

UW Mechanical Engineering
New Graduate Student Cheat Sheet



How do I...

Get my Student ID card?

- ⇒ The card center is in the basement of Odegaard, down the stairs from the west side of Red Square.

Print work-related documents?

- ⇒ Visit <https://me-print.me.washington.edu/> to print to the department printer located in MEB 264 (access code: 2893). This printer room also has extra office supplies up for grabs.

Get a key or a package?

- ⇒ Visit room 132 in MEB.
- ⇒ To order packages to MEB 132, address shipping to:
University of Washington MEB 132/Your Name
3900 East Stevens Way
Seattle, WA 98195

Use the machine shop?

- ⇒ Contact Eamon McQuaide at eamonm@uw.edu to get shop certified.

Get a Research Assistantship?

- ⇒ If you're unfunded, don't stress! Many professors have funding available and are looking for grad students for research. You should try to have a basic idea what you would like to do for your research, but it's also ok to immerse yourself in a particular professor's area of research. Talking to lots of professors about their research is a good start.

Know which classes to take?

- ⇒ The best way is to talk to people in the department! Ask around and find students who have taken the class and can give you the inside scoop.
- ⇒ Visit the Course Evaluation Catalog <https://www.washington.edu/assessment/course-evaluations/cec/>, where you can view the quantitative results of each course.
- ⇒ View the syllabus for each course here:
<https://www.me.washington.edu/students/grad/curriculum>

Manage without an office?

- ⇒ Limited desks available in MEB 233. Ask Wanwisa about it! (and get to know her and how awesome she is.)
- ⇒ Student lounge in MEB 253 (access code: 1380).
- ⇒ Computer lab in MEB 232 (access code: 847178).
- ⇒ The Engineering Library has lots of study space and is 2 buildings away from MEB.
- ⇒ MEB rents lockers for \$5 per quarter. Talk to the front office after the second week of the quarter to rent one.
- ⇒ Space Scout is an app that lets you reserve rooms all over UW for studying or other use.

Get a job?

- ⇒ Career fairs happen year-round, but mostly in the Fall quarter. Look out for emails from ME Grad, SEBA, and more.
- ⇒ Do your research and prepare a specialized resume for each company you want to talk to.

- ⇒ Network! Talk to industry and research seminar speakers, go to career fairs, happy hours with other departments and alumni, etc.
- ⇒ Visit the Career Center @ Engineering
<https://www.engr.washington.edu/current/careercenter> for resume advice, LinkedIn reviews, mock interviews, and more. They provide one-on-one advising, as well as host events throughout the year.
- ⇒ Check out Handshake for openings specifically for UW students
<https://careers.uw.edu/resources/handshake/>

Use the bus/Light rail?

- ⇒ If you have a smart phone, we suggest getting the app OneBusAway. Google Maps is great for planning routes, whereas OneBusAway can provide real-time arrival info.
- ⇒ Your Husky Card (Student ID) has a built-in chip and your student fees include a prepaid bus pass. Just tap your card (it can usually read it through your wallet!) on the card reader.
- ⇒ For a bus, the card reader is on your right as you board the front of the bus.
- ⇒ For the light rail, tap your card on the readers located at entrances to stations before you get on the train. When you get off the train, tap again to let them know you've left - fares are graded by distance and if you don't tap off it'll assume you went to the farthest end of the line. Fare enforcement does regular checks of tickets and passes, so don't forget!

Connect with grad students in and out of the department?

- ⇒ Official events are planned through me_happyhour@uw.edu. This includes weekly happy hour events. This is a moderated list that includes faculty and staff. If you post to it, your post must be approved.
- ⇒ Unofficial events, questions, and general chatter are sent to me_chat@uw.edu. This list is unmoderated and consists only of ME grad students.
- ⇒ Visit <https://mailman13.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo> to view all UW mailing lists. You can join as many as you want or start your own!
- ⇒ At various times throughout the year, club fairs are held in Red Square. As a grad student you're welcome to join the vast majority of them.
- ⇒ Watch your email for GPSS events.

Find fun things to do in Seattle?

- ⇒ Golden Gardens (beach park): Californians will be disappointed by the "ocean", but thrilled that fires are totally allowed if you bring a fire pit. For the rest of you, it's a beach!
- ⇒ Pike Place: the world-famous fish market. Also has a flea market and lots of really good food.
- ⇒ Hiking near Issaquah: Tiger Mountain, Mount Si, Rattlesnake Peak, the list is endless.
<http://www.wta.org/> is a fantastic resource for finding hikes.
- ⇒ Seattle is a very bike-friendly city.
- ⇒ Gas Works Park is about 2 miles away from UW (and a beautiful run along the Burke-Gilman trail!)
- ⇒ Many UW clubs have strong community ties with non-students.
- ⇒ There are a number of sailing, climbing, and kayaking organizations in Seattle. The best bang for your buck will be through UW, but private organizations sometimes offer things UW does not.
- ⇒ The first Thursday of every month has free admission to many Seattle Museums.
- ⇒ The Seattle Theatre Group (STG) is a good place to start for smaller concerts and Broadway tours. The Seattle symphony also offers discounted tickets for students.

Get in shape?

- ⇒ As a grad student, you get free access to the Intramural Activities Center (IMA). They have pretty much every gym and sporting activity imaginable (including a climbing wall and an indoor pool). They also have a sauna in the locker room!
- ⇒ The IMA is a 6-minute walk from MEB.
- ⇒ The Waterfront Activities Center (WAC) behind the IMA has rentals/classes for sailing, kayaking, canoeing, and more!
- ⇒ If you ask early enough in the quarter, you can get a permanent locker in the locker room and leave workout gear there. Ask about it in the towel window in the locker room.
- ⇒ Free Friday night activities at the IMA: rollerskating, archery, log-rolling.

Have some weekend fun?

- ⇒ The University District has a lot of bars, most of which you'll get introduced to at Happy Hour.
- ⇒ Most clubs are located downtown, in the Capitol Hill district.
- ⇒ Many breweries in Ballard and Fremont have a laid-back vibe to grab a few beers with your new ME friends!

Get support?

- ⇒ Your academic advisors are Wanwisa Kisalang (PhD students) and Kate Gayle (Master's students). Don't be afraid to email, schedule a meeting, or just talk to them. They are amazing humans.
- ⇒ If you're looking for general advice, talk to us! MEGA is here to help you have the best grad school experience. Contact any of us individually or all of us at mega_officers@uw.edu
- ⇒ If you have a serious issue that can't be resolved internally, the Hall Health Center <http://depts.washington.edu/hhpccweb/project/mental-health-clinic/> or the Counseling Center at Schmitz Hall <http://www.washington.edu/counseling/> have great resources for mental health care.

