

VASHON ISLAND SD
STUDENT COMMUTER
HANDBOOK



2023



WSF Customer Service

206-464-6400

888-808-7977

WSF Lost and Found

206-515-3439

WSF Online

Website: www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries

Mobile app: <https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Inform/mobile.htm>

Customer Feedback:

<https://wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/infodesk/customerfeedback>

ORCA Card

888-988-6722

myorca.com

Student Ferry Commuter

»» Information for Families

Washington State Ferries (WSF) is pleased to welcome you to Vashon Island for the 2023-2024 school year. We want to make sure all families with students who commute by ferry are well-prepared to help ensure everyone's health and safety. 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 closely with VISD.

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. Thank you for helping to make this school year a safe and sound one.

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 (SE side) of the Fauntleroy terminal, or across the street at the top of the stairway located at the corner of Fauntleroy Way SW and SW Director Street. **Please note that because of safety concerns, parents cannot drive against traffic down the exit lanes to drop off their children next to the Fauntleroy terminal building.**
- Please plan to arrive at the terminal 10-15 minutes prior to your student's sailing. This will give them sufficient time to walk to the terminal, purchase tickets, and board the ferry.



- 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.

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.
- 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.

Student Pick-Up at Fautleroy & Southworth Terminals

- Parents cannot pick-up students on the dock and must meet their students outside the tollbooths.
- Please also be mindful when arriving or waiting to pick up your student. Avoid blocking neighborhood access and also be sure to follow all traffic laws.

Waiting at the Terminal

- Students waiting for a ferry at the terminal must remain in designated safety areas and follow any safety instructions given to them by WSF employees.
- Students should be aware of their surroundings and avoid standing near moving traffic or the bow (front) of the vessel during landing.
- Students must not climb on or over terminal barriers or sit on railings near the terminal buildings.

Payment of Fare

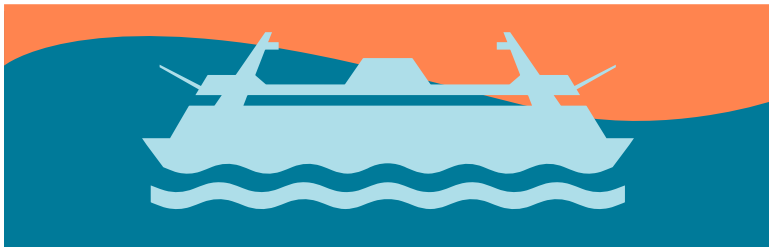
- Ferry travel is free for all students. Fares are not required for youth 18-years-old and under. However, all students still require a ticket to account for all traveling passengers.
- Students can get free-fare youth tickets at the terminal ticket booth or use a valid ORCA card where applicable. Youth tickets are not available at self-serve kiosks or online. So students will need to plan ahead if they need to get a physical ticket for travel.

Riding the Ferry

- WSF asks that all VISD students remain seated together on the bow (front end) of the vessel in the direction that the boat is headed. This means that in the mornings, students should sit on the front end of the boat heading toward Vashon Island, and on the side of the boat heading to Fautleroy in the afternoons.

WSF Customer Service

- For questions about ferry schedules, Wave2Go or WSF revalue cards, parents can call WSF Customer Service at 206-464-6400 or write us at <https://wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/infodesk/customerfeedback>
- 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.



» Guidelines for a Safe Commute

WSF Commits To:

- Helping students safely board and disembark WSF vessels;
- 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:

Washington State Ferries has an official code of conduct that we require all passengers to follow. Any passenger unable to meet these simple standards may be asked to find an alternate means of travel:

- Refrain from unlawful conduct as outlined in state law RCW 9.91.025, such as staying out of designated restricted areas.
- WSF maintains a zero-tolerance harassment policy. Please refrain from the use of abusive or offensive language to fellow passengers or WSF crewmembers. This includes, but is not restricted to, racist, sexist, and homophobic comments meant to demean another person.
- Do not obstruct or impede WSF staff from performing their duties.
- Do not block or impede fellow passengers or otherwise interfere with their use of WSF services.
- Do not disturb others by engaging in loud, raucous, unruly, harmful, aggressive, violent, or harassing behavior.
- Be courteous by keeping conversations, music, and videos at a level not disturbing other passengers.
- Smoking, including e-cigarettes or vaping devices, is not allowed in WSF terminals or on vessels.
- Students should exit 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:

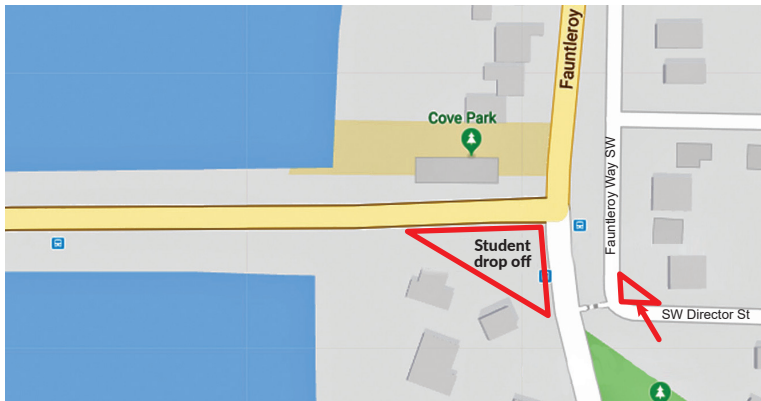
Our passengers' safety is WSF's number one priority and something we are wholly invested in and committed to. If your student exhibits behaviors that may compromise passenger safety, WSF will make every effort to work with you, your student, and the Vashon Island School District to remedy the situation 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.

WSF reserves the right to refuse passage to any customer who poses a threat to security or the safety of our passengers or to themselves, including minors.

Please make a similar commitment to safe sailing this school year by reviewing and discussing this document with your commuting student before in-person learning begins this Fall. Thank you for your time and cooperation, and we hope you have a successful and safe year!

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