

Philadelphia

Center Profile



ELS Language Centers
at Saint Joseph's University
5414 Overbrook Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131-1335
Telephone: 1(215) 473-4430
Fax: 1(215) 473-3220
E-mail:

Center Hours

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

Key Location Features

- Private University campus location (suburban)
- Complete Prep Program for TOEFL® iBT location
- Executive Programs location
- On campus apartment-style dormitory housing
- Midway between New York City & Washington DC
- EPIS “Bridge Program” & Concurrent Enrollment available at Saint Joseph’s University (SJU) for qualified ELS students in the Intensive program
- Tuition discounts offered on SJU degree programs to qualified ELS graduates that matriculate
- Concurrent Enrollment available at SJU for qualified students
- TOEFL® iBT and TOEIC® testing center

Area Attractions

- Philadelphia’s many historical attractions, such as Independence National Park and the Liberty Bell
- Downtown cultural attractions (museums, concert halls, many professional sports teams, shopping)
- New York City, Atlantic City, Washington, DC and Niagara Falls are all possible weekend trips
- Skiing in the winter and beach trips in the summer

Climate

The Philadelphia area has hot summers (June, July and August) and cold winters (November through February), which include some snow. Students should bring appropriate clothing.

Average Temperatures (Celsius)

	Minimum	Maximum
Winter	-3	4
Spring	6	16
Summer	20	29
Autumn	10	19

Host University Information

Visit www.sju.edu to learn more about Saint Joseph's University and their degree programs. Visit www.usauniversityguied.org to learn about other local colleges & universities that accept ELS completion in place of the TOEFL®.

Surrounding Area Information

Average travel time (in minutes) from ELS Center:

Housing Options	Minutes	Method
Campus Dorm	5	By foot
Apartments:		
Homestays:	10 to 40	By bus/foot
Private Apartments:	10	By bus

Local Places

Airport:	30	By train/taxi
Bank:	10	By foot
Downtown Philadelphia:	20	By bus/train
Post Office:	5	By foot
Restaurant(s):	5	By foot
Shopping Mall:	15	By bus
Sports Center:	5	By foot
Supermarket:	15	By bus
Bus Stop/Subway:	5	By foot

Nearby Cities

New York City, NY	90	By train
Atlantic City, NJ	60	By train or bus
Washington, DC	140	By train

Local Transportation

Philadelphia has a good system of buses, trains and subways under the name of SEPTA, which connects with other train systems that reach most areas of the Northeastern USA. Philadelphia buses and subway fares range from \$1.30 to \$2. The 30th Street train station, 15 minutes from ELS by bus, provides access to train service to New York City, Washington D.C. and beyond.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted in the ELS Center. Smoking is also not permitted in Rashford Hall, Homewood Suites or the homestays.

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. It is not possible to check into the dormitory or homestay before Sunday.

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

 **Student Residence / Dorm Apartment**

Rashford Hall
Saint Joseph's University
5200 City Avenue
Philadelphia, PA

Males & females are placed in separate apartments although floors are coed. American students live in the same residence hall, but on different floors.

Rooms (standard option): **Doubles (2 persons in each bedroom)**

Shared bedrooms within 2-bedroom campus apartment-style dorm. Shared bathrooms (2 per apartment). Each apartment offers a furnished living room, dining area, and kitchen and has free cable TV, internet access and local telephone service. Rooms include 2 beds, 2 desks, 2 closets & 2 night tables. Linens are also included.

Rooms (other): **Married Couple Rooms**

Married couple rooms may be available with advance notice, but both the husband and the wife must study at ELS.

Meals Included: **None** - Most students prepare their meals in their dorm kitchens. If students wish to purchase cafeteria meals, a typical meal would cost \$6.

There are many restaurants in the area.

Minimum Age: **17+ years old**

Laundry Facilities: Coin-operated washers and dryers (small fee) are located on each floor.

Security: 24-hour Security Desk at entrance; Card access. There is a resident assistant for ELS students.

Check-In: **8:00 am to 10:00 pm (Sunday) check-in**

During standard check-in hours, report directly to Rashford Hall at 5200 City Avenue. A security guard will be inside the building and will call the ELS Residence Advisor, who provides apartment check-in assistance and room keys.

Damage/Key Deposit: \$100 damage deposit payable on first day of class in cash or travelers checks

Checkout Time: 10:00 am (Saturday)

Homewood Suites

Note: When Rashford Hall is full, students will be placed in beautiful double-occupancy apartments at Homewood Suites at the nearby Hilton Hotel. Students will be notified 2 weeks prior to the start of the session if their dorm assignment is to the Homewood Suites.

 **Homestays**

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 walk or take the university shuttle to campus.

Check-In: **8:00 am to 10:00 pm (Sunday) check-in**

Students go directly to homestay address.

Checkout Time: 10:00 am (Saturday)

 **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 Airport: Philadelphia International (PHL)

ELS Airport Pickup Service Provider Info:

Susan McKelvey

Tel: 1(877) 479-5912 toll free / 1(610) 585-6480

Fax: 1(610) 664-6983

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

International: Outside Customs Area

Domestic: Baggage Claim Area

Other Transportation Options From the Airport:

Taxis from Philadelphia Int'l airport will cost approximately \$40 plus tip, with a travel time of 30 minutes. Taxi drivers should be given the following directions for dorm/student residence students: Go to 76 West to Exit 339 (Saint Joseph's University), take City Avenue to 52nd Street (turn left), Rashford Dormitory driveway is on the right.

 **Toll-free Emergency Phone Numbers**

1(877) 479-5912 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. Advance reservations are recommended. Prices (14% hotel tax will be added) are subject to change. Ask for the Saint Joseph's University "ELS student" rate.

Crowne Plaza	\$99 + tax per night
City Avenue and Presidential Blvd.	Tel: 1(215) 477-0200

Hilton Hotel	\$139 + tax per night
4200 City Avenue	Tel: 1(215) 879-4000

Center Arrival Information

New Students should report to ELS Philadelphia **between 8:00 am and 8:20 am on the first Monday** of their program for registration, the ELS placement test and orientation. New students need to bring all of 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
- Campus Apt Dorm Students Only:* Completed & Signed Health Form. This form is included in the acceptance package.