English Language Academy

Mission Statement

The English Language Academy offers an intensive English Language proficiency program that helps to improve and strengthen the skills of non-native speakers so they can fulfill the academic requirements of a college or university.
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Meet the Administrative Staff

Francine Chemnick, Director of International Programs Room 107 Office hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00

Deborah Sundmacher, Academic Director Room 109 Office hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00
Faculty advising/Student advising

Marcela Semancik, Program Coordinator/DSO Staff Office: Room 110 Office hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00
Immigration questions, I-20 advisor

Terri Anderson, Student Services Advisor Staff Office: Barcelona Building Room 209 Office hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00
Student liaison; Attendance; coordinator of “all school” activity; college entrance advice

ELA main phone #: (619) 260-8887
Office hours: Monday- Friday 9:00- 5:00

Professional and Continuing Education web site: www.pce.sandiego.edu
CHECK-IN

Students must register for each semester. New and returning students must register before the start of the semester. Check-in and orientation begins a week prior to the first day of classes. Exact dates will be posted on the ELA web site at www.pce.sandiego.edu

1. Tuition is due at the beginning of the semester and should be paid online or in person before the start of the semester classes.

2. NECESSARY DOCUMENTS to register:
   - passport, visa
   - I-94 paper format if applicable (many are online now)
   - I-20 (all pages)
   - Financial Guarantee or Bank Letter
   - Immunization Form or Health Record

3. HEALTH CARE

There is a $110 Required Health Center Fee (paid online with application) and a $10 TB vaccination fee. A TB vaccination test is required by law to attend classes. You must show proof of this TB vaccination to the person at the front desk. If you have not had a TB vaccination, you must go to the Health Center to have it administered. The $10 TB fee is due at the time of the TB vaccination and is paid using money placed on campus card. Credit Cards or cash are not accepted. ELA will help students with this process. Please note that you must return to the Health Center 2 days later to have the results read. TB vaccinations are not given on Thursdays. The Health Center Fee and TB vaccination Fee are refunded if the student does not attend the ELA.

4. Health Insurance is required. Please provide a copy of your private insurance if you have it. If you do not have private insurance, you will automatically be enrolled in the University Insurance plan. The cost is approximately $640.00 for the Fall semester, approximately $800 for Spring semester and approximately $480 for Summer semester. Payment is due in one lump sum at the start of the semester and covers the entire semester. Only Cashier’s check or cash accepted for payment.
5. A $50.00 Student Association Fee is collected for our “all school” student activities and should be paid online with the application. If not paid online, it will be collected during orientation week.

6. YOUR TORERO CARD

To get your USD Identification Card (Torero Card), you must:

a. Get a Banner ID # from staff members at the ELA.

b. Go to Campus Card Office located at University Center- Room 127. You will need your USD ID # and your passport. Help with obtaining the ID card will be part of orientation.

LEVEL PLACEMENTS

7. ELA gives an assessment test. This test places you in one of our six levels. Each student will be placed in classes according to the results of this test. Teachers give a short diagnostic in each class on the first day. Teachers may use the results of this diagnostic to transfer a student to a higher or lower level.

- Any transfer or movement between levels will be determined by the academic staff. If a decision has been made to move a student, the student will be sent to the Student Services Advisor or the Academic Director for a transfer slip.

- The diagnostic is given on the first day of class. If you miss the first day (and the diagnostic), you must stay in that class.

- *All changes to your class schedule must be made within the first 2 weeks of classes.*
Personal Information changes: If your address, phone number or email address changes at any time, please notify the Program Coordinator or Student Service Advisor within 1 week.

The American Classroom

Your classes at the ELA may be different from classes you took in your home country. Class work, homework, quizzes, and tests will count for your grade in each class. Your grade will not be based on only one test. You will be asked to do group work with other students. This is very common in American colleges and universities.

