

# Kaplan Aspect Highline Community College

Kaplan Aspect is located on the campus of Highline Community College (HCC) in scenic Des Moines, Washington. Located just 18 miles/30 minutes south of Downtown Seattle, it is the perfect study environment; a quiet and safe campus overlooking the mountains and water, but easy to get to the excitement of Seattle by public bus or car.

Studying English on the Highline campus offers you a unique study experience. You will have the access to all of the campus resources, including over 50 student clubs and sports, and a brand-new Student Union building with two dining options. These are priceless opportunities to meet other students from the United States and across the world. The college environment will inspire you to excel at language study and sharpen your English skills.

If you are interested in pursuing a college degree, the close relationship between Kaplan Aspect and Highline Community College makes it very easy to transfer to the college. Upon completion of Kaplan Aspect's English Programme Intermediate level, students can transfer without needing to take the TOEFL. We also offer a Foundation programme that offers simultaneous study at both Kaplan Aspect and Highline at a highly discounted price.

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).



Highline Community College



Kaplan Aspect at Highline Community College  
2400 South 240th Street  
Des Moines WA 98198  
USA

## School Facilities

### Classrooms

Kaplan Aspect uses the same classrooms as the college, so you might have a travel and tourism, computer science, history of rock and roll, or speech class next door. Each classroom is equipped with a DVD/Video player and monitor.

### Multimedia and IT centre

Highline has over 1500 computers available for student use, and free wireless internet access in the Student Centre and Library. There are also special computers available for movie editing or scanning, and computers with international keyboards. The Kaplan Aspect TOEFL lab is reserved for language study, and includes Listening and Speaking software and monthly TOEFL sample tests

### Library

There is a library with over 100,000 books, DVD's and CD's which Kaplan Aspect students can use. There is also a dedicated Kaplan Aspect library for English learners, including information on colleges, universities, and job skills.

### Student area

Highline Community College has a new high-tech Student Union building with free wireless internet, game and study rooms and a cafeteria and coffee bistro

### Cafeteria

The new Student Union building, built in 2006, offers two dining choices: full Breakfast and Lunch Café, and Pizza/Coffee Bistro.

### Sports facilities

There is a fitness centre on the campus of HCC with weight machines, treadmills, ellipticals, bikes and free weights.

### Gym facilities

Kaplan Aspect students have access to the campus gymnasium during limited free hours.

### Activities/Social Programme

There are many varied activities scheduled every day at the school or in the surrounding community.



Listening lab



Kaplan Aspect classroom

## Your first day

On the first day of your course you need to report to Kaplan Aspect at 2400 South 240th Street, Des Moines at 10am. (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:

- Welcome new students
- A placement testing
- Lunch Provided by Kaplan Aspect
- Student Visa Information
- Campus Tour or Housing Representative Meet and Greet

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)
- Proof of Health Insurance
- your USA address
- Course Payment/Voucher, if available
- All 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

While travelling around Des Moines and to Seattle, students will typically use the Seattle Metro Bus system. It takes about 1 hour to get to downtown Seattle by bus and costs \$1.50. Trains and ferries in Downtown Seattle are available for trips to Canada and areas around Washington. There are bus stops on the HCC campus to downtown Des Moines and to downtown Seattle.

### Banks and Post Office

There are banks and post offices within a 5-minute walk of the campus and our dorm and apartment housing. Banks include Bank of America, Washington Mutual, and Key Bank.

### Restaurants and cafés

Highline has a new high-tech Student Union Building with two dining options: a breakfast and lunch cafeteria, and all-day coffee bistro with fresh pizza. There are many tables for students to sit at if they bring their own lunch from home. Many restaurants are within a 5-10 minute walk of the campus.

### Department stores and supermarkets

Highline is a 15-minute bus ride from two shopping centres where there is an extensive range of shops and new cinemas. American and Asian supermarkets are located close to Kaplan Aspect accommodation and a small Halal grocery is located 15 minutes away by bus.

### Telephone and Internet Café

There are payphones in the HCC Library, a phone card is needed for long distance calls. There is also free wireless access in the Library and Student Centre.

### Church / Mosque

There are over 20 churches within walking distance from the school, in addition to a Muslim Student Organisation and prayer space on campus.

### Cost of Living

Approximate prices in USD

Sandwich	\$5
Lunch	\$8
Hamburger	\$1 to \$3
Meal in restaurant	\$15
Tea/Coffee	\$2.50
Tickets:	
Movie	\$9
Bus	\$1.50
Weekly metro pass or equivalent	\$25



Kaplan Aspect students on the snow



Kaplan Aspect students playing football



Class in progress



Kaplan Aspect school area

## 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>Movie: Devil Wears Prada</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Gourmet Chocolate Tasting</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Kit and Yoko's Chinese lunch</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Free BBQ at the beach</b>

### Week two

<b>Monday</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>International coffee break</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Summer nights at Lakewold</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Uncle Sam's 2-day bike tour</b>

## The Team

### Kaplan Aspect School - Highline



English Programs Manager:

**Chadd Bennett**

Chadd is committed to giving you an amazing Kaplan Aspect experience, including school operations, tuition payments and extensions, and developing a close relationship with the college and other local opportunities.



Master Teacher, Activities Coordinator:

**Alex Griffin**

Alex is one of our most experienced teachers, having been with Kaplan for over 7 years! He also organises many of our trips, such as bus tours of Mt Rainier and Leavenworth, visits to Microsoft and Boeing plant, horseback riding, soccer, and dozens more each year.



Academic/Associate Center Manager:

**Jon Dietzen**

Jon will ensure that your academic experience is top-notch: excellent instructors, convenient and comfortable classrooms, and an exciting curriculum and electives.



Master Teacher, Academic Coordinator:

**Amy Maranan**

Amy ensures that each student is making successful progress towards their academic goals and staying motivated. She coordinates when it is time to move up to a new level, and that students are attending class. She is also an excellent dancer in a local troupe, and she has taught students Hip-Hop dancing!



International Student Advisor:

**Kirsten Weber**

Kirsten is an expert at advising students on how to maximize their experience at Highline. As well as student housing, she can give suggestions on everything from the best places to go shopping, which Highline clubs are the most exciting, when is the best time of year to visit Mount Rainier, or which neighbourhoods are quiet and safe.

## Course Information

### Courses

- Vacation English
- General English
- Intensive English
- TOEFL iBT and Academic English
- General Academic Year
- Intensive Academic Year
- General Academic Semester
- Intensive Academic Semester

### Services

- University Placement
- University preparation

## Transfer Information

### Kaplan Aspect transfers

From the International Baggage Claim, Carousel 1, please go to Door 4. There will be someone from the Marina Inn holding a sign with your name on it in English.

Please do not leave the area.

For domestic flights, the pick up will be at the closest door to the baggage carousel of your airline.

We will confirm your pick up 3 days before arrival.

### Independent Transfers

If you are interested in your own transportation, consider a taxi (\$15) or public bus (\$1.25 to 1.50 depending on time of day)



Kaplan Aspect students on the snow