

FRESHMAN COMPASS

FALL
2018



Welcome

Hi New Student,

Welcome to the United States, to California, to Cupertino, and to De Anza College. We hope you will have a great stay and enjoy the richness of life here in Silicon Valley.

This booklet, Freshman Compass Fall 2018, is a gift from local Christians interested in being your friends and helping you get the most out of your stay here. We are hoping that this booklet would help you get to know this area better and find things that might be helpful in your daily life.

Inside this booklet are housing info, bus routes, as well as places to shop. General information about American culture, local events and holidays is provided as well. To help you live a more enriching life, we have also listed many local events that you might be interested in. CCEM offers programs in both Mandarin and English. To find out more, you can go to "Foothill - De Anza Freshman Compass" Facebook page. Pemuda Fellowship offers programs in Indonesian. Their Facebook page is "Pemuda Gii San Jose".

The Freshman Compass Orientation Program collaborates with four clubs from Foothill College and De Anza College featured at the bottom of the page. We sincerely appreciate their effort that made the Program possible. You can read more detailed information about these organizations in the last few pages of this booklet.

Again, welcome to Cupertino and to our local community.

Sincerely,
Your Friends



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Banking

Popular Banks:

- Wells Fargo, Chase, Bank of America, U.S. Bank, Citibank

Common Banking Services:

- Monthly Statement
- Wire Transfer (note your routing number)
- Free Checks (standard style)
- ATM Withdrawal (often with a daily limit of \$1000)
- Credit Card Account (Note that some banks can open this type of account without SSN.)
- Student Account (with various fees waived)
- Mobile Banking App

Banking Apps:



Mobile Carriers

Common Mobile Carriers:

- Top 5 Cell Tower Owning Carriers :
 - AT&T, T-Mobile, Sprint, Verizon, Metro PCS
- Others (Virtual Network Operators):
 - Cricket, H2O Wireless, Boost, Red Pocket Mobile

Type of Plans:

- Prepaid (about \$30 per month but balance has expiration date)
- Family Plan (about \$25 per month)
- Individual (\$30-\$120 per month)
- Unlimited Data Plan (starts at \$50 per month)

Homestay

Homestay can provide daily meals (breakfast and dinner) and serve as excellent opportunities for students to learn more about the American culture and improve their English skills.

- Fees are paid to host family directly each month.
- Payment method will be decided by the host.
- Your fees should include all utilities such as water, electricity, trash and the Internet. Ask your host if you are unsure.
- Estimated monthly fees:
 - \$1,200.00 with breakfast and dinner
 - \$1,025.00 without meals
- The followings are things you should pay attention to during homestay:
 - **Laundry**
 - **Guest Visiting**
 - **Kitchen Usage**
 - **Leasing Contract**
 - **Manners**
 - **Meals**
 - **Noise Level**
 - **Shower Time**

Housing Part 1- Location

Studios & Apartments near De Anza College:

0-1 miles away:

- Le Beaulieu Apartments
- McClellan Terrace
- Glenbrook Apartment Homes

2-3 miles away:

- Sage At Cupertino (Studio)
- City Gate at Cupertino Apartments
- Shadow Oaks Apartment Homes

1-2 miles away:

- Markham Apartments
- Aviare Cupertino
- Villages at Cupertino Apartment Homes
- Siena Apartment Homes
- Springwood Apartment Homes

Websites for Finding Apartments:

- Craigslist: [sfbay.craigslist.org/search/sby/apa](https://www.craigslist.org/search/sby/apa)
- Apartments.com: www.apartments.com
- Apartment List: www.apartmentlist.com
- Apartment Cities: www.apartmentcities.com
- Trulia: www.trulia.com
- Zillow: www.zillow.com



Housing Part 2 - Price

- **Studio:**

A studio apartment is one large room with a small kitchenette and bathroom. Monthly rent ranges from \$1800 - \$2600.

- **One-bedroom apartment:**

One-bedroom apartments have a bedroom, a living room, a kitchen, and a bathroom. One-bedroom apartments can often be shared by two people. Monthly rent ranges from \$1500 to \$2500.

