



TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/splashtps>

For information regarding bike routes, shuttle route maps, UCSD parking maps, and carpool and vanpool information, contact the Rideshare Desk located in the Parking and Transportation Services Office on Level 1 of the Gilman Drive Parking Structure on Russell Lane, or call (858) 534-7433 or 534-RIDE.

FREE BUS PERMITS

Free bus permits are available at the UCSD Rideshare Operation Office as well as at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography Administration Office (104 Scripps Building). A UCSD I.D. card is required. Students, scholars, UCSD affiliates, and their spouses can ride free with this permit within several miles of the University. Ask the UCSD Rideshare Operations Office for more details.

UCSD BUS AND SHUTTLE SERVICES

UCSD offers the following free shuttle bus services Monday through Friday. Keep in mind that there are **NO shuttle services offered on the weekends and University holidays**. Route schedules are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information about shuttle routes and times, refer to:

<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/splashtps>

CAMPUS LOOP SHUTTLE (DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR)

For the Campus Loop Shuttle, there are 20 pickup points throughout the campus every 10 minutes.

CAMPUS/MEDICAL CENTER SHUTTLE

The Campus/Medical Center Shuttle runs from the Basic Science Building to the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest every 30 minutes. The shuttle also stops at the VA Medical Center.

MESA HOUSING SHUTTLE

The Mesa Housing Shuttle operates year round Monday through Friday. It runs from Mandeville Auditorium to North Mesa Housing every thirty minutes.

CAMPUS PARKING SHUTTLE: NORTH PARKING (DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR)

This campus parking shuttle runs from the northern parking lots to the Faculty Club via college residence halls and apartments.

CAMPUS PARKING SHUTTLE: EAST PARKING (DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR)

This campus parking shuttle runs from the eastern parking lots, beyond the 5 freeway, to the Price Center.

SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY/ MESA CAMPUS SHUTTLE

This shuttle operates from several pick-up points between Scripps Institution of Oceanography and UCSD campus. The shuttle runs year round, Monday through Friday from 7 am to 12:15 am.

TORREY PINES SHUTTLE

The Torrey Pines Shuttle runs from the UCSD Faculty Club to the Torrey Pines Center every 10 minutes.

CITYSHUTTLE (DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR)

This shuttle connects the UCSD campus with a portion of local off-campus housing and shopping malls (UTC). The service operates from 7 am to 12:15 am, Monday through Friday.

AIRPORT/AMTRAK SHUTTLE

This shuttle service is only offered during major holiday breaks. In addition, private companies listed in Yellow Pages under "Airport" offer transportation to and from the airport, train station, bus station, etc.

COMMUTER TRAIN: "THE COASTER"

Another option for travel between coastal north county, the UCSD campus, and downtown San Diego is the Coaster. This is a commuter train operating Mondays through Fridays (except holidays), with the first train leaving Oceanside at 5:34 am. Monthly passes are available. For a timetable and a fare schedule visit the Transportation & Parking Services on campus on Level 1 of the Gilman Drive Parking Structure, or call toll free (800) 262-7837 or (619) 685-4900.



SAN DIEGO TRANSIT BUS SYSTEM

<http://www.sdcommute.com>

San Diego Transit, the city bus system, has four bus lines that come to the UCSD campus. North County Transit has one bus line connecting UCSD with the communities to the north. Bus schedules for these and other lines are available at the UCSD's Transportation & Parking Services Office on Level 1 of the Gilman Drive Parking Structure on Russell Lane. Or you may phone 1-(800) 266-6883 or the automated service line at (619) 685-4900 for information on which buses to take to get to any address in San Diego. Ask for a Regional Transit Guide of all transit lines.

To transfer from one bus or line to another, ask for a *Transfer* upon boarding the first bus. The *Transfer* is free.

#30 is an express line that leaves the VA Hospital and then goes to North Torrey Pines Road, south on La Jolla Boulevard, through La Jolla, Pacific Beach and then to downtown San Diego where it terminates at Tenth Avenue and "C" Street. It also goes east on La Jolla Village Drive to Miramar Road, Camino Ruiz, Mira Mesa, Scripps Industrial Park and USIU.

#150 is an express line. It leaves the VA Hospital and passes by La Jolla Village Square, University Towne Centre, University City, North Clairemont, and Clairemont Drive until it terminates at Ninth Avenue and "C" Street in downtown San Diego.

#41 is a regular bus line passing through Gilman Drive, then to the VA Hospital. It passes through University Towne Centre, University City, North Clairemont, and Linda Vista on Genesee until its termination at the Fashion Valley Shopping Center on Friars Road.

