

San Francisco

Center Profile



**ELS Language Centers
at Golden Gate University**
536 Mission Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Center Hours

8:00 am to 5:00 pm (Monday – Friday)
Closed on weekends and holidays

Key Location Features

- Walking distance to tourist attractions and public transportation
- Executive Programs location
- Residence club housing within walking-distance
- “English in Action” elective (introduces students to San Francisco through teacher-led field trips)
- TOEFL® iBT and IELTS™ testing center

Area Attractions

- San Francisco’s shopping, nightlife, restaurants, parks, cultural and tourist attractions
- Muir Woods and Yosemite National Park
- Napa and Sonoma Valley wine country
- Monterey Peninsula’s costal scenery and sea life

Climate

Northern California has a very temperate climate. Even in the summer, students may need a sweater or light jacket. The Bay Area’s ideal weather makes numerous outdoor activities possible all year long.

Average Temperatures (Celsius)

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Winter	7	13
Spring	9	17
Summer	12	18
Autumn	12	20

Cooperative Colleges & Universities in Area

Visit www.collegedirectory.els.edu to learn more about local colleges & universities that accept ELS completion in place of the TOEFL®.

Surrounding Area Information

Average travel time (in minutes) from ELS Center:

<u>Housing Options</u>	<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Method</u>
Herbert Hotel:	15	By foot
Homestays:	30	By bus or train
Apartments:	10-15	By foot

Local Places

Airport:	20 to 30	By taxi or train
Bank:	1	By foot
Downtown:	1	By foot
Post Office:	1	By foot
Restaurant(s):	1	By foot
Shopping Mall:	1	By foot
Sports Center:	10	By foot
Supermarket:	10	By train or bus
Bus Stop/Subway:	1	By foot

Nearby Cities

Berkeley, CA	15	By BART train
Oakland, CA	15	By BART train
San Jose, CA	60	By Caltrain

Local Transportation

San Francisco’s central public transportation hub is just a half block from the ELS center. The MUNI bus/tram service (\$1.50/ride) goes to most areas within San Francisco. The BART train service goes to main cities in the Bay area (Berkeley, Oakland) and Ferry service goes to selected cities along the bay (Sausalito, Tiburon, Vallejo). Students sometimes take taxis together.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted in the ELS Center, but students may smoke outdoors.

Housing Check-in and Departure

Students with confirmed ELS housing reservations should go directly to their assigned housing upon arrival (not to the ELS Center) on the Sunday before their course begins. Checkout is the Saturday after the program ends. Arrivals and departures on dates/times other than those listed require special approval.

Please see “Check-in” instructions in the following sections for exact arrival details and times.

HOUSING & ARRIVAL DETAILS – SAN FRANCISCO

Herbert Hotel Student Residence

161 Powell Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Rooms (standard option): **Doubles (2 person); limited number of Singles (1 person)**

Shared double rooms (with shared bath) include new bunk beds (with rails), and desks for each student. A limited number of singles (usually with shared bath) may be available upon special request at an additional cost. All designated ELS rooms include free wireless internet access, and cable TV. A student lounge is available on the premises with chairs, a sofa, microwave, computers and internet access, and TV. Weekly housekeeping and linen service is included.

Meals Included: **7 meals per week** (daily continental breakfasts). A wide range of inexpensive restaurants surround the hotel, providing students with many meal options.

Age Minimum: **17+ years old**

Laundry Facilities: Self-service machines are available for a small fee.

Security: The front desk is manned 24 hours / 7 days per week. All rooms are key access.

Check-In: **3 pm and after (Sunday)**

Students can pickup their keys at the front desk of the hotel. A credit card will be required upon check-in.

Damage/Key Deposit: None required

Checkout Time: 11 am (Saturday)

Note: During peak periods in which the standard room allocation is full, the Herbert Hotel will offer additional “overflow” rooms at a higher rate. Additional “overflow” rooms may also be available at the nearby Spaulding Hotel (one block from the Herbert) when the Herbert space is full. ELS will notify you if this is the case and will provide information on prices for the Spaulding Hotel.

Homestays*

* Executive homestays may be available at an additional cost above the standard rate. Contact ELS/San Francisco at sf@els.edu for more details.

Rooms: **Single (1 person)**

Meals Included: **14 per week** (daily continental breakfast & dinner)

Age Minimum: **17 years old**

Flight Information: Homestay students should notify their Host Families or ELS of their arrival times so that families will know to be home when they arrive.

Transportation to ELS: Host family students are responsible for their personal transportation. Most students use the train or bus to get to the Center.

Check-In: **8:00 am to 10:00 pm (Sunday) check-in**
Students go directly to homestay address.

Checkout Time: 12 noon (Saturday)

Apartment Options in the Area

Furnished apartments are available within walking or bus distance from ELS Language Centers. Please contact the center directly at sf@els.edu for details.

Airport Arrival Information

ELS Language Centers recommends that students choose the ELS Airport Pickup Service for arrivals, however other transportation options are also available.

Area Airports: San Francisco Int'l (SFO) or Oakland Int'l (OAK)

ELS Airport Pickup Service Provider Information:

OEC Int'l Travelers

Tel: 1(888) 863-2482 toll free / 1(415) 459-7632

Fax: 1(415) 459-5664

The driver will hold a sign with the student's name on it. Airport Pickup Meeting Locations are as follows:

International: Customs Exit

Domestic: Baggage Claim Area

Other Transportation Options From the Airport:

Taxis from San Francisco Int'l airport to homestays or downtown will cost about \$30 to \$35 plus tip, with a travel time of about 30 to 45 minutes.

A SuperShuttle shared van service is also available for \$11 to \$15 plus tip that goes anywhere in San Francisco. To use SuperShuttle students must go to the upper level of the airport to the "Courtesy Transit Vehicle Only" signs. BART service can also be taken.

Toll-free Emergency Phone Numbers

1(888) 475-2491 for Arrival Weekend emergencies. For other emergencies requiring immediate attention outside of business hours, call the ELS Help Line 1(800) 435-7357 (1-800-HELP-ELS).

Recommended Hotels

If hotel accommodations are needed before the housing check-in date, we recommend the following hotels in Union Square. Advance reservations are recommended. Prices (14% hotel tax not included) are subject to change.

International Youth Hostels 312 Mason	\$25 - 73 per night Tel: 1(415) 788-5604
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Cornel Hotel 715 Bush Street	\$69 - 99 per night Tel: 1(415) 421-3154 Or 1 (800) 232-9698
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Hotel Union Square 114 Powell Street	\$99 - \$169 per night Tel: 1(800) 553-1900
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Center Arrival Information

New Students should report to the ELS San Francisco Center **by 8:30 am on the first Monday** of their program for registration, the ELS placement test and orientation. New students need to bring the following:

- ☐ Passport (plus I-94 card & I-20 form - if applicable)
- ☐ Funds to pay tuition and housing and other relevant fees (or receipt showing pre-payment)
- ☐ Proof of medical insurance (or funds to purchase ELS insurance)
- ☐ Materials contained in the acceptance package