- **Two-bedroom apartment:**

Two-bedroom apartments have two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen, and a bathroom. Two-bedroom apartments can be shared by two to four people and the monthly rent ranges from \$2200 to \$3500.

- **Room in a house:**

There are often entire houses or individual rooms available for rent. Students who choose to rent a room in a house will have access to bathroom, kitchen, backyard, and other parts of the house. Monthly rent for one room in a house ranges from \$700 to \$1000 and monthly rent for an entire house varies greatly depending on the size of the house and its location.

If utilities are not included, remember to set up:

- Electricity(PG&E)
- Water
- Internet (AT&T / Comcast)
- Apartment Insurance

Transportation

BUSING:

Bus Routes to De Anza College (DAC):

- 23: DAC ↔ Alum Rock Transit Center (via Stevens Creek)
- 323: DAC ↔ Downtown San Jose (via Stevens Creek)
- 25: DAC ↔ Alum Rock Transit Center (via Valley Medical Center)
- 53: Sunnyvale Transit Center ↔ West Valley College
- 54: DAC ↔ Lockheed Martin Transit Center
- 55 : DAC ↔ Great America
- 81: Moffett/Ames Center (NASA) ↔ De Anza ↔ San Jose State University

Bus Pass:

- De Anza/Foothill students can enjoy unlimited rides on Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) buses and light rail within Santa Clara County with “Eco Pass” at a fee as low as \$7.75 each quarter (automatically charged in tuition fee).
- You can get your personalized Eco Pass from the Office of College Life (De Anza)/Smart Shop (Foothill).
- You can look up real-time info of all VTA lines in a single app: Transit



DRIVING:

- Make sure your driver license, proof of car insurance and vehicle registration form are with you at all times when you are driving .
- Parking permits are required when parking in De Anza and Foothill's parking lots.
- Parking permit of either campus will be valid at both campuses.
- Overnight parking is not permitted.
- You can purchase parking permits online in MyPortal.

BIKING:

- Ride on bike lane
- Bike in the correct direction
- Keep distance from cars
- Don't ride on sidewalk
- Always wear a helmet
- Use appropriate lighting
- Use hand signals before making turns
- Utilizing DAC's bike rental program

Other Useful Transportation Apps:



Uber



Lyft



Waze



Google Map

Driver License

You have to pass two tests, the written knowledge test and the behind-the-wheel test, at the DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) to get the Driver License. Below are the steps:

- Make an appointment before visiting a DMV office
- Complete a Driver License Application form (DL 44)
- Give a thumb print & Have your picture taken
- Provide your social security number*
- Present your acceptable residency documents listed on DMV website.
- Pay the application fee (\$35)
- Pass a vision exam
- Pass a knowledge test.
- * If you are an international student, you have to bring your I-20, I-94 (can be retrieved online and printed out) and passport.



DMV Appointment
Website



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
MOTOR VEHICLES



Written Test

- There are 46 questions on the test. You have 3 chances to pass with 38 corrects
- Read the California Driver Handbook to grasp traffic rules and signs
- Practice sample tests provided on DMV's website
- A driver permit will be issued to you after passing this test

Behind-the-wheel Test

- Find an instructor and practice driving
- The behind-the-wheel tests are available by appointment only.
- If you don't pass, you can retest in 2 weeks. You 3 chances to pass the road test before starting the application process all over.

Useful Websites for Buying Cars:

Kelley Blue Book – www.kbb.com

A website for new or used car value estimation

DGDG – www.dgdg.com

A group of car dealerships located throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

Shift – www.shift.com/cars/san-francisco

A website providing selling and buying used car

Carfax – www.carfax.com

A commercial web-based service that supplies vehicle history reports on used cars for the American and Canadian consumers

Beepi – www.beepi.com

Online peer-to-peer market for buying and selling used cars

Car Insurance

The GEICO logo, featuring the word "GEICO" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.The PROGRESSIVE logo, featuring the word "PROGRESSIVE" in a bold, blue, italicized, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.