#34 is a regular bus line that leaves Thornton Hospital, goes down Genesee Avenue to University Town Centre, continues to La Jolla Village Square, UCSD, south through La Jolla, Pacific Beach, Mission Beach, Midway Drive and Pacific Highway, terminating finally at Fourth Avenue and Broadway in downtown San Diego.

#101 North County Transit Line, leaves the VA Hospital, goes to North Torrey Pines, makes stops all along the coast highway going north. This bus line goes all the way to Oceanside before it begins its return trip south and passes through University Towne Centre and back to campus.

BICYCLING

<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/splashtps>

Bicycling is a popular means of transportation in the USA and is an economical way to get around the UCSD campus and San Diego. It is important to read and understand UCSD's safety rules regarding bicycles on campus. Regulations are available from the Rideshare Operations Desk in the Parking Office on Level 1 of the Gilman Drive Parking Structure. Telephone:(858) 534-7433.

BICYCLE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

A helmet should be worn when riding a bicycle. A headlight and rear light or reflector are necessary to ride at night. It is also a good idea to wear reflective clothing, especially at night.

Bicyclists must obey the same rules and traffic regulations as a motorist. For a list of these regulations, obtain a copy of a Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) handbook. A citation may be issued by the police for violations of any traffic regulations. Be sure to practice the hand signals for turning that are included in the DMV handbook.

BICYCLE THEFT

Bicycles should be locked securely whenever they are not being ridden. Register the bicycle's serial number with the UCSD police department bicycle operations at (858) 534-7335.

BICYCLE ROUTE MAPS

Maps of bike routes are available at the Rideshare Desk located in the Transportation & Parking Services office on Level 1 of the Gilman Drive Parking Structure on Russell Lane, or by calling (858) 534-7433.



RENTING OR BUYING A BICYCLE

Bicycles may be rented for a minimal fee through the office of Outback Adventures by calling (858) 534-0684. Visit <http://recreation.ucsd.edu/outback.html> or see Canyonview Magazine for more information. Also, contact the UCSD Bicycle Shop located in the old Student Center, or call (858) 534-4279 for more information.

AUTOMOBILES: DRIVING IN CALIFORNIA

<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/>
(800) 777-0133

CALIFORNIA DRIVER'S LICENSE

The State of California's Department of Motor Vehicles requires California residents to have a California driver's license even if the resident possesses a valid international driver's license. Students and scholars are considered to be California residents (for driving purposes only) if they have rented an apartment, are being paid any money and will be paying income tax, or are going to school in California.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) requires a written test and a road test. No appointment is necessary for the written test, but an appointment and a car are required for the road test. A US Social Security card is not needed to apply for a driver's license. The DMV is often crowded, so allow ample time to complete the process.

Under current law, a temporary license will be issued pending USCIS confirmation of the applicant's status in the USA. It may take as long as nine months to receive the actual driver's license in the mail. Temporary permits can be renewed until the card is received.

The closest DMV Office to UCSD is in Clairemont at 4375 Derrick Dr., San Diego. The DMV Field Office near the UCSD Medical Center is at 3960 Normal Street. Other local field offices are in the cities of Chula Vista, El Cajon, Poway, San Ysidro, and Spring Valley.

STATE ID FOR NON-DRIVERS

The DMV will issue a non-driver's ID card. This is a very convenient form of identification, since a passport is not always recognized for local transactions such as cashing checks or admission to an establishment where alcohol is served. The same documents are needed as if applying for a driver's license and USCIS will have to confirm status in the USA. A temporary ID will be issued but it will not have a photograph.

DRIVING SCHOOLS

There are driving schools in San Diego which offer six-hour behind-the-wheel instruction by licensed professionals operating by strict DMV standards. Check the Yellow Pages under "Driving" to locate driving schools, or search the internet with "Driving Schools."

SEAT BELT LAW

Drivers and all passengers, including children, are required by law to wear seat belts. Children under five years of age and/or under 60 pounds must be restrained in approved safety seats.

