



WELCOME!

Prospective Faculty
Resources



ADVANCE
— at WSU —



[This document provides an overview about Washington State University, the community of Pullman, and the surrounding Palouse region, as well as website links for additional information; and was partially funded through proceeds from the National Science Foundation ADVANCE Grant No. 0810927.]

Welcome! As prospective faculty, you probably have many questions about what it is like to work at Washington State University and live in Pullman. In this handbook we provide you with a few answers to commonly asked questions. This document provides an overview of Washington State University, the community of Pullman, and the surrounding Palouse region. We provide you with electronic links to assist you in further exploration. Please let us know if there is anything related to your visit with which we can assist you. Welcome to Washington State University!

- I. [Provost's website for new and prospective faculty](https://provost.wsu.edu/new-and-prospective-faculty/)
(<https://provost.wsu.edu/new-and-prospective-faculty/>).

About Washington State University

Washington State University is a public research university committed to its land-grant heritage and tradition of service to society. Our [mission](https://wsu.edu/about/leadership/) (<https://wsu.edu/about/leadership/>) is threefold:

- To **advance** knowledge through creative research and scholarship across a wide range of academic disciplines.
- To **extend** knowledge through innovative educational programs in which emerging scholars are mentored to realize their highest potential and assume roles of leadership, responsibility, and service to society.
- To **apply** knowledge through local and global engagement that will improve quality of life and enhance the economy of the state, nation, and world.

More than 31,000 students are enrolled on WSU's [five campuses](https://wsu.edu/about/statewide/) (<https://wsu.edu/about/statewide/>). The University offers more than 200 fields of study with 98 majors, 78 masters, 65 doctoral, and 3 professional degrees. The University is organized into 11 colleges:

- Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences
- Arts and Sciences
- Business
- Communication
- Education
- Engineering and Architecture
- Honors
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Veterinary Medicine

Learn more about WSU on our [Quick Facts](https://wsu.edu/about/facts/) (<https://wsu.edu/about/facts/>) page.

National Rankings

WSU is one of just 131 U.S. Colleges and universities - out of 4,600+ public and private institutions - named among doctoral universities with the “highest research activity” in the Carnegie Classification. WSU lands in the top 200 institutions nationwide in The Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education's 2020 U.S. College Rankings. Kiplinger’s included WSU in its 2011 list of the top “100 Best Values in Public Colleges.” Money magazine ranked it in the top 25 colleges that add the most value in 2014

Students

The WSU student to faculty ratio is approximately 15 to 1. WSU students represent diverse social, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Approximately 9.1% students come from more than 106 foreign countries. WSU awards more than \$392 million in scholarships and financial aid awards to approximately 20,976 students annually. Study abroad has increased rapidly in recent years to 500+ educational abroad programs in over 48 countries around the world. WSU has many famous alumni, ranging from Edward R. Murrow to Gary Larson. WSU alums are among the most loyal of all graduates of public universities. They show this loyalty in many ways. The WSU Alumni Association is the nation's leader in membership growth for similarly sized universities across the country. Although the University of Washington is much larger than WSU, WSU alumni beat UW alumni in repeated competitions.

The Multi-Campus System

WSU is located on five campuses all of which adhere to the same set of practices and policies. Degree requirements are the same across campuses and faculty members are considered part of one faculty, regardless of their location. All five of the campuses are physically beautiful, well maintained, and linked to a telecommunication system that enables live interactive courses to be broadcast among the campuses. [Virtual tours \(http://virtual-tour.wsu.edu/\)](http://virtual-tour.wsu.edu/) of the campuses are available.

[WSU Pullman \(http://www.wsu.edu/\)](http://www.wsu.edu/): WSU Pullman is the flagship campus for the university. The 620-acre campus serves as home to more than 20,000 students, as well as the university administration. WSU Pullman is a hub for most of the university’s student organizations, its athletic teams, galleries, performance venues, and museums dedicated to art, anthropology, zoology, and other topics.

