

# Kaplan Aspect Chicago

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Kaplan Aspect Chicago located in the heart of downtown Chicago. We are sure that you will enjoy your studies and your stay. The school offers first-class facilities with an extensive library of self-study materials.

Chicago attracts residents from all over the world making the total city population around three million. Located in the “Loop”, the school is surrounded by a vibrant business, theatre and shopping district. Our school is near all major public transport lines and only a short stroll from the parks that line the Lake Michigan Waterfront.

There is never a lack of fun and exciting activities in the Chicago area. Kaplan Aspect students can take advantage of a wide range of activities, from skiing in Wisconsin during the winter, to playing beach volleyball in the summer, or organised trips such as apple picking in Indiana and visits to Six Flags amusement park. With Kaplan Aspect Chicago, you will really be able to make the most of your stay.

Kaplan Aspect Educational Programmes in the USA are accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training.



Kaplan Aspect is a member of AAIEP (American Association of Intensive English Programs), TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) and NAFSA (Association for International Educators).



Kaplan Aspect Chicago



Kaplan Aspect Chicago  
205 West Randolph Street, Suite 200  
Chicago, IL 60606  
USA

## School Facilities

### Classrooms

The Chicago school currently has 15 classrooms, with a 4th floor being built to house 5 more. The majority is being used for Kaplan Aspect educational programmes. Two of the above classrooms are auditorium style, fitting 100 students each. Orientations and important presentations are given here.

### Multimedia and IT centre

The computer lab has 15 workstations, 4 of which have Internet access. Software and materials used for language learning can be borrowed and used at the school but cannot be taken home. The Chicago school also offers WI-FI Internet access for students who wish to study with their laptop computers

### Library

Kaplan Aspect has its own language library. Public libraries are located all over Chicago. The world's largest public library is in the Loop area and is a short walk from the school.

### Student Lounge

There is a student lounge available for student use. The student lounge has tables where students can meet during breaks. There is a refrigerator, water cooler and 2 microwave ovens. This room is open during school hours.

### Cafeteria

There is no cafeteria facility in the Kaplan Aspect school. However, a variety of delis, sandwich shops and restaurants are within walking distance.

### Sports facilities

There are no sports facilities in the school, although many public parks with facilities are found throughout the Chicago area. There are also many private gymnasiums located nearby should students wish to join.

### Activities/Social Programme

Kaplan Aspect organises many activities for students such as: visits to world famous museums, free outdoor concerts, ice skating at Millennium Park, neighbourhood tours and boating on the lake. Kaplan Aspect also plans organised trips to Indiana for apple picking, Skiing in Wisconsin and to Six Flags amusement park.



Computer lab



Spacious classroom

## Your first day

On the first day of your course you need to report to Kaplan Aspect's reception desk, which is located on 205 West Randolph Street, Suite 200. Please be there at 10:00am. (Your first day will be a Monday unless there is a national holiday on the Monday - in which case your first day will be Tuesday).

Your course will begin with an all-day introduction, which will include:

- Staff introductions, visa information, activities information
- Kaplan Aspect information, academic information, and tour of the school
- Lunch and Ice Breaker Activity
- TOEIC Diagnostic and 15 minute writing sample
- Housing orientation

Please bring the following with you:

- Passport and I-94 form (given to you at US Immigration)
- I-20 form (if you have an F-1 visa)
- Course Payment/Voucher, if available
- Your address in the USA
- Proof of Health Insurance, if required
- All your Kaplan Aspect documents and a pen and paper for notetaking purposes.

At the end of the day you will receive information about your class schedule, classroom number, study level, elective course, and the hours you are to attend class. You will be assigned the most appropriate class for your level of English.

## Local Information

### Transport - buses and trains

If you learn how to use public transportation in Chicago, you will be able to go just about anywhere in the city at a low cost. From 8am to 11pm constant service is provided by the CTA/RTA, which includes buses, subways, and elevated trains. On weekends and late at night the CTA runs less frequently so there can be long waits. Buses require exact change. You can buy CTA cards at Currency Exchanges, banks and CTA stations, often at a saving.

