

## Which Airport to Pick When Traveling to College Park

The Washington DC metro area (which includes College Park) is served by three major airports: Baltimore-Washington Thurgood Marshall (BWI), Washington-Dulles (IAD), and Regan National (DCA). BWI is north of College Park near the city of Baltimore. DCA is just south of Washington, DC in Virginia. IAD is in Virginia and the furthest from College Park.

Generally, international flights come to IAD, though a few come to BWI. DCA never gets international flights, unless you have a layover in a US airport.

Airports around the USA may have flights that go to one or more of the three local airports. If there are flights to more than just one of our three local airports from your home airport, you might want to see which connection gives the best fare since fares can vary substantially.

## Getting to College Park from Each Airport

Due to our having three airports and the widely varying time that people will arrive, we are not able to develop a system of ICN-specific transport. However, we give below several different ways to get to College Park and the University. Once you know your exact housing, you should make sure that the transport takes you there. If you are staying in a hotel, this will be no problem

### TAXI:

You can take a taxi from each airport to College Park. Fares may be about \$50 from DCA and BWI, and \$70 or \$80 from IAD. Taxi will be the fastest way to get to College Park. Please note, each airport has their own taxi areas outside, and we recommend you use the taxis in those areas. In some cases you might be approached by taxi drivers inside the airport. We recommend that you do not accept those services since these may not be legal.

### SUPERSHUTTLE:

There are usually several SuperShuttle vans (<http://www.supershuttle.com/>) outside each airport. Prices vary by airport and type of service. If you choose a “shared ride” to College Park, the fare for the first passenger is around \$32 (e.g. from BWI), with each additional person paying around \$12. Usually, the total cost is shared equally by all passengers. “Shared rides” may involve minor detours, although they try to have customers with similar destinations in one van. For comparison, “exclusive non-stop service” is around \$110 from BWI to College Park (<https://reservations.supershuttle.com/Default.aspx?content=Rate>). Reservations for shared rides are not necessary, but recommended. SuperShuttle will stop at our campus and the hotels in College Park, but you can ask them to stop in between BWI and here.

### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

From DCA: Take the Metro (our subway) Yellow or Blue Line to L'Enfant Plaza (make sure it says that it is going to Georgia Ave/Petworth (Yellow Line) or Largo Town Center (Blue Line)). At L'Enfant Plaza, change to the Green Line (direction Greenbelt), which will then take you to the College Park station where you get off. The Metro ride takes about 25 min. In rare cases, the Yellow line takes you all the way to College Park, so check the destination on the display.

You can find a detailed Metro map with all its stops at <http://wmata.com/rail/maps/map.cfm>. The College Park station is on the northern part of the Green Line. We recommend that you print out the map if you plan to use the Metro. There are also maps in the Metro stations and in each Metro car. NOTE, Metro runs from about 6 or 7 am until 2 am the next day. If you come in late at night or early morning please check the Metro web site for the hours of operation for the day you arrive.

From College Park Metro Station: If you come in over the weekend, you will need to take a taxi from the College Park Metro station to campus, while on weekdays there is a University of Maryland shuttle bus "Shuttle UM" (104 Metro; <http://www.transportation.umd.edu/schedules.html>). If you are not familiar with Metro, please look at their web site <http://wmata.com/> to see how to get a SmarTrip card or a regular ticket and use the system. It is not difficult, but we suggest you read instructions in advance. The website also has a trip planner, which gives you departure and arrival times and total cost for the trip, if you enter departure and destination point.

If you are using a smartphone, there is a free app called "DC Metro Transit" that has all the information and features available on the Metro website but in a more accessible form. You can also see real-time arrival estimation of trains at each Metro stop.

From BWI: There is a Metrobus (B30), which will take you all the way to Greenbelt Metro Station in about 30 min. The Greenbelt Metro stop is only one stop away from College Park. You can either take a taxi from Greenbelt (the best alternative we suggest) or ride the Metro to College Park (direction Branch Ave). The taxi fare from either College Park or Greenbelt should be relatively minimal. The timetable for B30 is at <http://wmata.com/bus/timetables/view.cfm?line=165>.

From IAD: There is also a Metrobus (5A), which will take you to the L'Enfant Plaza metro station in Washington DC in about 45 min. From there you can take the Metro Green Line (direction Greenbelt) to College Park, which takes around 25 min. Altogether, it may take up to 90 min to get to College Park. The timetable for 5A is at <http://wmata.com/bus/timetables/view.cfm?line=49>.

Note: prices subject to change.