[WSU Spokane \(http://spokane.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.187140015.608048038.1422057877\)](http://spokane.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.187140015.608048038.1422057877): Located about 80 miles north of Pullman, WSU Spokane is known as the “Riverpoint campus,” and is home to the College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, the new College of Medical Sciences, and graduate programs in education. It is currently expanding for health sciences: consolidating the College of Pharmacy, establishing a full four-year medical program, expanding the College of Nursing and the Departments of Health Policy Administration, and consolidating selected

undergraduate and professional programs. They are also meeting the community needs and priorities with targeted research, design, executive business, education and policy studies.

[WSU Tri Cities](http://tricities.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.195478315.608048038.1422057877) (http://tricities.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.195478315.608048038.1422057877):

Founded in 1989 and located along the banks of the Columbia River, the Tri-Cities campus began as the Joint Center for Graduate Study in July 1958 as a collaborative effort among WSU, the University of Washington and Oregon State University. In 1967, the Richland School District donated 84 acres to provide a permanent home for the facility. Construction began on the East Building in July 1967. The building was finished in one year, and in the fall of 1968, the first classes were taught by 79 adjunct faculty members to 380 students.

[WSU Vancouver](http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.128879499.608048038.1422057877)

(http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.128879499.608048038.1422057877):

Situated on 351 scenic acres in southwest Washington, across the river from Portland, Oregon. The Vancouver campus includes state-of-the-art multimedia facilities, bicycle and pedestrian trails, an outdoor amphitheater, a 200-seat lecture hall, a disc golf course, two art galleries with rotating shows, outdoor public art, a workout facility, an outdoor sports court, and other amenities.

[WSU North Puget Sound at Everett](http://everett.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.223932316.608048038.1422057877) (http://everett.wsu.edu/?_ga=1.223932316.608048038.1422057877):

Nestled in the Everett Community College campus, which is approximately 30 miles north of Seattle, Washington. Most courses are taught at Everett by WSU faculty, while some will be delivered from Pullman or another WSU campus via WSU Online. WSU North Puget Sound at Everett is charged with greatly expanding access to high-quality baccalaureate and graduate degree programs in the region and the state. With a focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, the growth of WSU NPSE will align with the economic development and vitality of the region and the state of Washington to prepare graduates for leadership in a rapidly changing and globally connected world.

The PAC-12 Conference

The WSU Cougars compete in the prestigious Pacific-12 Conference, known as the Conference of Champions. Other members of the PAC-12 are: Arizona State, Oregon State, Stanford, and the Universities of Arizona, California at Berkeley, California at Los Angeles, Colorado at Boulder, Oregon, Southern California, Utah, and Washington. WSU fields athletic teams in

women's sports including basketball, cross country, golf, rowing, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field and volleyball, and men's sports including baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, and track and field. Cougar sports teams have had a great deal of success. The football team has appeared in the Rose Bowl on four occasions (1916, 1931, 1998, and 2003). Other bowl appearances include the the 2013 New Mexico Bowl, 2015 Sun Bowl, 2016 and 2017 Holiday Bowls, 2018 Alamo Bowl, and the Cheez-It Bowl in 2019. In 2008, the men's basketball team advanced to the Sweet Sixteen. Five Cougar athletes competed in the 2008 Olympic Games, three of them for the USA team in track and field.

Resources of interest to new faculty members: We extend a warm welcome to our new faculty! To learn more about our new faculty please visit [New Faculty Statewide](https://provost.wsu.edu/new-and-prospective-faculty/) (<https://provost.wsu.edu/new-and-prospective-faculty/>). Below are some of the many resources that may be of interest to new faculty:

Shared Governance

Shared governance is the basic operating principle of WSU. The administration and the faculty jointly make decisions regarding the academic mission of the university. The Faculty Senate is involved in academic planning, curriculum development, and institutional governance. The leaders of the Senate meet regularly with the Provost and President. The Faculty Senate also publishes the Faculty Manual, which contains the policies and procedures that govern the faculty.

