

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY



082817

WELCOMES YOU TO PITTSBURGH!

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

INTERNATIONAL.POINTPARK.EDU | 201 WOOD STREET | PITTSBURGH, PA 15222 | +1 412 391 4100

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PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

WELCOME TO POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

Pittsburgh is a city in western Pennsylvania at the junction of three rivers. Pittsburgh is known as both the “Steel City” for its more than 300 steel-related businesses and as the “City of Bridges” for its 446 bridges. The city features 30 skyscrapers, two historic cable-car inclines, a prerevolutionary fortification and the Point State Park at the confluence of three rivers: the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio Rivers.. The city’s rich heritage left the area with renowned museums, medical centers, parks, research centers, libraries, a diverse cultural district and the most bars per capita in the United States. Pittsburgh has a population of 305,704.



HERE'S WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT PITTSBURGH

- Best Downtown in America (small to mid-sized cities) – Livability.com
- #1 Metro Area for Young College Graduates (based on job openings, affordable rent and peer population) – Trulia/LinkedIn
- #1 Food City in the Country – Zagat
- 6th Best College City in America (for academic, social and economic opportunities) – WalletHub.com
- 7th Friendliest City in America – Travel + Leisure
- 9th Most Creative City in America – Movoto Real Estate Blog

FIRST THINGS FIRST

GETTING TO POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

Now that you have arrived in the United States, there are a few things that will be really helpful for you.

FLYING TO PITTSBURGH

When arriving at Pittsburgh International Airport, taxi or limousine services are available to Downtown Pittsburgh. The cost of a taxi is approximately \$30, while the cost of a limousine van into the city is about \$35. The vans go to most of the major hotels. The Port Authority (PAT) also has a bus available named the 28X Airport Flyer. For schedule and fare information, please contact the Port Authority at +1 412 442 2000 or, for the hearing and/or speech impaired, call +1 412 237 7007.

DID YOU MISS YOUR FLIGHT OR CONNECTING FLIGHT?

If you miss a flight or a connecting flight in the United States, the first thing you should do is go to the customer service desk of the airline you were supposed to fly with. For example, if you are flying with Delta Air Lines and you miss your flight, go to the Delta customer service desk. These help desks are typically located outside of airport security, at the gate through which you were supposed to depart, and in one or more terminals of the airport you are flying into or out of.

When you have resolved the problem with the airline, contact Point Park University to let us know your updated arrival information.

ENROLLMENT MANAGER

international@learninghouse.com

+1 800 293 7075 ext. 7422 (Phone)

+1 502 815 0422 (Fax)

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

International Student Services and Enrollment

ISS@pointpark.edu

+1 412 392 4775 (Phone)

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

GETTING TO POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

GETTING FROM THE AIRPORT TO POINT PARK UNIVERSITY *(IF LIVING ON CAMPUS)*

To get from Pittsburgh International Airport to Point Park University via public transit:

1. From 1000 Airport Boulevard, walk approximately 14 minutes (0.6 miles) toward Pittsburgh International Airport Lower Level (Door 6)
2. Head west toward Airport Blvd
3. Turn right onto Airport Blvd
4. Sharp right toward Airport Blvd
5. Turn left toward Airport Blvd
6. Turn right onto Airport Blvd
7. Turn left
8. Take Bus route 28X at Pittsburgh International Airport Lower Level (Door 6) heading toward Downtown and Oakland, approximately 43 minutes
9. Get off at Liberty Ave at Gateway #4
10. Walk about five mins (0.3 miles)
11. Head southeast
12. Turn right toward Boulevard of the Allies
13. Turn left toward Boulevard of the Allies
14. Turn left onto Boulevard of the Allies
15. Destination will be on the right:

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

201 Wood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222



HOUSING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

WHERE TO STAY

Point Park University provides housing on campus for international students. These are offered in two categories: **freshmen** and **upperclassmen**.

Housing has a \$400 application fee, with online application, and a one-year contract required. Housing info: <http://www.pointpark.edu/StudentLife/LivingonCampus/Housing>

Must be 25 or younger to live on campus.