### Banks and Post Office

There are many banks close to the school, these include Citibank, Bank of America and Chase Bank. The post office is at the Thompson Center, also near to the school.

### Restaurants and cafés

There is an extensive collection of restaurants and cafés within walking distance of the Kaplan Aspect school. Rivers, Alonti Market Café, BonBon Café, Corner Bakery and Starbucks to name a few!

### Department stores and supermarkets

The school is close to the famous 'Magnificent Mile' on Michigan Avenue. Take a stroll down the road and experience world class shopping, dining and entertainment. Stores such as Macy's, Borders, Nine West, Old Navy and Target are also located nearby.

### Telephone and Internet Café

Broadband Café and Screenz are two popular internet cafés nearby. Students are advised to use a calling card when calling overseas.

### Church / Mosque

There are many religious institutions of most denominations in the Chicago area.

### Cost of living

Approximate prices in USD

Sandwich:	\$5.99 from Corner Bakery
Lunch:	\$5.99 from Corner Bakery
Hamburger:	\$4
Meal in Restaurant:	
Dinner	\$30-\$40
Lunch	\$10-\$20
Tea/Coffee:	\$1.50
Tickets:	
Movie:	\$8
Bus:	\$1.75
CTA	\$2.00
Weekly Metro pass - the full fare (bus and rail) is determined by the type of payment you use	



Kaplan Aspect students ice skating



Kaplan Aspect teacher and students



Student room



Millennium Park Bean Sculpture

## Sample Activities Schedule

Please note that this is a sample programme and activities may change. See a current activities schedule at: [www.kaplanaspect.com](http://www.kaplanaspect.com)

### Week one

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Welcome new students!</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Neighbourhood tour and dinner with a Kaplan Aspect teacher</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Shopping on the Magnificent Mile</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>University admissions seminar</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Visit the Art Institute museum</b>

### Week two

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Watch a White Sox game!</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Take a free TOEFL Practice Test</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Teacher Talk: Learn something new about American culture!</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Free Concert at Millenium Park</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Beach day! Bike ride along the Lakefront or play volleyball on the beach</b>

## The Team

### Kaplan Aspect Chicago



**School Director:**  
**Kali Kokodis**  
 Kali is responsible for all issues concerning visa questions, payments, transfers, extensions and refunds.



**Academic Manager:**  
**John Hennessy**  
 John assists students in choosing and applying to the university or college of their choice. He also places international students into internships with American companies. Please contact him, if you have any questions about your classes, textbooks, or special academic needs.



**International Student Advisor:**  
**Laura Ebert**  
 Laura can help with visa questions and transfers. She is also a person to speak to about both extensions and attendance policies.



**International Student Services Manager:**  
**Sara Hevron**  
 Sara oversees housing, activities, extensions and refunds. Make an appointment with her if you have questions about your visa.

## Course Information

### Courses

- Vacation English
- General English
- Intensive English
- TOEFL iBT and Academic English
- iGMAT/iGRE
- General Academic Year
- Intensive Academic Year
- General Academic Semester
- Intensive Academic Semester

### Services

- University Placement

## Transfer Information

### Kaplan Aspect transfers

Students should fly to Chicago O`Hare Airport. If the student has paid for the Transfer Service, a Greeter holding a Kaplan Aspect sign will meet them outside, after they have claimed their luggage.

Should you have any questions or cannot find the airport transportation company, please call the toll free number to United Limo and Travel Services at 1-888-995-5466.

Emergency Contact Information is available at:

Name: Sara Hevron

Number: +1-773-575-4342

### Independent Transfers

Taxis can be taken to your homestay or school.

Subways depart from the airport and will bring you into the centre of Chicago.



Chicago view