CHARACTERISTICS OF INSTITUTION

South Seattle College (SSC) was established in 1969, and is located in beautiful West Seattle, just minutes from Alki Beach and downtown Seattle. South Seattle offers a panoramic view of the city skyline, Puget Sound waterfront and the Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges.

South Seattle is a 2-year, state funded college, fully accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. South has over 7,500 students and three campus locations representing nearly 100 different cultures and 50 different countries.

South Seattle College is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). The NWCCU is the institutional accrediting agency for colleges and universities in the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington. The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities is recognized as a reliable authority on regional, institutional accreditation by the United States Department of Education.

CLIMATE & GEOGRAPHY

With a land area of 83.9 square miles, Seattle is the northernmost city with at least 500,000 people in the United States, farther north than Canadian cities such as Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal, at about the same latitude as Salzburg, Austria. The topography of Seattle is hilly. The city lies on several hills, including Capitol Hill, First Hill, West Seattle, Beacon Hill, Magnolia, Denny Hill, and Queen Anne. The Kitsap and the Olympic peninsulas along with the Olympic mountains lie to the west of Puget Sound, while the Cascade Range and Lake Sammamish lie to the east of Lake Washington. The city has over 5,540 acres (2,242 ha) of parkland.

Seattle's climate is classified as oceanic or temperate marine, with cool, wet winters and warm, relatively dry summers. Like much of the Pacific Northwest, according to the Köppen climate classification it has a warm-summer Mediterranean climate. Other climate classification systems, such as Trewartha, place it in the Oceanic zone, like much of Western Europe. The city and environs are part of USDA hardiness zone, with isolated coastal pockets falling under. Hot temperature extremes are enhanced by dry, compressed wind from the west slopes of the Cascades, while cold temperatures are generated mainly from the Fraser Valley in British Columbia.

Autumn, winter, and early spring are frequently characterized by rain. Winters are cool and wet with December, the coolest month, averaging 40.6 °F (4.8 °C), with 28 annual days with lows that reach the freezing mark, and 2.0 days where the temperature stays at or below freezing all day; the temperature rarely lowers to 20 °F (−7 °C). Summers are sunny, dry and warm, with August, the warmest month, averaging 66.1 °F (18.9 °C), and with temperatures reaching 90 °F (32 °C) on 3.1 days per year, although 2011 is the most recent year to not reach 90 °F. The hottest officially recorded temperature was 103 °F (39 °C) on July 29, 2009; the coldest recorded temperature was 0 °F (−18 °C) on January 31, 1950; the record cold daily maximum is 16 °F (−9 °C) on January 14, 1950, while, conversely, the record warm daily minimum is 71 °F (22 °C) the day the official record high was set. The average window for freezing temperatures is November 16 thru March 10, allowing a growing season of 250 days.

TUITION AND OTHER EXPENSES

Student Campus Enhancement Fee: In Spring 2015, students voted and approved a self-imposed fee for Campus Enhancement to fund, as a first project, the building of a Wellness Center. This quarterly fee was approved at $9 per credit, up to 10 credits, and will be included beginning with Winter Quarter 2016 tuition calculations. The Non-Resident, Waiver Eligible tuition is available to out-of-state permanent residents or citizens of the United States as part of the tuition reduction announced in Fall 2015. International students and other non-residents will continue to pay the Non-Resident/International tuition rate. If you have any questions.
HOUSING

In order to assist students with finding housing to fit their personal life-style, South Seattle College has arranged clean, safe, and affordable housing with reliable partners. Whether you prefer to live with a host family or desire to be independent, you will find an option that fits you and your pocketbook, options include:

I. Homestay
II. Shared Housing
III. Apartment

American host families are an excellent way for new students to discover American culture, practice English speaking and listening, and make life long friends. Hosts are welcoming, carefully chosen, and trained to provide students with a comfortable, clean and safe home environment.

The providers listed below offer a variety of options, which may include a private room with up to three meals per day, and use of the family living space. Airport pick-up service is available with advanced notice through South Seattle College or through your homestay provider.