Your instructors may seem more casual and friendlier than other teachers you have had in school but they still expect you to do your class work and follow rules. All teachers should be treated with respect.

Computers

Students may use the computers in the lounge area. Computers on the podium of each classroom are for teachers only.
HOW TO STAY “IN STATUS”

Attendance is mandatory for ELA students who hold an F1 student visa.

Students studying in the United States on an F-1 visa must have good attendance in order to remain in status and continue their studies at the ELA. Students who go above 55 total hours of absence for core classes at any time in the semester will become out-of-status. Students who become out-of-status will not be allowed to continue studying at the ELA, will not be able to transfer to another school, and will have to return home. We do not want any of these problems to happen to our students, so please be very careful about your attendance. At 20 total hours of absence, the student will receive a warning letter and must meet with the Student Service Advisor. When the student exceeds 35 total hours of absence, he/she will be placed on Attendance Probation, is no longer eligible to receive a Certificate of Completion, must meet with the Academic Director and Student Service Advisor and may be advised to transfer to another school. The students’ sponsor will also be notified of the probation status. Absences are NOT excused.

- As a student on an F-1 visa, attending class needs to be your first priority. That means you should expect to be in class 21-24 hours a week. Please plan trips, TOEFL tests, driving tests, dentist appointments, family outings, parties, apartment hunting, etc. for times when you do not have class.

You should save the hours of absence that are allowed for sickness or emergencies. You never know in advance if you are going to be sick or have an emergency, so be careful about your attendance when you are healthy and have no problems!

If you are sick for more than one day or have an emergency, please come to the ELA offices when you return to school and tell the Student Services Advisor why you were absent. The Advisor will fill out an absence report and put it in your student file. These absences are not excused, but notes are kept.

- Your teachers will take attendance every day in all classes. If you have a special schedule or observe a USD class, you also need to have good attendance in those classes.

- Attendance is also important for receiving a certificate for your studies. Students who have more than 35 hours of absence or who receive a 1.9 grade point average or below, will not receive a Certificate of Completion.

- We want to make sure you understand the attendance policy completely so that you do not have any problems later. If you have any questions, please ask the Academic Director or Student Services Advisor. We all want to help our students meet their educational goals while in the United States.

Thank you in advance for your good attendance! 😊
HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT

1. Class begins exactly as listed on your schedule. If you are more than 10 minutes late, you will be counted absent. If your class starts at 1:00, you should be in class before 1:00. If you arrive at 1:02, you are late and marked as such. The third late is counted as an absence. Walking in the class late distracts other students.

2. Homework. Many of your instructors require work to be done outside of class. This helps to improve your English more rapidly. Write down all assignments and test dates. Hand in all assignments on time.

3. Please turn your cell phone off during class. You must not answer your cell phone during class.

4. If you are sick and miss class, you must still do the work from that class and you must also do the homework. Email your teacher or a classmate to find out what you missed. If you miss classes and you do not do the work, you may receive a zero for that day. If you miss several classes, you must speak to your teacher to make up the class work. If you miss a test or quiz, you must speak to your teacher about his/her policy on missed tests/quizzes. These policies are also listed on the teacher’s syllabus. Absences are not excused, but notes will be kept.

5. Speak only English in the classroom. Even if you do not know how to say something in English, do not use your native language in the classroom. Actively participate in all of your classes.

6. Check your email. The ELA staff and your instructors may communicate with you by email. You must check your email daily. You will be able to view your grades through your USD email account so please set it up and remember your username and password!
ELA RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. As of August 1st, 2015, USD will be a smoke free campus. You cannot smoke anywhere on campus as of that date. Until then, a designated spot for smoking has been created behind the ELA building.

2. Parking in the lots near the ELA building is reserved for teachers and staff. You will receive a ticket if you park there and your car may be towed. There are 2 parking lots for students behind the ELA building and past the nursing building (Coronado). Students can purchase a USD parking permit online. Please visit the Parking Services website for information: www.sandiego.edu/parking. Fees must be paid online through your mysandiego email address beginning in June, 2015. The ELA staff will help prior to that date. Fees for commuters are approximately $140.00 per semester. Please note: Students will not receive final transcripts until all parking fees are paid.