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

FRESHMEN

ITEM	COST PER MONTH
Housing for freshmen (available on campus)	\$580.00
Cell phone (through CampusSIMS)	\$25.00
Meal plan (Required)	\$683.75
Transportation (monthly pass)	\$97.50
TOTAL	\$1,386.25

**Housing costs at Point Park University are dependent on type of accommodation chosen, whether single, double or triple occupancy for freshmen. Cost above reflects triple occupancy accommodation assuming four months per semester.*

**Meal plan total for the academic year is \$5,470. The academic year has a total of eight months (two semesters).*

UPPERCLASSMEN

ITEM	COST PER MONTH
Housing for upperclassmen (two- and three-bedroom apartments)	\$1,077.50
Cell phone (through CampusSIMS)	\$25.00
Groceries	\$300.00
Transportation (monthly bus pass)	\$97.50
TOTAL	\$1,500.00

**Housing for upperclassmen is dependent on number of bedrooms. The cost above is reflective of a two-bedroom apartment for the semester assuming four months per semester.*

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HOUSING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

SUPERMARKETS AND OTHER GROCERS IN PITTSBURGH

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Students may choose to stay off campus after their freshman year. A variety of apartment options are available in the city, including complexes with amenities like covered parking, fitness centers, and swimming pools. You can use the link below to search for an apartment near Point Park University that suits your needs.

<http://www.apartmentfinder.com/Off-Campus-Housing/Pennsylvania/Apartments-Near-Point-Park-University>

SUPERMARKETS AND OTHER GROCERS IN PITTSBURGH

SUPERMARKET	ADDRESS
Giant Eagle in Squirrel Hill-61C	1901 Murray Ave (Beacon St.) Pittsburgh, PA 15217
Giant Eagle in the Southside-51A	2021 Wharton Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15203
Trader Joe's in East Liberty-77A	6343 Penn Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Whole Foods in East Liberty-77A	5880 Centre Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Lotus Food Company	1649 Penn Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Kohli's Indian Imports	319 S Craig St Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Bombay Food Market	4605 Centre Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15213

TRANSPORTATION

HOW TO GET AROUND

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY SHUTTLE SERVICE

Point Park students, faculty and staff have a variety of transportation services at the doorstep of our Downtown campus, including the university's own shuttle fleet and an extensive regional mass transit system, along with Pittsburgh International Airport. Whether you live in a Point Park residence hall or commute to campus, a wealth of transportation options can get you where you need to go!

POINT PARK SHUTTLES

Point Park University offers the following transportation services for students, faculty, staff and guests:

- Pittsburgh Playhouse and Stage AE shuttle services
- Activities and shopping shuttles

VALID POINT PARK ID NEEDED

Riders must have approved identification to use the university's transportation services. Acceptable identification includes a student ID, employee ID or temporary ticket issued by Point Park. For insurance reasons, guests can ride shuttles only when issued temporary ID related to university-sponsored events.

SHUTTLE DESTINATIONS

Point Park offers shuttles to the university's performing arts center (the Pittsburgh Playhouse) located in Oakland, a short shuttle ride from the Downtown campus. Review the Playhouse shuttle schedule, which is updated each semester.

Shuttle destinations are indicated by colored flags near the driver-side window.

- Playhouse — Black
- Special — Pink
- Athletics — Green

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TRANSPORTATION

HOW TO GET AROUND

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

RIDING THE LOCAL BUS

Bus schedules are available in the lobby of Lawrence Hall and on PAT's website. Monthly bus passes are available in the bookstore. You'll need to show your Point Park student ID to receive the discounted rates. Pass information is also listed on the Point Park University website under the Student Activities section.

Port Authority of Allegheny County is the public transit agency for the greater Pittsburgh area, providing bus, light rail, incline and paratransit service to about 230,000 riders daily.

For bus service, pay as you enter when you're going toward Downtown and pay when you exit when traveling away from Downtown. This policy is in effect at all times on the light rail system, known as the "T," and until 7 p.m. daily on buses. After 7 p.m., bus riders must pay upon boarding.

You can transfer between the 28X (from the Pittsburgh International Airport) and most other Port Authority bus or T routes in Downtown Pittsburgh. A transfer costs \$1 and is good for three hours for a one-zone ride within city limits. Request a transfer from the operator before paying your fare. Exact change is required when paying your fare as bus drivers do not carry change.