UCSD PARKING PERMITS

All cars parked on campus on weekdays from 7:00am to 11:00pm must have a valid UCSD parking permit or use metered parking. On weekends, permits are NOT required. Most faculty, staff and students purchase permits by the month, quarter or year. With one of these "A," "B," or "S" permits, a car may park in designated areas on campus any time, and may park at meters (without using coins) after 4:30 pm and before 7:00 am. To obtain a monthly, quarterly or annual parking permit, go to the Parking Office on Level 1 of the Gilman Drive Parking Structure. One day permits are available from the Gilman and North Point information booths between 7:00 am and 8:30 pm daily. Call (858) 534-4223 for further information, or check the website for visitor parking:

<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/splashtps>

Parking at the UCSD Medical Center in downtown San Diego requires a different kind of permit. Call (619) 543-6524 for further information. For information on the free shuttle service between UCSD and the Medical Center, see Campus Medical Center Shuttle.



TRAFFIC TICKETS OR CITATIONS

It is very important to learn and follow traffic regulations in the USA. Traffic regulations are enforced by the police and violations are punishable by fines or loss of driving privileges. For tickets because of a moving violation (for example, speeding or not stopping at a stop sign), a fine must be paid. The violation will appear on the person's driving record and may cause a substantial increase in car insurance rates. To have the violation removed from the record and avoid an increase in car insurance, an option may be to attend a driver education class (traffic school). For those eligible, a list of approved traffic schools will be sent from the court where the citation was issued.

CAR THEFT AND VANDALISM

San Diego has one of the highest levels of automobile theft in the USA. It is important to observe some basic precautions:

- Do NOT leave the key in the ignition.
- Always close and lock the car.
- When parking the car at night, always park in a well-lit area.
- Never leave anything visible inside the car that might attract thieves (i.e. wallet, sunglasses and especially not your passport).

There are many different security devices for sale, such as car alarms or "The Club" that will provide greater protection for cars. Using these devices also may reduce insurance rates, so be sure to ask the insurance company.

OWNING A CAR

CAR REGISTRATION

You are required to show evidence of insurance in order to register your car. Upon purchasing a new or used car from a licensed California dealership, the dealer will collect the appropriate sales tax and fees to register the car with the Department of Motor Vehicles. The dealer will provide temporary papers showing that the purchase has been completed and within two weeks a registration card and a certificate of title will arrive by mail.

If a used car is purchased from an individual, the buyer is responsible for contacting the DMV within ten days to pay the sales tax and appropriate transfer and registration fees. The following documents are needed: certificate of title from the previous owner, purchase date and price, smog inspection certificate, and payment of fees. It is the responsibility of the seller to have the car "smogged" before you buy it. If you buy a car that will not pass the smog inspection, you are responsible for any costs involved. Members of the AAA Auto Club may register their cars at an AAA office instead.

For a car purchased in another state, California registration must be completed within twenty days. The out-of-state title and registration, proof of ownership, a smog inspection certificate, and payment of fees are required.

SELLING YOUR CAR

Upon selling a vehicle, the sale must be reported to the DMV within five days to release any liability on it.

BUYING A USED CAR

Buying a used car is a difficult task, and there are many things to consider. Do not rush into buying a used car! The advantage of buying a used car is the price, including reduced car insurance rates for older cars. The disadvantage is the risk of expensive repair and maintenance costs. Check California Bureau of Automotive Repair website, for more advice:

<http://smogcheck.ca.gov>

Be sure to inspect the car carefully before buying it. Take it for a test drive to check for steering and brake problems. Commercial dealerships are required by law to perform basic maintenance tests (for example, checking the brakes) before selling the car.

If you are buying a used car, it is a good idea to take the car to a reliable auto mechanic for a safety inspection. The fee for the safety inspection may save you money in the future!



WHERE TO LOOK FOR A USED CAR

BULLETIN BOARDS

Bulletin boards with private advertisements for used cars are located all over the UCSD campus, at supermarkets, and many other locations. The bulletin board at the International Center is a good place to start.

PRIVATE ADVERTISEMENTS

Private Advertisements can be found in local newspapers like The Reader, San Diego Union-Tribune, North County Times, La Jolla Light, UCSD Guardian, etc.

AUTO TRADER

<http://www.autotrader.com>

The Auto Trader, a catalog of local used cars for sale by a private owner, is sold at local supermarkets and other retail stores.

CAR DEALERSHIPS

Car dealerships offer used cars at reasonable rates and may offer extended maintenance warranties.

To be sure a used car is priced fairly, check the Blue Book of value ratings which is available at banks, local public libraries, the USE Credit Union at UCSD, or

<http://www.kbb.com>

Also, check the April issue of Consumer Reports Magazine which gives valuable information on buying used cars. It is available at the UCSD Geisel Library and local public libraries.

Be sure to ask for repair records. Refusal to present these records may indicate that the owner's maintenance care has been negligent.