Students can also park for free along the streets near the campus, but these spaces are very limited.

3. ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Attitudes and policies regarding academic misconduct vary from culture to culture and it is important that students be aware of the attitudes toward cheating and the consequences of academic misconduct in the U.S. Students are expected to be honest and do their own work in all matters associated with the grades they receive. This means that students must not cheat on tests or copy ideas or sentences from other individuals (plagiarism). It also means that students cannot speak in their native language during a test.

- Instances of academic misconduct at the ELA are initially handled by the student’s instructor, with the ELA Administration assisting as needed. Plagiarism is another form of academic dishonesty.
- Plagiarism includes copying the published words of others without crediting the author or placing the sentences/paragraphs in quotes or putting your name on the work of another.

4. ELA final exams may not be taken early. Students who leave the ELA before final exams will receive a grade reflecting a 0 score on the final test and may have their I-20’s terminated.

5. Office equipment is for office staff only. To make copies or to scan a document, you may use the equipment in the Copley library or the Fed Ex Kinko’s near Starbucks on Linda Vista.
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Students are placed in core courses including Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, Grammar and TOEFL Preparation. You may also choose from the electives being offered. *A student may be placed across 2 or 3 different levels depending on his or her score in each core class.*

**A. Academic Performance:**

Students will receive grades for each class. The grade measures your accomplishments of the learning outcomes of that class (including class participation and homework); and reflects your attendance. Your instructors will tell you what the requirements are for each class.

Students will receive two official grade reports: one halfway through the semester at midterm and a final grade report at the end of the semester.

**B. Testing**

There are 3 different types of tests.

1. **Pre-assessment** - Tests in four core skills are given to new students in a computer lab.

2. **Post-assessment** - Tests in the same four core skill areas are strongly encouraged. The post-assessment test provides both the ELA and the student with a measure of his or her progress.

3. **In-class tests.** Each core course, and all electives, uses tests as a measuring tool to gage progress and to award credit in the form of a grade. Grades are based on the A-F scale, with A= 4.0 and F= 0. A student who receives a D or F grade in a class may not move up a level in that class. (Both D and F are considered failing grades).
C. Program Certificates

To earn a Certificate of Successful Completion in the 10 week (summer) and 14 week intensive program, a student must attend classes for a minimum of 18 hours per week and complete the following class requirements with a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0:

- Academic Reading
- Academic Writing
- Academic Listening
- Academic Speaking
- TOEFL Preparation
- Grammar

Grade points are assigned as follows: A, superior; B, very good; C, average; D, inferior; F, failure. Grade points are assigned to the above grades as follows: A = 4.0; A- = 3.7; B+ = 3.3; B = 3.00; B- = 2.7; C+ = 2.3; C = 2.00; C- = 1.7; D+ = 1.3; D = 1.00; D- = 0.7; F = 0.00.

A student who receives a D or F grade may not move up a level in that class.

Certificates of Completion will be given out during the graduation ceremony to those students who have met the ELA requirements.

A student completes the program of study when he or she has achieved the Student Learning Outcomes for the courses in which he or she is enrolled with a grade of C- or above.

D. Academic Probation

Students who show a lack of effort or a consistent lack of progress in their classes (D or F grade), will be placed on Academic Probation. Students placed on Academic Probation are informed of their status in writing. They must show progress (grades of C- or higher) during each subsequent semester in order to continue as an ELA student.

Students on Academic Probation who do not make satisfactory progress may be dismissed from the ELA.

E. Appeal of Grades

Your first recourse is to talk to the teacher. If you are not satisfied with the discussion, then you and the teacher should meet with the Academic Director to resolve the grade dispute.