Bus service between 4 a.m. and 7 p.m. is FREE within the Downtown area known as the Golden Triangle. The Free Fare Zone includes stops within the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers to Ross Street, Penn Station and Liberty Avenue at the railroad overpass and 11th Street. Travel within Downtown and the North Shore is also free 24/7 on the T.

GENERAL TRANSIT

AMTRAK STATION (TRAIN)

1100 Liberty Avenue

+1 412 471 6172 (Phone)

GREYHOUND STATION (BUS — LONG DISTANCE)

55 11th Street

+1 412 442 2000 (Phone)

Bus: From Wood St at Third Avenue, catch the 39, 44, or Y49

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TRANSPORTATION

HOW TO GET AROUND

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

UBER

The mobile application Uber allows you to request a driver to any location by using your smartphone or tablet. If GPS or location services on your device are turned on, all you need to do is click “set pick up location” and Uber will show you what drivers are close to you and quote a price for pickup. You can also set your location manually by typing in an address. Uber prices are much cheaper than traditional taxi services. Payment is set up by putting your credit or debit card number into the application. Your card is charged automatically after your ride is completed. Uber drivers are often less than 10 minutes away so there should not be a long wait.

LYFT

The mobile application Lyft also allows you to request a driver to any location by using your smartphone or tablet. It works the same way as the application Uber (see above). Drivers for Lyft are often also drivers for Uber.

DOCUMENTS & PERSONAL NEEDS

WHAT YOU NEED

HOW TO GET A DRIVER'S LICENSE

In order to obtain a driver's license in Pennsylvania, the first step is to apply for a learner's permit. Please follow the below steps:

- Acquire a Pennsylvania driver's manual from a local Driver License Center, and study the guide.
- Have a physician, physician assistant, certified registered nurse practitioner or chiropractor conduct a physical examination and complete Form DL-180, "Non-Commercial Learner's Permit Application."
- Visit a Driver License Center with the completed DL-180.

• **Take the following documents with you to 708 Smithfield St., Pittsburgh PA 15222:**

- Valid Passport
- I-94
- F1 Visa*I-20
- Social Security number (SSN) or letter from Social Security Administration indicating you are ineligible for an SSN.
- Two proof of residency documents (dorm room lease and a bill sent to room address with student name is acceptable proof)
- Check or money order of \$35.50
- Take your eye screening and knowledge test at the PennDOT Driver License Center. Once passed, you will be issued your initial learner's permit.
- Schedule a road test either online or by calling +1 800 423 5542. New exams appointments are made available every Wednesday morning that are within a time frame of six weeks and six months.



Please bring the following items with you for the road test:

- Your valid learner's permit
- Proof of vehicle insurance
- Proof of vehicle registration
- Accompanying driver's valid driver's license
- Valid inspection sticker(s)

**If student has an F1 visa with Optional Practical Training (OPT), then student should also take employment authorization card.*

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DOCUMENTS & PERSONAL NEEDS

WHAT YOU NEED

HOW TO GET A SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

In order to work, you will need a U.S. Social Security card with your Social Security Number on it. Please note that you must first have a job, as you cannot get a social security card without a job. International students on an F-1 visa are only eligible for on-campus employment for the first full year of enrollment.

To apply, you will need to follow these steps:

1. Complete the application for a Social Security card (form SS-5).
2. Visit the Social Security office:
921 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
+1 800 772 1213
3. Bring your:
 - I-94
 - I-20
 - Passport
 - Complete application
 - Letter from your employer (It must identify you, your employment start date, the number of hours you will be working, supervisor's name and telephone number and EIN number.)

Note: You *MUST* have a job to apply for a Social Security card. However, if you wish to apply for a driver's license in the state you will need to apply for the Social Security Card and get the Social Security Card denial letter to take to the DMV.

