd, proceed over the bridge, and past Husky Stadium on your right. After passing the stadium, merge into the far left lane (do not follow the road as it curves to the right). Shortly after the road splits, turn left (West) onto campus at NE 44th Place/Pend Oreille Road. Proceed up the hill to Gate 3. Watch out for bicyclists and pedestrians on the Burke-Gilman trail just after you turn onto Pend Oreille Road.

**Helpful Hints**

In Seattle, numbered streets run East-West (e.g. 45th Street) whereas numbered avenues (e.g. 15th Avenue) run North-South. Avenues and some other streets often have a geographical indicator after the name. The U.W. is in the Northeast part of Seattle, so streets around the U.W. end in NE (e.g. 15th Avenue NE).