



Vashon Island Student Ferry Commuter Information for Families

Washington State Ferries (WSF) is pleased to welcome you to Vashon Island for the 2017-18 school year, where nearly 300 students will travel unaccompanied on our ferries to attend Vashon Island Schools. While WSF is a division of the Washington State Department of Transportation and is not a contracted transportation provider for the Vashon Island School District (VISD), we work very closely with VISD to ensure the safety of the students who commute by ferry, since all of us have a vested interest in smooth sailing on the waters.

What follows are some important instructions for commuting families and some guidelines for safe passage on the waters. Please read this information carefully and discuss it with your student before signing. Thank you for helping to make this school year a safe and sound one on your Washington State Ferries.

Student Drop-Off at the Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal

- Parents must drop off their children at the triangular park-and-ride parking lot at the top (SW side) of the Fauntleroy terminal. **Please note that because of safety concerns, parents will no longer be able to drive against traffic and down the exit lanes to drop their children off next to the Fauntleroy terminal building.**
- Please plan to arrive at the terminal so that your child has sufficient time to walk down the sidewalk to the ferry terminal, purchase tickets, and board the ferry—suggested time is **at least 10-15 minutes prior to sailing time.**
- Please be aware that this is peak commuting time on one of WSF's busiest routes, and WSF will not "hold the ferry" for students who do not arrive at the terminal on time. No exceptions.

Student Drop-Off at the Southworth Ferry Terminal

- At the Southworth Terminal, parents should drop off their students in the pay parking lot next to the ferry holding lanes, near the bus stop in the lower parking lot area.
- If a student needs to purchase a ticket, he or she can be dropped off next to the #1 tollbooth (near the entrance to the terminal and in the upper area of this same lot). **Please note that because of safety concerns, parents will no longer be able to drop off their children at the Southworth terminal building.**

- Parents should drop students off **at least 10-15 minutes prior to sailing time** to ensure that their children have adequate time to walk from the tollbooth or parking area and down to the terminal.
- Please be aware that this is peak commuting time on one of WSF's busiest routes, and WSF cannot "hold the ferry" for students who do not arrive at the terminal on time.

Waiting at the Terminal

- Students waiting for a ferry at the terminal must remain in the designated safety area and follow any safety instructions given to them by WSF employees.
- Students must not climb on or over terminal barriers.

Payment of Fare

- A Youth Fare ticket currently costs \$2.65; as of October 1, 2017, the fare increases to \$2.70. Students may pay this fare by using an ORCA Card, a Wave2Go multi-ride pass, or a WSF re-value card.
- **Fauntleroy parents must ensure that students have sufficient cash on hand to pay their fare in the event that there is a problem with their usual method of payment—**for example, their card is lost, there are insufficient funds on the card, etc.
- **Southworth students must ensure they have the appropriate pre-paid ticket prior to getting onboard the ferry;** Southworth students will pay their fare when disembarking at Vashon Island. Cash is not accepted.
- Washington State Ferries is not responsible for students who do not have sufficient fare and unfortunately cannot allow students to travel on the ferries for free.

WSF Customer Service

- For questions about ferry schedules, Wave2Go or WSF revalue cards, parents can call WSF Customer Service at 206-464-6400 or email wsfinfo@wsdot.wa.gov.
- For questions about ORCA cards, parents should call ORCA directly at 888-988-6722 to get the most accurate information.
- Items that are left unattended will be turned in to WSF Lost and Found, which can be reached by calling 206-515-3439.

Vashon Island Student Ferry Commuter Guidelines for a Safe Commute

WSF Commits To:

- Guiding students to board and disembark WSF vessels in a safe manner;
- Providing safe travel for students while onboard WSF vessels;
- Providing students with a clean environment;
- Treating its passengers with courtesy and respect.

Student Ferry Commuters Commit To:

- Using common courtesy and acting respectfully toward all WSF employees, fellow passengers, and chaperones at all times while in terminals or on vessels;
- Following all instructions given to them by WSF employees, whether in person or through terminal and/or vessel public address systems;
- Obeying all signage and traffic directions, including remaining in designated safety areas while waiting at the terminal to board ferries;
- Remaining seated together in the designated area in the bow (#1 end) of the vessel while the vessel is en route to its destination;
- Using restroom and galley facilities appropriately to maintain privilege of use;
- Attending to their personal belongings and not leaving bags unattended;
- Cleaning up after themselves by using the appropriate trash and recycling receptacles;
- Refraining from using skates, a skateboard, in-line skates, or similar devices while at WSF terminals or on WSF vessels;
- Refraining from engaging in any conduct that would be considered unlawful—for example, underage drinking; gambling; stealing; or destroying, defacing, or otherwise damaging WSF property;
- Refraining from pushing, shoving, horseplay, or annoying other passengers by engaging in loud, raucous, unruly, harmful, or harassing behavior;
- Exiting the vessel together in an orderly, calm fashion when instructed to do so by a chaperone or by a WSF employee—no pushing or running.

Safety Is Our Priority:

Our passengers' safety is WSF's number one priority. If your student exhibits behaviors that may compromise passenger safety, WSF will make every effort to work with you, your student, and the Vashon Island School District to remedy the situation with minimal disruption. We understand that kids sometimes need extra reminders about their behavior and what is expected of them, and we want the ferry commute to be a positive experience. However, it is important to remember that any conduct that poses a risk to the safety and security of the vessel has consequences. We hope that you will make a similar commitment to safe sailing this school year and go over this document with your commuting student before school starts on September 5. Thank you for your time and cooperation, and we hope you have a successful year!