Faculty Policies and Performance

Visit [Career and Advancement](http://faculty.wsu.edu/career/) (<http://faculty.wsu.edu/career/>) for information about advancement and [Manuals and Forms](http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-and-forms/) (<http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-and-forms/>) to learn about policies relevant to faculty.

Faculty-Friendly Policies

Several University policies provide special help to faculty members in dealing with issues that may impede their performance. These policies include:

- [Partner Accommodation](http://public.wsu.edu/~forms/HTML/BPPM/60_Personnel/60.15_Partner_and_Spouse_Accommodation.htm) ([http://public.wsu.edu/~forms/HTML/BPPM/60_Personnel/60.15_Partner and Spouse Accommodation.htm](http://public.wsu.edu/~forms/HTML/BPPM/60_Personnel/60.15_Partner_and_Spouse_Accommodation.htm)) - The Provost's Office will provide, pending the availability of funds, matching funds for half of a position for two years or one third of a position for three years for the domestic partner or spouse of a University employee. Although this funding is not guaranteed, in recent years, the Provost has accommodated all reasonable requests.
- [Stopping the tenure clock](#) – The tenure clock can be stopped for as many as two years for becoming a parent. The clock can also be stopped for care of a partner, dependent, or parent; for time lost because of a serious illness; for time lost because of professional

circumstances beyond the candidate's control; and for leave without pay. Specific information can be found in the [faculty manual section III.C.3.f pages 51-52](#).

- **Part-Time Tenure/Tenured Policy:** Tenured and tenure-track faculty members may sometimes benefit from a part-time appointment. The University wishes to accommodate these faculty members if possible without negatively impacting their program, department, or University function. As a result, tenure-track and tenured appointments for not less than 50% time may be offered for all ranks. The duties (e.g., teaching, research and service expectations) and support provided (e.g., startup money, teaching and/or research assistance) will be the same as for a full-time faculty member except they may be prorated for the percentage of the appointment. The duties and support for a part-time faculty member should be specified in the offer letter signed by the faculty member, chair, dean, vice chancellor (for branch campus faculty members), and provost. Part-time faculty members have all of the rights and responsibilities of full-time faculty members except as otherwise provided in the *Faculty Manual*, and subject to the following rules that are specific to their positions. See faculty manual section iii.C.3.e. pages 50-51.
- **Modified Duties** - Faculty members with significant caregiving responsibilities may alter their duties for a semester away from inflexible responsibilities (e.g., teaching) towards more flexible ones (e.g., scholarship) without any loss of salary. Decisions about modified duties are made in consultation with the chair, dean and provost.
- **Professional Leave (Sabbatical)** - After five years of active service (6 years for pre-tenure faculty), faculty members and administrative professionals are eligible for a one-semester sabbatical at full pay or a two-semester sabbatical at three-quarter pay. Sabbaticals are assigned through a competitive application process. Anyone granted a sabbatical must provide a report upon his or her return to the University.
- **Reasonable Accommodation**
([http://public.wsu.edu/~forms/HTML/BPPM/60_Personnel/60.21_Reasonable_Accommodation .htm](http://public.wsu.edu/~forms/HTML/BPPM/60_Personnel/60.21_Reasonable_Accommodation.htm)) – Anyone with a disability may apply for a modification or adjustment of a job, work environment, policy, practice, or procedure that will enable that individual to enjoy equal employment opportunity with others. Reasonable accommodations are negotiated on an individual basis through the Human Resources Services Office.
- **Phased Retirement** (<https://hrs.wsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Phased-Retirement-Guidelines-11-07.pdf>) – Faculty members who are 55 years old or older and who have served the University for at least 10 years can reduce their work time, and therefore their salaries, from 100% to 50% over a period of up to seven years. The details of a phased retirement agreement are negotiated on an individual basis by the faculty member with his or her department chair, dean and provost.

