

6 Communication/Transportation

Internet, Telephone, and Postal Services

You may find that your course work will involve extensive use of the computer and other electronic services. UTIS offers students a wealth of such services on campus. You are encouraged to go to the Computing Support Center in the Indiana Memorial Union, Room M084 on the mezzanine, for information about these services. The "Help" phone number is 855-6786.

Telephone Systems Telephone service in the United States is in the hands of several distinct public companies. SBC Corporation serves this city and other areas of Indiana. You will find some nearby areas served by smaller companies. In the U.S., phone numbers consist of ten numbers split into three blocks—area code, branch code, and user code (for example, xxx-xxx-xxxx).

The area code for this general area of Indiana is 812 and individual phone customers are identified by the seven remaining numbers. Calls made over phone lines within most of this area do not require the use of the area code.

SBC supplies each phone customer with a directory of persons and businesses using its service. In addition to billing and payment instructions, it provides much valuable and useful information: emergency numbers, international calling numbers, area code and time zone maps (see the green section in front of the directory), maps of Monroe County, city of Bloomington streets, and zip codes for Indiana towns and cities. Several pages that follow are marked with blue edges and are a listing of government offices, from city to federal agencies.

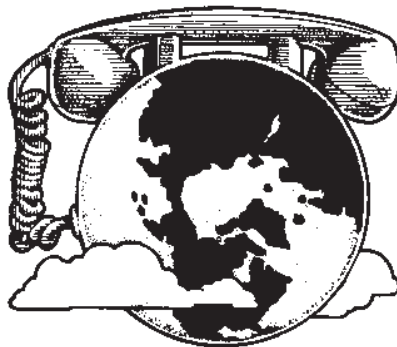
The "White Pages" of the directory list the phone numbers of private individual users of SBC and other service providers. Please note that not all calls to these numbers are local calls; those with different area codes and in remote towns are chargeable at intrastate long distance rates.

The pink edged pages contain business phone numbers. Many companies advertise in the last section of the directory, known as "The Yellow Pages." You will find further references to the Yellow Pages in this Guide.

Campus Telephone System This system, which is compatible with the outside SBC provider, is designed for use in the official business of Indiana University and has been extended to the apartment housing residences of the university.

It does not serve the fraternity or sorority houses. The branch prefixes for the university are 855 and 856, and are used for administrative and academic offices; 857 is used for student housing, and is charged to users at a cost that includes installation, repair, and maintenance of a private telephone, a campus directory, an SBC directory, and the cost of local calls.

If you live in housing not served by the university, but by SBC or some other provider, please refer to their directory for information relating to installation, service, charges, etc. SBC may be called Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., at 556-3510



Public Telephones Coin-operated phones are available in booths outdoors and indoors throughout the city for local and long distance calls. Exact change is necessary; you'll need to use the correct combination of quarters, nickels, and dimes—those are the only coins that pay phones will accept. Instructions are located on the phone.

Long Distance (Domestic and International) While SBC is the local service provider, it is one of several long distance service providers which can be chosen by the customer. Choose your server from the Long Distance Telephone Service listing in the Yellow Pages. Note that some providers do not offer overseas service.

Long distance calls can be made from a campus phone, but there is an additional cost. To make a call directly, dial 1, then the area code and the remaining 7 numbers. If you have difficulty, you can get assistance from an operator by dialing 0 before you dial 1 and the rest of the numbers. Operator-assisted calls are the most expensive to make. International calls can also be direct-dialed. See your phone books for the international access and country codes.

Within U.S. borders, costs are on a per minute basis. International calls are charged based on the area called, length of time of call, and the hour of the day or night the call is made. Nights and weekends are cheapest. Incoming long distance calls require that you check with your housing unit concerning charges and methods involved with this service.

Collect Calls These calls are long distance calls made to a person who agrees with the telephone operator to accept the charges for the call. The person making the call must identify himself to the person receiving the call.

Do not place such a call unless you think the person called will accept the charges. Do not accept such a call unless you are willing to pay for it.

Telephone Solicitations You may be called by a salesperson who wishes to sell you an item. It is perfectly proper to say "No, thank you" and hang up.

Telephone Courtesy There are laws governing abuse of the telephone services. Be careful that children do not use the phone as a toy. If you are bothered by phone calls, the problems should be reported to the IU Police Department, 855-4111.

Free Telephone Numbers Many companies in seeking business provide free telephone connection through a series of "1-800" numbers. These can be a source of valuable information. However be careful of charges on "1-900" numbers, which can be very costly.

Time and Weather For time and temperature, call: 332-0291.

For current weather, call: 334-1515.