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DOCUMENTS & PERSONAL NEEDS

WHAT YOU NEED

OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

Many banks allow you to open accounts with them online or over the phone, but as an international student it is much easier and faster to go in and meet with them in person. Once you have chosen a bank to open an account with, go to them with the following items:

1. Passport
2. I-94
3. I-20
4. Secondary identification (e.g., a school ID card or driver's license)
5. Your full name, U.S. address (on a utility bill or apartment lease or contract), U.S. phone number, campus phone number and the university address
6. Money you intend to open the account with (amount varies by bank)

MEDICAL NEEDS

PHARMACIES

If you need medications for an ailment, local pharmacies in the Pittsburgh area will have them in stock. Over the counter medications, such as aspirin or ibuprofen are available over the counter. Others are only available through a doctor's prescription. Visit Point Park's Student Health Center for additional guidance.

PHARMACIES NEAR POINT PARK

PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER
CVS	429 Smithfield St. Pittsburgh, PA 15222	+1 412 261 4846
Rite Aid	100 Forbes Ave. #100 Pittsburgh, PA 15222	+1 412 338 8614
Rite Aid	623 Smithfield St. Pittsburgh, PA 15222	+1 412 338 8614

RECREATION & FUN

WHAT TO DO

MOVIE THEATERS

The closest movie theater to Point Park University is Harris Theatre located at 809 Liberty Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15222, contact **+1 412 681 5449**. The Harris Theatre typically shows independent films.

CULTURE

Most of the performance groups associated with the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust offer half-price tickets to students one hour before their shows start, and including the Pittsburgh Ballet, Pittsburgh Opera and the Civic Light Opera. As a student you can also purchase an Arts Pass, which gives you access to four Cultural Trust shows for just \$55. The world-famous Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra will offer you its best available seats for just \$14 to \$17 two hours before performances if you present your university ID. You also can purchase a special student subscription for the concert season. With this, each concert only costs \$12.

MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL SITES

There are numerous museums and historical sites to visit while in Pittsburgh. In most cases, students receive discounted tickets by showing of your student ID. The below is by no means an exhaustive list:

CARNEGIE MUSEUMS OF PITTSBURGH

4400 Forbes Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
+1 412 622 3131 (Phone)

FORT PITT MUSEUM

601 Commonwealth Pl.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
+1 412 281 9284 (Phone)

SENATOR JOHN HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

1212 Smallman St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
+1 412 454 6000 (Phone)

FRICK ART AND HISTORICAL CENTER

7227 Reynolds St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
+1 412 371 0600 (Phone)

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RECREATION & FUN

WHAT TO DO

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

Are you a sports fan or just curious to learn about a sport and be thoroughly entertained? There is something for everyone in the city of Pittsburgh:

PITTSBURGH STEELERS — National Football League

Website: www.ticketmaster.com/steelers

+1 412 323 1919 (Phone)

Tickets range from \$59 to \$212

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Major League Baseball

Website: www.pittsburgh.pirates.mlb.com

+1 800 BUY BUCS (Phone)

Tickets range from \$9 to \$210

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — National Hockey League

Website: http://www.ticketmaster.com/artist/806005?list_view=1

+1 800 642 PENS (Phone)

PITTSBURGH RIVERHOUNDS — United Soccer League

Address:

510 W. Station Square Drive,
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Website: www.riverhounds.com

+1 412 224 4900 (Phone)

PITTSBURGH PARKS

POINT STATE PARK

Point State Park is at the tip of Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle. It commemorates and preserves the strategic and historic heritage of the area during the French and Indian War (1754 to 1763).



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RECREATION & FUN

WHAT TO DO

SHOPPING & DINING

There is numerous shopping for all budgets in and around the Pittsburgh area. These are just some of the popular shopping areas; this is by no means an exhaustive list.