F. TOEFL Requirements

A TOEFL iBT score of 80 and an IELTS score 6.5 is required for entrance into the University of San Diego. TOEFL requirements vary and are higher for the graduate schools.
Complaints and Grievance Procedure:

The teachers and staff of the English Language Academy are here to help you have a productive and happy experience. Please let us know if you need our help.

If you have a personal complaint with any aspect of the ELA, we encourage you to address the source directly: the instructor, the Student Services Advisor, the Academic or Program Directors. Instructors are open for meeting with students before and after class, or you may make an appointment for a certain meeting time. If meeting with the instructor does not resolve your problem fully, you may discuss the problem with the Student Services Advisor. If the problem cannot be solved, the Academic Director or Program Director will work with you to find a solution. All information shared during any meetings is confidential.

Written Grievances: If you feel more comfortable submitting a written complaint/grievance, please feel free to email the Student Services Advisor: Terri Anderson: tanderson@sandiego.edu

Read the list below to find out who can best help you.

See the teacher:

- If you have a question about your class, books, assignments, homework, exams, etc.;
- If you miss a class or an exam

See the Student Services Advisor or the Academic Director:

- If you want to talk about a personal problem
- If you have a problem with your class that you cannot discuss with your teacher
- If you will be absent from class for a long time
- If you need help with something but you don’t know where to begin or what to do
- If you need a letter of enrollment sent to your parent or sponsor

See the Director of International Programs or the Program Coordinator/DSO:

- If you have questions about registration or fee payments that you need to make
- If you need insurance information or housing information
- If you need information concerning your 1-20
Formal Complaints

The ELA hopes the students’ experience here is a positive one. Our staff is ready and willing to help students manage any difficulties they experience, and most issues can be resolved by a discussion. If a student has a problem or a complaint related to their classes, they are asked to speak with the teacher first. If the student is not comfortable speaking to the teacher, or if the problem is not related to a class, the student should email or see the Student Services Advisor. Most problems can be resolved by having an open, calm discussion with the instructor or staff member.

If the problem cannot be resolved through open discussions with the Student Services Advisor, the student should start the formal complaint process by completing the form “Intensive English Programs Formal Complaint” and giving it to the Student Service Advisor. Problems in this category include (1) sexual harassment, (2) racial or religious discrimination, (3) safety and (4) concerns about administrative procedural issues. The Student Service Advisor will contact the student as soon as possible to set up a meeting with the student, one of the program Directors, the student services advisor and the appropriate administration from USD (if necessary). Together, they will try to resolve the issue in a way that is satisfactory to the student without compromising the standards of specific courses or the program.

All formal complaints must be put in writing using the official “Intensive English Programs Formal Complaint” form. This form is available in hard copy in the Student Service Advisor’s office or by printing the page below.

When initiating a formal complaint, please follow these steps:

- Be sure to have first tried to resolve the issue by speaking directly with the individuals or office involved.
- Complete and submit the “Intensive English Programs Formal Complaint” form. This should be submitted to the Student Services Advisor by email or printed copy.
- When the complaint is received, you will be contacted as soon as possible to schedule a meeting between you, the Student Services Advisor, one of the Directors of the program, and appropriate USD administration (if appropriate).
- After your concern has been addressed, you will receive a letter documenting the resolution of the issue.
Intensive English Programs Formal Complaint

The ELA hopes your experience here is a positive one. Our staff is ready and willing to help you manage any difficulties you experience, and most issues can be resolved by an informal discussion. However, if you experience problems with (1) sexual harassment (2) racial or religious discrimination (3) safety, or (4) concerns about administrative procedural issues, then please use this form.

Date: __________________ Full Name: ____________________________________

Program (circle one)    Intensive    Other

Complaint against (circle one)    Faculty    Administration    Student

Please describe the complaint clearly, and include the following information:

• The decisions or actions or the events that caused this complaint;

• The negative effect on you;

• The resolution that is requested—in other words, how you would like this complaint to be resolved;

• The names of the decision-makers and other people who know about this issue;

• What have you already done to try to resolve the complaint (for example, talking or meeting with your instructor or, with the Student Services Advisor)?

