ELS/Tacoma

Opening on September 17, 2012
Located at Bates Technical College in the city of Tacoma, Washington
Hours of operation will be 8:00am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday

Nearby Cities and Attractions
There are many attractions in Tacoma. Here is a sampling:
Children’s Museum of Tacoma
Karpeles Manuscript Museum
Museum of Glass
Pantages Theater
Point Defiance Park
Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium
Tacoma Art Museum
Tacoma Dome
Tacoma Glassblowing Studio
W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory
Washington State History Museum
Seattle is about 90 minutes away by public transportation
• Museum of Flight
• San Juan Safaris – Whale Watching
• Seattle Aquarium
• Seattle Art Museum
• Seattle Space Needle
• Underground Tour
• Victoria Clipper
• Woodland Park Zoo
• And many, many more attractions!

Testing Services
ELS/Tacoma offers the following exams:
• TOEFL® in 2013

Bates Technical College
Bates Technical College offers 50 choices of associate of technology (AT) and associate of applied science (AAS) degrees and more than 100 career preparation certificate programs in fields ranging from culinary arts to fire protection, computer science to denturist (clinical dental technician), and machinist to broadcast production.

Noted Residents of the State of Washington
Douglas Dorland Anderson, archaeologist, Olympia
Earl Anthony, bowler, Kent
Bob Barker, TV host, Darrington
Dyan Cannon, actress, Tacoma
Chester F. Carlson, inventor, Seattle
Carol Channing, actress, Seattle
Kurt Cobain, grunge rock icon, Aberdeen
Judy Collins, singer, Seattle
Bing Crosby, singer, actor, Tacoma
Bill Gates, software executive, Seattle
Jimi Hendrix, guitarist, Seattle
Robert Joffrey, choreographer, Seattle
Gypsy Rose Lee, entertainer, Seattle
Kenny Loggins, singer, songwriter, Everett
Students in the Fire Service program at Bates

- John Walker Kendall, scientist, Bellingham
- Hank Ketcham, cartoonist (Dennis the Menace), Seattle
- Mary McCarthy, author, Seattle
- Phil Mahre, skier, Yakima
- Patrice Munsel, soprano, Spokane
- Jimmie Rogers, singer, Camas
- Francis Scobee, astronaut, Cle Elum
- Hilary Swank, actress, Bellingham
- Adam West, actor (the original Batman), Walla Walla
- Martha Wright, singer, Seattle

Tacoma and the State of Washington

- **Capital** – Olympia
- **Nickname** – The Evergreen State
- **State bird** – Willow Goldfinch
- **State tree** – Western Hemlock
- **State flower** – Coast Rhododendron
- **State population** – 6,725,000 (2010)
- The city of Tacoma is suburban, with a population of 200,000.
- Seattle and Olympia are both a 30-minute drive by car. Both are also accessible by public transportation.

**Transportation**

Tacoma is divided by I-5, an interstate highway extending from the Canadian to Mexican borders. Additionally, State Highway 16 extends from Tacoma west to the Kitsap Peninsula.

**Public Transportation**

Pierce Transit is the major public transportation provider, serving Tacoma and Pierce County, with daily express commuter buses to Seattle and Olympia.

**Ferry Service**

Washington State Ferries provides service between Point Defiance Park and Vashon Island. The state ferry system is the largest ferry system in the United States, consisting of more than 25 boats and handling over 600 trips daily.

**Rail**

Tacoma is served by Amtrak, Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Union Pacific. In addition, the City of Tacoma owns 200 kilometers of railroad tracks between Tacoma and the cities of Morton and Chehalis.

**Commercial bus service**

Tacoma also serves as a stop on the Greyhound bus service.

**Climate**

Situated on Commencement Bay, an inlet of Puget Sound, Tacoma lies at the foot of Mt. Rainier in the Puyallup River valley, bordered by mountains. It is about 51 kilometers south of Seattle. The climate is quite mild throughout the year. Although the area has the reputation of being rainy, Tacoma actually receives less rain than New York City. Most of the precipitation falls in the winter, when snow blankets the mountains.

**Average Temperatures (Celsius)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Summer</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
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<td>16</td>
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**Did you know . . . ?**

- Singer and actor Bing Crosby (1903 - 1977) was born in Tacoma.
- Dale Chihuly, who is internationally renowned for his work in glass, is also a Tacoma native. His work is featured at places like the Glass Museum, the Tacoma Art Museum, Union Station, University of Washington Tacoma and The Swiss Pub.
- Gary Larson, creator of “The Far Side” cartoon, grew up in a blue-collar household in Tacoma.
- Union Station, built in 1911, began as the western terminus of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The landmark depot was designed by Reed & Stem, the architects who created New York’s Grand Central Station.
- The landmark Stadium High School, remodeled to become a school in 1906, was originally intended to be one of the finest luxury hotels on the Pacific Coast when construction began in 1891. It was featured in the 1999 film “10 Things I Hate About You.”
- The first Tacoma Narrows suspension bridge, the Galloping Gertie, collapsed due to wind-induced vibrations on November 7, 1940, after just a few weeks of operation.
- Bob’s World Famous Java Jive, a concrete building in the shape of a coffee pot, has been serving drinks in South Tacoma Way for over 75 years, and is a historically registered site.
- Tacoma’s Karpeles Manuscript Museum near Wright Park features some of the rarest and important documents in history.
- The Tollbooth Gallery is the world’s smallest gallery dedicated exclusively to experimental video and fine arts. The Tollbooth was once a TV-Tacoma information kiosk that had long since been abandoned and abused. It now features artworks for the public.