Health

Common Health Insurance Providers:

- **Anthem Blue Cross**
- **Aetna**
- **Kaiser Permanente Health Insurance**
- **GeoBlue International Student Health Insurance**

Services Provided in Student Health Center:

- **Over-the-counter medicines**
- **Birth control items**
- **Medical services (with a small fee)**
- **Flu shot**
- **Psychological / Personal counseling**

Tips:

- **Pay attention to the dates that coverage begins and ends.**
- **Check the list of exclusions to know what service is covered and what is not.**
- **Before you visit a clinic, call the clinic to see if your insurance plan is accepted at that clinic.**
- **Save bills and receipts to seek reimbursement from your health insurance company.**
- **Ask your on-campus doctor for referrals to see specialists.**
- **Understand the “pre-existing condition” clause. Most medical services associated with your pre-existing conditions are not covered in the following 6 months of your plan's effective date.**

24-Hour Suicide & Crisis Service County of Santa Clara



1(855)278-4204 (toll free)

National Suicide Prevention & Hotline for Veterans



1(800)273-8255 (toll free)

Call 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies.

Shopping

Department Stores:

- Costco (items in bulk at low price, membership required)
- Walmart (household essentials and groceries)
- Target (household essentials)
- BestBuy (electronics)
- Staples (stationery supply)
- Daiso (most items are \$1.50 each)



American Grocery Stores:

- Safeway (open 24 hours)
- Trader Joes (unique foods)
- Whole Foods (organic foods)
- Sprouts (organic foods)



Asian Grocery Stores:

- Ranch 99 (Chinese)
- Marina Food (Taiwanese)
- Lion (Pan-Asian)
- Hankook Supermarket (Korean)
- Hmart (Korean)
- Mitsuwa Marketplace (Japanese)
- Marukai Supermarket (Japanese)



Shopping Malls & Plazas:

- Westfield Valley Fair
- West Gate Center
- Great Mall
- Main Street Cupertino
- Milpitas Square
- Cupertino Village Shopping Center
- Stanford Shopping Center
- San Antonio Shopping Center



Restaurants

American Restaurants:

In-n-Out, Five Guys, Panera Bread, Panda Express, Ike's Sandwich, Chipotle, Pizza My Heart, Chick-Fil-A, Applebee's, Alexander's, Outback, BJ's, Pokework, Pokeholic, Go Fish, Lazy Dog

Chinese Restaurants:

Local Cafe, Top Cafe, Shanghai Garden, JX Cuisine, Hunan Taste Restaurant, Jenny's Kitchen, Lei Garden, Boiling Point, Tasty Pot, Jin Jin Gourmet

Taiwanese Snack Shops:

Whatever, Tea Era, Gong Cha, Quickly, Happy Lemon, Tea Top, Hechaa, T4, Cafe LaTTea, Yum Tea, Super Cue, TP-Tea, Meet Fresh, Bento Express

Japanese Restaurants:

Tomi Sushi, YAYOI, Yoshinoya, , Gen, one pot, Mori Kitchen, Orenchi Ramen, Santouka, Ramen Seas, Curry House

Korean Restaurants:

Bull Korean BBQ, Gen Korean BBQ, Tofu Plus Korean BBQ, Arirang Tofu & BBQ, Bonchon Chicken, Jang Su Jang, Dae Bak

Vietnamese Restaurants:

Pho Spot, Kobe Pho & Grill, Pho Spot, Pho Minh

Wanna get good eats but don't wanna go out?



Yelp



Foursquare

Find customer reviews of those restaurant on:

No problem! Check out these food delivery apps:



Uber Eats



DoorDash



Weee



Chowbus

Manners & Etiquette

Greeting:

- The moment you arrive in the United States of America, some strangers were already greeting you with a smile on their faces. It's something really common around here.
- Americans are used to say "Hi" and "How are you doing?" to anyone, even strangers they meet. Don't feel weird about it. Respond with a SMILE too!
- Whenever you're leaving a place, be sure to say "Thank you" or "Have a nice day" because it's part of the American culture and courtesy. Be polite and respectful to those who treat you like a friend even though he or she is a stranger.