You may attach a sheet of paper if necessary.

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________

Signature: ________________________________________
Health and Wellness

You can never predict when you will get sick or have an accident, and medical care in the United States is quite expensive. This is why the University of San Diego requires its international students to have health insurance.

USD/ELA offers an insurance plan that is required for all international students unless proof of comparable insurance is provided. Payment for the insurance premium is due at the beginning of the semester before the start of classes. Payment is made at the Cashier’s Office at the Hughes Center Building.

If you think you have comparable insurance and want to obtain a waiver for the University plan, please see the staff at the English Language Academy at the time of arrival. Comparable health insurance should cover hospitalizations costs, medical evacuation costs.

If your embassy sponsors your health insurance:

- You are not required to submit the USD waiver form
- The staff at ELA will reverse your automatic health insurance charges once they receive a financial guarantee letter from your embassy.

* Rates and a more detailed explanation of the current USD plan’s coverage and benefits may be obtained from the staff at the ELA.
General Information

Health Services
A Student Health Clinic is available to students at the Health Center in Maher Hall in Room 140. This on-campus clinic offers basic health care services, including:

- Basic treatment by a doctor or nurse
- Immunizations
- Referrals to off-campus specialists for further care
- Limited prescription drug care

The Health Center is open during the semester for currently enrolled ELA students with a valid student ID or banner #. Walk-ins are welcome or you can make an appointment by calling 260-4595.

Clinic hours are: Monday – Friday 8:30 to 4:30 except Wednesday 8:30-11 and 1:30-6:30. Note: no TB tests are given on Thursdays. Summer hours are Monday- Friday 10:00am-3:00pm.

Important: Emergency rooms in American hospitals are for serious illnesses and are very expensive. If it is not a serious emergency, go to the Student Health Center first. They will refer you to a specialist if necessary and this will save on the cost.

Important Numbers/Hours

Bookstore: (619) 260-4551   Hours: Monday- Thursday 8-6, Friday 8-4 and Saturday 9-4.
Counseling Center: (619) 260-4655
Public Safety: (619) 260-7777
International Student Center: (619) 260-4598   Location: Serra Hall 315

I-20 Information

You are responsible for taking note of your I-20 completion date. If you need more time to complete your studies, contact Program Coordinator immediately for advice. The ELA needs 1 month to process a new I-20 and this must be finished before the completion of your current I-20.

Continuing students:
If you wish to continue to the next semester program, we will need the following documents to extend your I-20:

- For students sponsored by the Saudi Arabia Cultural Mission (SACM), please provide an updated Financial Guarantee to reflect an end date of May 10th.
- For all other students, please provide an updated Financial Certification or bank letter with a current date verifying sponsor funds of at least $12,000 USD for each semester. If you show additional funds, we will be able to extend your I-20 for a longer time.

Transfer students:  Please provide a Transfer Form and Acceptance Letter

Completed Students: Please notify the Program Coordinator if you will complete the program at the end of the semester and will be returning home. We do not need additional documentation.
Banking

Having a local bank account is especially helpful for the students or visitors that will be in the country for an extended period of time.

There are two different types of bank accounts that people typically have – a checking account and a savings account. While both types of bank accounts have different purposes, they both help manage your money.

Account Types

Checking Account

- This is a transaction account, designed for you to write checks or use your ATM (Automatic Teller Machine) and/or debit card.

- You will need to have enough money in your checking account to be able to write checks, withdraw money, or use your debit card.

- Having a debit card provides more options for using and accessing your funds. Make sure your debit card has a Visa or MasterCard logo so that you can use your debit card where credit cards are accepted.

- Be careful not to overdraw money from the account, as you will be charged and additional fee.