CAR INSURANCE

In the USA, car insurance, like health insurance, is very important and can also be very confusing. There are several different types of car insurance that you may purchase: liability insurance, collision insurance, and comprehensive insurance. For a complete description of each of these, see the Glossary of Insurance Terms below. A minimum of liability insurance is required by law in California for car owners. A car owner is considered legally liable and financially responsible if the car causes injury or death, or damage to someone else's property.

Without liability insurance, a person could face payments of tens of thousands of dollars if found legally liable in an accident. Remember: even if the car is not very valuable, liability insurance is required!

The cost of liability insurance is at least \$500 for six months of insurance. Costs vary depending on the value of the car, the owner's age, past driving record, location of residence, etc.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A California driver's license is required.
- A transcript of the driving record from the home country (showing no accidents or traffic violations for three years) is required by some companies before they will offer insurance.

CAR INSURANCE COMPANIES

Insurance rates vary from company to company, so be sure to shop around to find a reliable company that offers the insurance options you want. There are many insurance companies in the San Diego area. (Check the Yellow Pages of the telephone directory under "Insurance" for a complete listing of insurance agents.) The following are not necessarily endorsed by the UCSD International Center.

AAA AUTOMOBILE CLUB.....(858)483-4960
4973 Clairemont Drive Suite C, San Diego, CA 92117
<http://www.aaa.com>

Requires three-year safe driving record for insurance. Benefits include road-side service for flat tires, etc.



ALLSTATE INSURANCE..... (858) 623-3344

8650 Genesee Av. 108, San Diego, CA 92117

<http://www.allstate.com>

Rates and coverage vary.

STATE FARM INSURANCE..... ..(858) 452-5072

8813 Villa La Jolla Dr. Ste 2002, La Jolla, CA 92037

<http://www.statefarm.com>

Requires U.S. driver's license for at least three years.

FARMERS INSURANCE.....(858) 454-3225

7946 Ivanhoe Ave. Ste 211, La Jolla, Ca 92037

<http://www.farmers.com>

Requires a minimum six month policy term.

GLOSSARY OF CAR INSURANCE TERMS

- **Liability:** Required by everyone who owns or leases a car in California. In case of accident, it pays for the property loss to other cars or for bodily injury to persons other than those in the insured person's car.
- **Collision:** In case of accident, this insurance pays to have the damage to the insured person's car repaired. If someone else is at fault, that person's liability insurance usually pays.
- **Comprehensive:** This pays for property loss or damage to the insured person's car due to something other than a collision (for example, theft, vandalism, fire, weather, etc.).
- **No Fault Medical:** This covers medical bills for everyone in the insured person's car regardless of who caused the accident. If the insured person is not at fault, the other driver's liability insurance usually pays.
- **Uninsured or Underinsured Motorist:** This covers property loss and/or medical bills in cases where the insured person is not at fault but the other driver is uninsured or underinsured.

- **Insured Amounts:** California requires a certain minimum of liability insurance, but we recommend a higher amount based on actual costs of damages. If the damage the insured person causes is greater than the limits of coverage, the insured person could be sued for the additional amount, and the insured person's house, car, and other assets may be in jeopardy if the judgment supports the claim.
- **Policy Length:** Usually car insurance policies are written for one year with premiums paid monthly, quarterly, or annually. A shorter term on the policy may be available for shorter stays. A request for a refund of the unused portion of a policy may be made when the policy is cancelled.
- **Deductible:** Insurance policies are written with a certain level of "deductible." This refers to the amount of the accident or loss that the insured person will pay before the insurance policy begins its coverage. Insurance with a low deductible (\$100-200) will cost more than with a higher deductible (\$1,000 or more). A deductible should be selected that is affordable in case of an accident.
- **Cost:** Prices for car insurance in the USA are very competitive and may vary considerably between companies. Cost differences are based on the type and level of coverage selected and proof of a safe driving record. It is usually a good idea to get at least two or three estimates before buying an insurance policy.
- **California Assigned Risk:** Since liability insurance is required in California, the Assigned Risk Plan is designed so that everyone can obtain this coverage. The costs may be higher for this liability insurance as the insured does not have to prove having a safe driving record.

DRIVING IN MEXICO

MEXICAN CAR INSURANCE

Mexican car insurance is needed for driving into Mexico. Insurance may be purchased at an insurance storefront kiosk in San Ysidro (follow the signs along I-5 to the last US exit) or at other places near the Mexican border. While American insurance plans claim to cover accidents in Mexican border areas, American insurance is **NOT** recognized by Mexican officials.