Sneeze:

- Some Americans will say "God bless you." or "Bless you." whenever you sneeze. There are some origins behind these phrases and they all share the same meaning of wishing you good health.



Culture

Tipping in Restaurants

Giving tips along with your bill is mandatory if you dine in. The basic calculation for tips is: $\text{subtotal} * [1 + \text{tax rate (9\%)}] * \text{tip percentage}$.

The suggested tip percentages are often shown on the bills. If not, tip percentages are generally at least 18% for a party fewer than 6 and 20% for 6 or more.

Return Policy

You are able to return any purchased items within a limited time period with a receipt. In most cases, items can be returned within 30 days, but electronics have only 1-2 week time limit. Depending on terms and conditions stated, sometimes you're even allowed to return items after you've opened or used it.

Food Culture

American food culture revolves around a lot of burritos, tacos, burgers, steaks and pizza. Many restaurants chains serve pretty good food. For example, Chipotle, In-N-Out Burger, Outback Steakhouse.

Daylight Saving Time (DST)

DST is a seasonal time change measure where clocks are set ahead of standard time during part of the year, usually by 1 hour. As DST starts, the Sun rises and sets later, on the clock, than the day before. Daylight Saving Time (DST) in the USA starts on the 2nd Sunday in March and ends on the 1st Sunday in November.

Local Events

There are many local events that happen around the Mountain View area and the locals really enjoy these events, such as:

- **GARAGE/ YARD SALES:**

They are held by residents and happening randomly around mostly on weekends. You can find them advertised on street poles near the event.

- **FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL:**

An American culture that people visit food trucks to buy specialty food. There is one called off-the-grid happening in Cupertino's Whole Foods's parking lot.

- **DE ANZA FLEA MARKET:**

It is held on the first Saturday every month from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM in De Anza parking lot A&B. It is not only a market where people sell used stuff but also a good place for friends to hang around.

- **FARMERS' MARKET**

A local market where farmers sell their local produce directly to consumers. There is one called West Coast Farmers Market located at the plaza right across De Anza College campus on Sundays from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.



American Holidays 2018

Monday, September 3: Labor Day

Labor Day in the United States is a federal holiday that falls on every first Monday of September of each year. It celebrates and recognizes every year to commemorate those who serve the economic and social contributions of American workers.

Monday, October 8: Columbus Day

Columbus Day is a national holiday in many countries in the Americas and elsewhere which officially celebrates the anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the Americas on October 12, 1492.

Monday, November 12: Veterans Day

Veteran Day is also a federal holiday which falls on the 11th of November every year to commemorate those who serve in the United States army.

Thursday, November 22: Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day, celebrated on every fourth Thursday of November, is a national holiday where people give thanks for their blessings in life. Family and friends get together to feast as part of tradition Black Friday follows the next day and it's the largest shopping day in the U.S. with tons of lucrative deals.

Tuesday, December 25: Christmas

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ on every year's 25th of December. In the United States, we decorate our homes with a Christmas tree, beautiful lights and many more decorations. Greeting cards and gifts are exchanged between family and friends. Churches also organize special Christmas events to celebrate Jesus's birthday. Most stores are closed on Christmas Day.



American Holidays 2019

Monday, January 1: New Year's Day

New Year's Day celebrates beginning of the Gregorian calendar year. Festivities include counting down to 12:00 midnight on the preceding night, New Year's Eve, often with fireworks display and party.

Monday, January 21: Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King Day honors the life and legacy of one of the visionary leaders of the Civil Rights Movement and recipient of the 1964 Nobel Prize for Peace. It is celebrated on the third Monday in January.

Monday, February 18: Washington's Birthday

This federal holiday is formally called "Washington's Birthday" and is celebrated on the third Monday in February. However, it is a common practice to celebrate the birthdays of both Presidents Lincoln and Washington on this day.