Savings Account

- This account is designed for you to make deposits into your account and watch your money grow.

- The purpose of this account is for holding money you do not need for everyday living.

- Each bank varies, as some require a minimum balance to avoid a fee.

How To Open A Bank Account

1. Take your passport, another form of identification (your USD student ID card) and if applicable, your Form I-20 to the New Accounts section of the bank.

2. Please be aware that you may be asked for a Social Security Number (SSN). Remember to explain to the Account Representative that you are an international student at USD and therefore would not be eligible for a SSN.
Banking

3. You must have money (at least $25.00 to $100.00 depending on the bank) to open and account.

4. If you deposit cash or Traveler’s checks, the bank will allow you to use your checking account funds immediately. If you deposit a check, the bank will not allow you to spend the money for 2-4 weeks.

Banks Close to USD

<table>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Directions</th>
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| **US BANK**        | • On-campus branch inside the University Center  
                    • Web site for the USD branch is: www.usbank.com/usd |
| USD- University Center Room 125A  
ATM machine near the campus Box Office and inside La Paloma, near Kroc IPJ building |
| **WELLS FARGO BANK** | • Turn left on Linda Vista Road  
                        • Turn right on Villa Las Cumbres  
                        • Turn left on Friars Road  
                        • Turn right on Fashion Valley Road |
| 1359 Fashion Valley Road  
San Diego, CA 92108  
(619) 296-4951 | |
| **BANK OF AMERICA** | • Depart on Linda Vista Road going northeast  
                        • Turn right on Ulric Street |
| 2341 Ulric Street  
San Diego, CA 92111  
(858) 627-2120 | |
Student Housing

University on-campus housing cannot guarantee dorm rooms for ELA students. Students requesting dorm rooms would be placed on an interest list (waiting list) but the dorms may be full. Please contact Residential Life via email at housing@sandiego.edu if you wish to be placed on the interest list. The ELA recommends that students look for alternative housing.

Housing

Off campus housing may take 4-6 weeks to find. Give yourself enough time to find an apartment. If you are coming to San Diego without making prior housing arrangements, you will need to book a hotel room or a temporary place of stay before your arrival.

Off- Campus Apartment Rentals Around the USD area

LINDA VISTA / OLD TOWN

Carmel Pacific Ridge Apartments
5961 Linda Vista Road
San Diego, CA
www.carmelapartments.com
(855) 469-4817

The Village at Morena Vista
5395 Napa Street
San Diego, Ca 92110
www.villageatmorenavista.com
(855) 202-1709

Bluffs II Apartments
6540 Friars Road
San Diego, CA 92108
www.essexapartmenthomes.com
(619) 377-4565

MISSION VALLEY

Aquatera
5777 Mission Center Road
San Diego, CA 92108
www.aquateraliving.com
(619) 873-4933

Bella Posta
10343 San Diego Mission Road
San Diego, CA 92108
www.bellapostaapartments.com
(866) 774-4341

Portofino Apartment Homes
2500 Northside Drive
San Diego, CA 92108
www.portofinoapthomes.com
(855) 807-6661

If you have any questions, please contact the Program Coordinator, Marcela Semancik at marcela@sandiego.edu or the Student Services Advisor, Terri Anderson at tanderson@sandiego.edu
Other Off-Campus Housing Resources

Popular Off-Campus Housing Websites

- **OnMyBlock**
  This off-campus housing online search, founded by USD students, makes searching for housing simple.

- **Craigslist**
  A popular online bulletin for rentals

- **My New Place**
  Clean website that allows various search opportunities and features an app.