MAJOR SUBJECTS

College Transfer Programs
Fulfill the general undergraduate requirements for transfer to a university.
- AA and AS Transfer Degrees
- College Transfer Overview
- Transfer Resources
- Policy/Reciprocity Agreement

Professional & Technical
These AAS degrees and certificates are designed to prepare you for immediate employment.
- AAS Degrees and Certificates
- AAS - Transfer Degree

University Options
- BAS in Hospitality Management
- BAS in Technical Teaching - South
- BAS in Sustainable Building Technology
- Eastern Washington University - EWU

International Programs
- International Programs
- Intensive English Program (IEP)
- Short-Term Customized Group Programs
- Study Abroad

eLearning
- Online Classes

Worker Retraining
Programs for laid-off workers; short-term training; Work First
- Worker Retraining Program

Georgetown Campus
Apprenticeship & Education Center
- Apprentice Programs
- Industrial First Aid
- Flagging/Traffic Control

Course Information
- Online Class Schedule
- Seattle Colleges District Catalog
- Official Course Outlines
- Student Learning Outcomes

AANAPISI Grant Program
The U.S. Department of Education grant is designed to improve the retention, transfer and graduation rates of underserved Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students.
- AANAPISI Grant Information

TRIO Programs
- TRIO Talent Search
- TRIO Upward Bound
- TRIO Student Success Services

Continuing Education
Lifelong Learning - noncredit classes
- Certified Financial Planner
- Lifelong Learning & Professional Dev.
- Online courses (noncredit)
- Career & Technical Teacher Education
- Senior Adult Ed

Preparing for College
- Basic & Transitional Studies
- ABE Adult Basic Education
- ESLEnglish as a Second Language
- GEDGeneral Education Development
- NewHolly General Education Development
- New Holly Learning Center
- High School Programs
- Career Link
- Running Start
- Tech Prep
- SAT Prep
ENTRANCE TESTS REQUIRED

All new students at South Seattle College must take either the Standard COMPASS or the ESL/COMPASS test for initial placement into college coursework and programs.

- Native English speakers take the Standard COMPASS Reading and Writing and the COMPASS Math.
- Non-native English speakers should begin testing with the ESL/COMPASS Grammar/Usage, Reading, Listening, and the COMPASS Math. The test software will move examinees earning high scores in Grammar/Usage and Reading, into the Standard COMPASS Writing and Reading for placement into English courses.
- COMPASS Math is the same test for Standard or ESL/COMPASS.
- If you have taken and passed a college level English (English composition) or Math (college algebra) course with at least a 2.0, you may not be required to take that portion of the COMPASS test.

APPLICATION MATERIALS REQUESTED

The Standard COMPASS and the ESL/COMPASS tests are placement tests.

- You will earn scores reflecting your skill level in reading and writing standard American English, and in math.
- These scores will place you into your first classes at SSC.
- After completing the Standard COMPASS or ESL/COMPASS test, you will arrange to meet with an advisor to discuss your plans and courses.
- Enrolling for courses for which your skills are appropriate will increase your chance of success.
- If you demonstrate academic weaknesses, you can get help to improve underdeveloped skills before they interfere with your learning.

- KEEP THIS REPORT WITH YOU for advisors/counselors and for your instructors in your first classes.

The Standard COMPASS and ESL/COMPASS tests are:

- Computer delivered. Only basic computer skills are necessary. There will be testing staff in the lab to assist with any problems. Be sure of your answers before moving on; you cannot return to a previous question.
- Multiple choice answers for all sections.
- Untimed. Read instructions carefully and work at your own rate. If you do not complete the test in one testing session, you may return to finish. The average time for the test is 2-3 hours.
- Adaptive. The test will offer more challenging questions as you answer accurately, or more basic questions if you answer incorrectly. You may also be given a series of diagnostic questions in Writing or Math. No two people will experience exactly the same test.
- Progressive. The math test begins in Pre-Algebra and advances you to advanced levels as you answer correctly: Algebra, College Algebra, Trigonometry.
- Comprehensive. COMPASS also asks "demographic" questions about you: your educational background, academic and career plans, and what assistance you might need at SSC. Your answers help counselors and advisors know you better so that they can assist you to be successful and help SSC administrators improve student service.
ENGLISH PROGRAMS

English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are offered to non-native English speakers to improve their English communication skills. Conversation, pronunciation, reading, writing, grammar and composition are taught with an emphasis on language skills. Classes are offered both morning (8 am – 11 am) and evening (6 pm – 9 pm) Monday through Thursday at the West Seattle and New Holly campuses. Additional evening classes are available at the Georgetown campus. The total tuition fee for each quarter is $25.00.

All new students or former students who have not attended our classes within the last 6 months are required to attend a two-part placement evaluation and English language test PRIOR to being enrolled in classes. These testing sessions are offered before the start of each quarter by ESL instructors. If you are interested in taking non-credit ESL classes or for more information, please contact the Basic & Transitional Studies office at 206-934-5363 based on the following schedule.

Visit us at

www.usaprogram.info