Monday, May 27: Memorial Day

Memorial Day is a holiday to honor the men and women who have died in wars or in the service of their country. It is observed on the fourth Monday in May.

Thursday, July 4: Independence Day

Americans celebrate Independence Day on July 4 because on July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence, officially breaking bonds with England and forming a new independent nation, the United States of America.





Monthly Seminars On...

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Communication & Information System
- Engineering, Manufacturing & Technology
- Health Science & Technology
- Human Service
- Business, Management & Administration

Career Development Club

we prepare your future



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Passion vs Paycheck ?
Personality vs Position ?**

“What to choose for my career?” That is the question every single one faces. We aim to help you in making that decision! Join us and explore your perfect fit career! Allow professionals and interns to share with you some personal insights from their practical experience. Moreover, our voluntary programs will train you on soft skills that may transfer to your future work!

**Follow us on Facebook @ [DAcareerdevelopment](#)
or email careerdevelopmentclub2018@gmail.com**



De Anza 臺灣學生會:

我們社團的宗旨是幫助每個來到 De Anza College 的留學生適應美國生活，並透過我們瞭解美國文化，體驗豐富的校園生活，成為學生的第二個家。本社團會提供多元化的活動以及社交平台，並運用全部資源來分享學校的課程資訊，轉校訊息以及爭取實習機會。希望在臺灣學生會的協助下，每個學生能夠克服生活上的差異，愉快的學習，最終達成自己的理想。

The goal of our club is help each and every international student coming to De Anza to adapt to life in the states. We believe that through our club, international students can understand American culture and school related issues and find a second home. Our club will provide a variety of programs and social networking and use all our possible resources to share knowledge of class selection, transfer procedures, and internship opportunities. We hope that with our club's assistance, every student can overcome cultural differences and educational difficulties and succeed in every possible way.



come and join us!

DE ANZA



Malaysian & Singaporean
Association



@deanza.masa





DA CSSA(De Anza Chinese Students and Scholars Association) is the official organization for overseas Chinese students and scholars registered in De Anza College. Our responsibility is mostly to help Chinese students at De Anza in the aspects of living, studying, transferring, and working. We also serve as a bridge between the Chinese students and other communities to spread Chinese culture.

德安萨中国学生学者联合会是在De Anza College唯一受旧金山大使馆管辖认证的非政府非营利性学生组织。我们将尽可能为中国留学生分享有利于转学以及个人职业发展的各类活动信息、志愿者以及实习等珍贵机会。选择加入CSSA社区能享受更为丰富多元化的校内社交，拥抱一个更广阔的社交资源，寻找到更多机会。我们将尝试作为湾区华人社区的一页，参与与组织各种各样的社区活动，为弘扬正面的华人形象而努力。



COMMUNITY. FAITH. GROWTH.



LAUNCH
PARTY
SEPT 22, 2018

DINNER AND GAMES

4-7 PM

RSVP: IVDEANZA
@GMAIL.COM

ABOUT

Pemuda is a Christian young adult fellowship.

We meet once a week to have dinner, to worship, and to learn about the word of God.

Come, join us!
We would love to meet and to get to know you!

ACTIVITIES

Friday fellowship
Welcoming Night
Thanksgiving Retreat
Bible studies
Sports activities
...and more!!

pemuda
Indonesian Evangelical Church

SERVICES

Pemuda Fellowship
Friday, 7 pm

Sunday Service
(Indonesian & English)
Sunday, 10 am

Location:
191 East Gish Road,
San Jose, CA 95112

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Pemuda GII San Jose



pemudasj



Chinese Campus Evangelical Ministry - CCEM

CCEM is a non-profit organization that connects, develops and accelerates evangelical work among all college campuses in the Bay Area.

We build networking resources to provide need for campus students. We also have many programs that connect campus students to understand Christian faith and love. We partner with different campuses fellowship to foster effective outreach opportunities.



Facebook:

CCEM- Chinese Campus Evangelical Ministry



Follow us on Facebook:



Foothill-De Anza Freshman Compass

Follow us on WeChat:



BAsudentFun