- **HotPads**

- **Zillow**

- **Zumper**

Short Term Housing Options

- **USD Residential Halls**
  Temporary housing on campus may be available to students in June and early August. This affordable option may be ideal for students needing a short-term living arrangement while searching for accommodations. To learn more, visit Residential Life [http://www.sandiego.edu/residentiallife/](http://www.sandiego.edu/residentiallife/)

- **International Travelers House (2 locations)**
  - **Little Italy Hostel**
  - **Hillcrest Residences**

- **Hostelling International San Diego**

- **Hostel World**

- **AIRBNB**
  A website that hosts postings for temporary housing offered by locals.
Homestay

The ELA does not make reservations for homestay options but recommends you make reservations with the following two options:

Home Placement Services
Gary Davidson
619-423-1449
877-423-1449
hpservices@sanrr.com
www.homeplacement.com

San Diego Homestay
Rita Schultz
858-457-1322
homestay@sandiegohomestay.com
www.sandiegohomestay.com

Transportation

Transportation in San Diego is different from many big cities you might be familiar with. Unlike the convenient metro/subway system that exists in many major cities, San Diego has limited means of transport. Most San Diegans prefer to own cars, however both public and private transportation are available throughout most of San Diego.

Public bus transportation is convenient but can be confusing if you are new to riding buses. The Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) operates buses and trolleys throughout San Diego. Single ride ticket: $2.50- $5.00. One day and month passes are also available.
SAN DIEGO AND SURROUNDING AREAS

SAN DIEGO NEIGHBORHOODS

Linda Vista- USD is located in a diverse neighborhood with a large Asian immigrant population on the north side of the neighborhood. Close to USD, many students choose to live on the south side of Linda Vista Blvd. (directly across from USD) since it offers affordable rent, in a safe area, walking distance from campus.

Mission Valley- located 5 minutes east of USD (by car). This area is one of the main commercial centers in San Diego and features big-box retailers like Target and Ikea, two shopping malls, Qualcomm Stadium (current home of the San Diego Chargers football team) and many condominiums and apartment buildings. For information on the public transportation system, Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), please visit

Old Town- located 5 minutes south of USD (by car). This area draws many tourists looking to shop and sample San Diego-style Mexican food.

BEACH AREAS

La Jolla- located 15 minutes northwest of USD (by car). La Jolla offers several great beaches, upscale downtown shopping and restaurants and homes with beautiful views of the ocean. Expect San Diego’s most expensive rent and home prices. Close enough to commute to USD without difficulty.

Mission Beach/Mission Bay- located 15 minutes west of USD (by car).

Ocean Beach/Point Loma- located 10 minutes west of USD (by car). Ocean Beach is home to hippy boutiques and a relaxed atmosphere reminiscent of the northern California city of Berkley. Point Loma is a fishing outpost and is also home to the Cabrillo National Monument.

Pacific Beach- PB, as Pacific Beach is known, is a mix of commercial and residential spaces and is home to the most extensive nightlife (bars and clubs) of all San Diego Beaches.
SAN DIEGO AND SURROUNDING AREAS

DEPARTMENT STORES/SHOPPING MALLS

There’s a wide variety of upscale and specialty brand stores found in almost every mall.

**Fashion Valley Mall** - 7007 Friars Road, San Diego, 92108. Has department stores Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, Bloomingdales, Macy’s and Penney’s. Also has AMC theaters and many restaurants.

**Mission Valley Mall** - 1640 Camino Del Rio N, San Diego, 92108. Has department store Macy’s. Also AMC theaters, Bed, Bath and Beyond and 24 Hour Fitness.

**Horton Plaza Mall** - 324 Horton Plaza, San Diego, 92101. Has department stores Nordstrom and Macy’s.

**University Town Center (UTC)** - 4545 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego, 92122. Has department stores Nordstrom and Macy’s.

RESTAURANTS

Just down the street from USD/ELA are the following eateries:

**Subway** - sandwiches and soup

**Urbane Café** - gourmet sandwiches and salads

**Jamba Juice** - smoothies

**Starbucks Coffee**

**Z- Pizza**

**Ryan’s Café** - deli, specialty sandwiches, garden burgers

rev 5/11/15