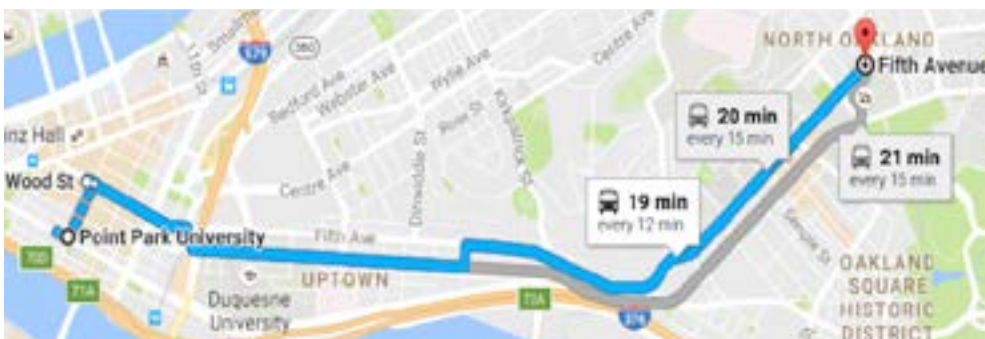
STATION SQUARE

Station Square is a 40-acre complex just across the Monongahela River (via Smithfield Bridge from Downtown). Shopping, dining and entertainment are dispersed throughout the buildings on the site, which include the P&LE Railroad (Grand Concourse Restaurant) and former boxcar warehouses (+1 412 261 9911).



FIFTH AVENUE PLACE

A steel pyramid and steeple atop Fifth Avenue Place serves as a Downtown landmark and draws attention to this upscale shopping and dining destination. Specialty shops such as Betsy Ann Chocolates, Crystal River Gems and Laurie’s Hallmark are convenient for picking up gifts and souvenirs. Cafe Amante, an attractive Italian restaurant, offers a pleasing selection of food and wine, and there’s also a food court on site (+1 412 456 7800).



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RECREATION & FUN

WHAT TO DO

ROSS PARK MALL

One of Pittsburgh's best malls, Ross Park features a beautiful interior, lined with 150 high-end and affordable stores including Nordstrom, Macy's, Burberry, The Cheesecake Factory, Coach, Janie and Jack, Juicy Couture, Kate Spade, Lacoste, L.L. Bean, Louis Vuitton, Lucky Brand, Michael Kors, Pottery Barn, Swarovski, Tiffany & Co., and True Religion Brand Jeans. A food court is available for hungry shoppers. This retail retreat is conveniently located less than 10 miles north of Downtown Pittsburgh.



RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

WHERE TO PRACTICE YOUR FAITH

Pittsburgh is home to a wide range of religious organizations. International students of all faiths can easily find communities in our city that fit their spiritual needs.

ISLAMIC CENTER OF PITTSBURGH

<http://www.icp-pgh.org/>

MUSLIM COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER PITTSBURGH

<http://www.mccgp.org/>

PITTSBURGH BUDDHIST CENTER

<http://pittsburghbuddhistcenter.org/>

SRI VENKATESWARA TEMPLE

<https://www.svtemple.org/Home.aspx>

HINDU JAIN TEMPLE OF PITTSBURGH

<http://www.hindujaintemple.org/>

PITTSBURGH SATHYA SAI CENTER

<http://www.sathyasaipittsburgh.org/Contactus.php>

PITTSBURGH SIKH GURDWARA

<http://pittsburghsikhgurdwara.org/>

ASIAN INDIAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF PITTSBURGH

<http://www.aiccp.org/>



Left image: Pittsburgh Sikh Gurdwara;

Right image: Muslim Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh

TYPICAL WEATHER

WHAT TO EXPECT

TYPICAL WEATHER PATTERN

Pittsburgh lies in the humid continental climate zone. The area has four distinct seasons: Winters are cold, cloudy, and moderately snowy, springs and falls are generally mild with moderate levels of sunshine, and summers are warm to hot and humid. As measured by percentage of possible sunshine, summer is by far the sunniest season. Please take the below into consideration when packing:

- The warmest month of the year in Pittsburgh is July, with a 24-hour average of 72.6 °F (22.6 °C). Conditions are often humid, and combined with highs reaching 90 °F (32 °C) on an average of 9.5 days a year.
- The coldest month is January, when the 24-hour average is 28.4 °F (-2.0 °C), and lows of 0 °F (-18 °C) or below can be expected on an average of 2.6 nights per year.
- On average, December and January have the greatest number of precipitation days. Snowfall averages 41.4 inches (105 centimeters) per season.

Pack winter coats for the winter months, as December and January can get really cold. Prepare to layer clothing during the colder months. You will also need lighter sweaters and jackets for the months that aren't as cold. Also take or prepare to buy umbrellas and or raincoats for the rainy months.