Startup Funds: The University provides competitive start-up packages to new faculty members. Start ups are negotiated on an individual basis at the time of hire. Dollar amounts vary across fields depending on the costs required to develop a competitive program of scholarship or research.

Seed Grants for New Faculty: The Office of Research holds a yearly competition for seed-money grants for assistant professors or the equivalent, hired within the last 3 years. Applicants submit a proposal for up to \$30,000 over 15 months to support their scholarly, creative, or research programs. Those who receive funding submit a final report, develop a grant proposal for external funding, and present the supported work. The deadline for these grants is in the spring semester. For more information, please contact the [Office of Grants and Research Development](http://www.ogrd.wsu.edu/) (<http://www.ogrd.wsu.edu/>).

Teaching Resources: The [Office of Assessment and Teaching and Learning](http://oai.wsu.edu/) (<http://oai.wsu.edu/>) provides a variety of [teaching resources](http://oai.wsu.edu/teaching_resources.html) (http://oai.wsu.edu/teaching_resources.html).

Mentoring: Each assistant professor at WSU should have a mentor or mentors. Mentoring is also advised for all associate professors. The number and duties of mentors differ across departments. A description of different mentoring systems can be found at [Mentoring at WSU](http://faculty.wsu.edu/mentoring/) (<http://faculty.wsu.edu/mentoring/>). If you are not being mentored and wish to have a mentor or mentors, please discuss this with your department chair or school director.

ADVANCE at WSU

The University received a National Science Foundation ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant in 2008. The objectives of this grant were to improve the recruitment and retention of women faculty members in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) disciplines at WSU. This important work continues at WSU under the Provost's Office and the Deans. For more information about programs offered through the grant, please go to [ADVANCE at WSU](http://advance.wsu.edu/) (<http://advance.wsu.edu/>).

Celebrating Faculty Excellence: Showcase is WSU's yearly celebration of faculty and staff excellence [Showcase](http://showcase.wsu.edu/) (<http://showcase.wsu.edu/>). It is held in the spring every year, usually on the first Friday after Spring break. Showcase begins with a morning poster session of faculty work. The posters are followed by a free lunch at which the Distinguished Faculty Address is presented. A reception for emeritus faculty and staff is held in the afternoon followed by the Celebration of Excellence dinner. This elegant dinner honors faculty members who have achieved tenure and promotion as well as faculty and staff members who are recipients of university-wide awards. See prior [Showcase Award Recipients](http://showcase.wsu.edu/2014-awards/) (<http://showcase.wsu.edu/2014-awards/>).

Benefits: Faculty members participate in the TIAA-CREF retirement program. Their contributions to the program are matched by the University up to a limit that varies with age. The University provides basic long-term disability and life insurance, with the option of purchasing additional coverage. In addition, faculty members receive their choice among several health insurance policies which include medical, prescription, vision, dental, and mental health care. Health benefits are available to domestic partners, as well as to spouses. The university greatly subsidizes, but no longer fully funds, medical insurance for

the faculty member and his/her family. Retired faculty members are allowed to purchase the health insurance as their primary plan until age 65, at which time the state's plan will be secondary to Medicare. For more information visit [Human Resource Services Benefits \(http://hrs.wsu.edu/Benefits\)](http://hrs.wsu.edu/Benefits) website or call Human Resource Services at 509-335-4521.

Diversity Resources:

- The Division of Student Affairs, [Office of Outreach and Education \(http://diversity.wsu.edu/\)](http://diversity.wsu.edu/): Contributes to the educational mission of Washington State University by helping recruit, support, and retain students, staff, faculty, and graduate assistants. As a result, more students fulfill their personal and educational objectives and aspirations.
- [The Office of Civil Rights Compliance & Investigation \(http://crici.wsu.edu/\)](http://crici.wsu.edu/) Seeks to integrate principles of equal employment opportunity, affirmative action, fairness and equality into all academic and employment activities and practices throughout [Washington State University \(http://www.wsu.edu/\)](http://www.wsu.edu/).
- [Gender Identity/Expression and Sexual Orientation Resource Center \(http://thecenter.wsu.edu/\)](http://thecenter.wsu.edu/): Supports lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and allied members of the WSU community.
- [The Office of Multicultural Student Services \(http://mss.wsu.edu/\)](http://mss.wsu.edu/): Providing culturally relevant services to promote the successful transition, persistence, achievement, and graduation of multicultural students.
- [The Women's Resource Center \(http://women.wsu.edu/\)](http://women.wsu.edu/): Facilitates a work and learning environment at Washington State University that supports the success and empowerment of all women students, staff and faculty, as individuals and as a community.

As employees of WSU, the faculty and staff receive [Benefits \(http://hrs.wsu.edu/Benefits\)](http://hrs.wsu.edu/Benefits) and optional services including:

- 11 paid holidays (with some variation in certain work sites)
- 10 Medical plan options (including vision care)
- 3 Dental plan options
- Life Insurance coverage
- Long Term Disability Insurance
- Retirement Plan with employer contributions
- Flexible Spending Account for Medical and Dependent Care
- Auto and Homeowners Insurance Discounts
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET)
- Confidential, personal counseling through WSU's Employee Assistance Program
- Cougar card discounts for select campus and business purchases
- Transportation on Pullman Transit at no charge.

- E-learning training via Skillsoft, which includes over 2,100 training courses and over 8,000 books for professional or personal growth
- Instructor-led training for employees on Pullman campus
- Access to electronic verification of paychecks/direct deposit of paychecks
- Waiver of tuition fees for many academic classes offered on campus.

[The Faculty & Staff Fitness Program \(http://facultystafffitness.wsu.edu/membership.aspx\)](http://facultystafffitness.wsu.edu/membership.aspx):

Members of the faculty and staff may pay a fee of \$215 per year to join the Faculty & Staff Fitness Program. In return, they receive a locker, towel service, and ediscunts for classes and personal training. Faculty and staff groups compete in activities including basketball, volleyball, aerobics, tennis, racquetball, and squash most days. Faculty members can also buy a membership in the Student Recreation Center at a reduced rate (currently \$456/year). The [Student Recreation Center \(http://urec.wsu.edu/\)](http://urec.wsu.edu/) contains a 5-lane lap pool, a leisure pool, a 53-person spa with a cascading waterfall, an elevated 1/8 mile track, a sport court for indoor soccer and roller hockey, 6 courts for volleyball, basketball, and badminton, 4 racquetball-squash courts, 3 multipurpose rooms, a 17,000 square feet free weight and cardio-fitness training area, indoor lounges with sitting areas, games, and fireplace; and an outdoor sundeck.

On-Site Child Care

Washington State University provides day care through the [Children's Center](#). The Center practices a developmentally appropriate approach to early education as advocated by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The curriculum emphasizes learning as an interactive process. The Center's goal for early education is to ensure that children acquire the foundations for healthy development and learning. For further information, please go to (<https://childrenscenter.wsu.edu/>).

Childcare Resource and Referral

This website: <http://www.wsu.edu/CCRR/> provides information on local licensed child care along with tips for selecting a child care provider. Child care providers are also offered professional training, educational scholarships, and many other resources.

Elder Care

Resources for elder care and support include support groups, training, library resources, benefit and leave options, and caregiver lecture series. For more information about local resources, please go to [Bishop Place Senior Living \(http://www.bishopplace.net\)](http://www.bishopplace.net).

II. About Pullman and the Surrounding Area

Washington State University is located in Pullman, a dynamic center of higher education, research, and culture nestled among the beautiful rolling hills of southeastern Washington. For more information, review the [Pullman, Washington Chamber of Commerce](http://www.pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/) website (<http://www.pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/>).

Pullman lies in the heart of the Palouse, a geographic area covering 10,000 square miles of northwestern Idaho and southeastern Washington. The Palouse area is a photographer's dream, depicted in the book, *The Most Beautiful Place in the World, Impressions of 10 Master Photographers*, as the "Louvre of Farmlands." It is the perfect combination of topography, weather, crops (including wheat, lentils and dry peas) and farming methods. A June 1982 National Geographic cover story called the region "A Paradise Called the Palouse" and the October 2001 National Geographic Traveler Magazine featured the Palouse region in their cover story, "50 Places of a Lifetime."

Pullman is located in southeastern Washington approximately 80 miles south of Spokane and 8 miles west of Moscow, Idaho, home to the University of Idaho (approximately 11,400 students on a 1,580-acre campus). According to the 2010 census, 31,404 people live in Pullman. The small size makes Pullman a poor choice for those who thrive on big-city life. Nevertheless, because Moscow is close and is similar in size to Pullman (23,800 people), the region provides the activities and attractions that come with the presence of two large Universities along with the charm and safety of a small town. A trail for walking, jogging, bicycling or skateboarding connects the two cities.

Pullman has a four-season climate that is classified as semi-arid (average rainfall of 21 inches; average snowfall of 28 inches). The summers are ideal with hot dry weather. From approximately July 5 until the end of September, the humidity is low, the sky is blue with few clouds, and the days are hot. Because Pullman is at an altitude of approximately 2500 feet above sea level, however, nights are cool even during the hottest weather. The low humidity also reduces the number of insects. Winters are colder and wetter, but winter in Pullman is mild compared to winters in the Northeast and Midwest. Winter can also be left behind in favor of the milder climate experienced by Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington, 40 miles south of Pullman. Although located close to Pullman, these towns have a different climate, and a relatively mild winter, because they are located almost at sea level and at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers.

Pullman is often described as "a great place to raise children." The community personifies the image of small-town friendliness with a mild climate, clean air, highly rated schools, and a low crime rate. Its small size makes transporting children from event to event easy or unnecessary. Its small size and isolated location create a relatively safe environment. Many activities are available for children during off-school hours. For example, summer sports camps at the University alone include football, boys and girls basketball, volleyball, baseball, soccer, track, and tennis. Pullman Parks and Recreation also offers a variety of sports activities for both children and adults ranging from youth soccer leagues to adult golf lessons, white water rafting trips to fly fishing lessons. The Palouse Discovery Science Center promotes science, math, and technology literacy through the use of educational programs, exhibits, teaching collections, and activities emphasizing hands-on learning. The center features permanent as well as traveling exhibits and a planetarium.

The public schools in Pullman are consistent with the high quality that would be expected in an area with two major universities. Pullman has been recognized in a Hearst Foundation Publication as one of the top 100 school districts in the United States. In addition, Pullman was rated number one for communities up to 50,000 in population for support of public education in both funding and volunteerism. The Pullman public schools include Franklin Elementary School, Jefferson Elementary School, Kamiak Elementary School, Sunnyside Elementary School, Lincoln Middle School, and Pullman High School. Approximately 850 students attend Pullman High School. It offers honors and advanced placement courses as well as running start course work through WSU and area community colleges. Pullman High has one of the highest passing rates for the HSPE (a Washington State assessment of achievement) for public schools in the state. For more information see [Pullman Public Schools \(https://www.pullmanschools.org\)](https://www.pullmanschools.org).

The town has several parks that are equipped with picnic tables, grills, tennis courts, swings, climbing areas, etc. Several golf courses are also located either in Pullman or close by (WSU's Palouse Ridge Golf Club, 18-hole Scottish Links style championship course; University of Idaho Golf Course, 18-hole, Par 72; Colfax Golf Course, 9-hole, Par 35; St. John Golf Course, 9-hole, par 35; and Tekoa Golf Course, 9-hole, par 35).

Pullman is an ideal location for those interested in outdoor activities. Mountain biking, hiking, downhill and cross country skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, golf, camping and white water rafting are all available within easy driving distance. Several large and beautiful lakes are located in the Idaho Panhandle within a 1.5- to 3-hour drive of Pullman (e.g., Lake Couer D'Alene, Priest Lake). Excellent boating and rafting experiences are available on the Snake and Clearwater Rivers, a 30 to 40 minute drive south of Pullman. Some of the best white water experiences in the country are available around Riggins, Idaho, approximately 4 hours southeast of Pullman. Many ski areas are also located within an easy drive (e.g., Schweitzer Mountain, 2 hours; McCall, Idaho, 4 hours). A slightly longer drive (up to one day) will take you to spectacular scenery in every direction. Some of the largest wilderness preserves in the US are located in Idaho to the southeast of Pullman. The Wallowa Mountains in Oregon are approximately a 3 hour drive to the south. The Cascade Mountains of Washington, including the spectacular Mt. Rainier, Mt. Adams, Mt. St. Helens, and Mt. Baker, are located within a 4 to 6 hour drive. The Olympic Mountains and rainforests of Washington require a slightly longer (6 to 8 hour) drive. Banff, Jasper, and the Canadian Rockies are approximately a one day drive to the north. In addition, the beaches on the coast of Washington and Oregon can be accessed by a 7 to 8 hour drive and the San Juan Islands, off the coast of Washington, provide a delightful destination within a 6 hour drive and ferry ride from Pullman. The WSU Outdoor Recreation Center rents outdoor equipment and provides information on recreational activities available in the Northwest, as well as various classes and cooperative trips. Pullman is relatively close to several of the world's most attractive cities. Spokane is a 1.5 hour drive to the north; Seattle, a 4.5 hour drive to the west; Portland, Oregon, a 6 hour drive to the southwest; and Vancouver, B. C, a 7 hour drive to the northwest.

Pullman is served by the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport which offers several daily flights to and from Seattle. Airports located in Lewiston, Idaho (approximately a 1 hour drive) and Spokane, Washington (approximately a 1.5 hour drive) offer non-stop connections to airports such as Denver, Chicago, and Salt Lake City

The [Pullman Chamber of Commerce \(http://www.pullmanchamber.com/#\)](http://www.pullmanchamber.com/#) website provides further information about the following topics:

- [1. Public Schools \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/public-schools/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/public-schools/)
- [2. Healthcare \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/healthcare/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/healthcare/)
- [3. Low Crime Rate \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/crime-rate/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/crime-rate/)
- [4. University Town \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/university-town/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/university-town/)
- [5. Excellent Housing \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/affordable-housing/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/affordable-housing/)
- [6. Community Support \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/community-support/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/community-support/)
- [7. Scenic Beauty \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/scenic-beauty/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/scenic-beauty/)
- [8. Business Environment \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/business-environment/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/business-environment/)
- [9. Mild Climate \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/mild-climate/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/mild-climate/)
- [10. Rich History \(http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/rich-history/\)](http://pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/10-reasons-to-live-in-pullman/rich-history/)

Transportation Alternatives

- **Transit:**

[Pullman Transit \(http://www.pullmantransit.com\)](http://www.pullmantransit.com):

— Pullman Transit operates Monday through Saturday during the academic year.

[Wheatland Express/Spokane Airport Shuttle \(http://www.wheatlandexpress.com/ 334-2200\)](http://www.wheatlandexpress.com/):

Wheatland Express operates a commuter bus between Moscow and Pullman. It provides transportation between Moscow, Pullman, Colfax and the Spokane International Airport. Wheatland Express also provides transportation for group charters and tours of the Palouse.

- **[Carpools, Vanpools, Rideshare](#)**
 (http://www.carpoolworld.com/carpool.html?event=WSU&to=Pullman&country=USA,US&form_language=EN):
Carpool E-Mail List:
 WSU-Carpool list is for Washington State University Staff, Faculty and Students to post and review carpool information about rides needed as well as carpool openings.
WSU Coordinated Vanpools: 509-335-9085.
 WSU Motor Pool coordinates vanpools from Palouse, Colfax, Colton, Uniontown, and the Lewiston/Clarkston Valley.
Whitman County Public Transportation Area Vanpools: coast@qwestoffice.net , 509-397-2935
Asotin County Public Transportation Area Vanpools: kgates@asotincptba.com , 509-758-3567
- **Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute**
 We own and operate a regional VanPool system with support from the [Idaho Transportation Department](#) (<http://itd.idaho.gov/>) and matching funds from local supporters including the [University of Idaho](#) (<http://www.uidaho.edu/>).
- **[Emergency Ride Home](https://transportation.wsu.edu/transportation-options/vanpools-other/)** (<https://transportation.wsu.edu/transportation-options/vanpools-other/>)
 In order to promote alternatives to commuting in single-occupant vehicles, the University supports the Emergency Ride Home (ERH) program. This program provides assurance of a [ride in an emergency for those who use alternative commuting methods.](#)

Moscow, Idaho

Located 8 miles from Pullman, Moscow is home to the [University of Idaho](#) (UI). The UI enrolls nearly 11,926 students from all states and 92 foreign countries on a 1,580-acre campus. The Campus contains an Arboretum & Botanical Garden that provides several acres of trails and plantings. The UI Vandals compete in men’s and women’s intercollegiate athletics in the Sun Belt Conference. Moscow has gained national attention in the arts. The Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival, Festival Dance, Idaho Repertory Theatre (a professional summer theater company), Renaissance Fair, Rendezvous in the Park, and the Prichard Art Gallery are part of the reason why Moscow has been repeatedly rated as one of the “Best 100 Small Art Towns in America”. For more information please visit the [Moscow Chamber of Commerce](http://www.moscowchamber.com/) (<http://www.moscowchamber.com/>).

Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington

Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington (named after Lewis and Clark) are located across the Snake River from each other, approximately 40 miles south of Pullman. The drive from Pullman to this area includes a drop in elevation of approximately 1800 feet (from approximately 2500 feet above sea level in Pullman to approximately 730 feet in Lewiston-Clarkston). The drop can be accomplished by either the new or the older road. The newer grade, constructed in the late 1970s, is approximately 7 miles (11 km) long. Both grades provide an excellent view of Lewiston, Clarkston, and the surrounding landscape. Lewiston is the second largest city in the Idaho Panhandle behind Coeur d'Alene (population of 30,904, 2000 census; 31,293, 2006 estimate). Its main industry is paper and timber products production. Some oceangoing vessels can reach Lewiston because it is located at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers. As a result, Lewiston provides Idaho's only seaport and the western United States' farthest inland seaport. Barges of timber products, grain and other goods are shipped via the Snake-Columbia system to the Pacific Ocean. A system of levees protects against flooding along much of the Snake River and provides an excellent area for walking, biking and skate boarding. Lewiston is also home to Lewis-Clark State College.

Spokane, Washington

Spokane is located approximately 80 miles north of Pullman. With a population of 204,400, it's the second largest city in the state of Washington (behind Seattle) and the largest city between Seattle and Minneapolis. It's also the fourth largest city in the U.S. Pacific Northwest, behind Seattle, Portland, and Boise. Greater Spokane is much larger than the city alone. 459,000 residents live in Spokane County. With neighboring Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, the population reaches nearly 700,000 people. Spokane hosted the first environmentally themed World's Fair in Expo '74, becoming the then-smallest city to ever host a World's Fair. The event transformed Spokane's downtown, removing a century of railroad industry and reinventing the urban core. Many of the structures built for the World's Fair are still standing and in use. The United States Pavilion sits next to an IMAX theater, and the Washington State Pavilion became the INB Performing Arts Center. The Expo site itself became the 100 acre Riverfront Park, containing, among other features, the U.S. Pavilion, the turn-of-the-20th-century Looff Carousel, and the Great Northern Railway clock tower, the last remnant of the vast rail depot that was demolished for Expo '74.