Cell Phones There are several service providers for cell phones in this area. See the Cellular & Wireless Telephone listings in the Yellow Pages of your phone directory.

Telegrams The Western Union office at 1-800-325-6000 can send short messages quickly, world-wide. Rates vary with the number of words and distance sent. Money transfers can also be made to anywhere in the continental U.S. and to some foreign countries. Western Union services can be found locally at Kroger and Marsh supermarkets. A Mailgram, a cheaper and slower version of a telegram, is also offered by Western Union. Ask the agent for details.

E-Mail and Facsimile E-mails are common internationally and require the use of a personal computer. If you do not have one available, check with UTIS and the Computing Support Center in the Indiana Memorial Union. FAX machines are also available at various locations such as Kinko's, a copy service located in Eastland Plaza, at the intersection of College Mall Road and East 3rd Street.

Campus Mail Students, faculty, and staff may use the campus mail service for all official university business. To be deliverable, envelopes must be marked clearly as "campus mail," addressed to an official or office of the university, and deposited at a campus drop location. Do not use United States Post Office drop boxes (blue color).

United States Postal Service The USPS is a self financing agency of the federal government, supplying postal mail and parcel post services in various categories such as priority mail, first class mail, express mail, postcards, standard mail, periodical mail, and package mail, all at different charges and delivery times.

Normal letter mail is sent first class, which currently costs 37 cents for the first ounce. Materials that require speedy delivery may be sent priority mail for a fixed charge regardless of weight, up to 13 ounces; and the item must fit into the standard priority mailing envelope. Within the U.S., air mail rates for first class mail are the same as ground service. Delivery of mail can be confirmed by asking for a certificate of delivery or by registering the mail for a moderate fee.

When using the U.S. mail service to send other materials, check with a post office clerk for proper packaging and mailing procedures. Pre-stamped envelopes or postcards can be purchased for the same price as stamps themselves. Aero-grammes have only one rate. Books and library materials, when shipped parcel post, have a lower rate than other materials.

The main post office is in downtown Bloomington at 206 E. 4th Street. It also accepts passport applications. The phone number is 334-4030. Post office service windows are open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and Friday; 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; and 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday (closed on Sunday). The main lobby is open 24 hours every day and holds the private mail boxes called P.O. boxes, mail deposit slots, a weighing scale, stamp vending machines, and copiers. Free mailing supplies and forms are often available.

The Woodbridge station, also a general service post office, is located at 3210 E. Tenth St., just east of the campus, and provides similar services except for passports. Window hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday.

Books containing 20 first-class stamps may also be purchased at most major drugstores and grocery stores.

Mail drop boxes are colored blue, and are located around shopping malls and downtown shops. It is illegal to try to retrieve mail from a drop box. The post office will not deliver unstamped mail.

When addressing an envelope, be sure to include your return address. The regular address format includes:

Name of addressee
House Number and Street
City, State and Zip + 4 code
Country (if outside the U.S.)

The Zip + 4 Code is a nine-number code used to facilitate speedy, accurate mail delivery. The first three numbers identify the postal area (ours is 474). The second two identify the delivering post office (01, for most residents of Bloomington; 05 for the university). Different parts of the county have different numbers. Use of the last four numbers (which signify local information to help the post office improve its efficiency) is optional, but the first five numbers of the zip code are required.

The USPS also provides a bulk package mailing service through its parcel post, bound printed matter (books), media mail, and library mail services, which are offered at lower rates than first class mail. There are weight and size limitations. Check with the post office for details.

Other Shipping Services There are several packaging companies in Bloomington (see the Yellow Pages) that will package your goods for a small fee and arrange for shipment via your choice of shippers.

United Parcel Service This company (known as UPS) ships small packages to all parts of the United States via truck and air. Packages are limited in weight to 150 lbs. and 130 inches (total of length + perimeter at the middle of package). Call 1-900-742-5877 for details and limitations. Packages must be taken to the shipper at 1700 Liberty Drive.

Federal Express This company (known as Fedex) is located at 3900 Roll Ave., and is open Monday–Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Phone 1-800-463-3339. Fedex ships to more than 210 countries, offering 4 different services—priority, standard, economy, and express. They will prepare your packages for shipping, for a fee. There are 15 package drop-off locations in Bloomington.

Transportation

Train Travel With diminishing train services nationwide, train travel to and from distant cities must originate or terminate in Indianapolis. The AMTRAK station is located at the intersection of South and Illinois Streets. Children traveling with their parents receive reduced rates and discounted one-way fares. For information on schedules and rates, call the Hoosierail offices of AMTRAK at 336-2400 or 1-800-USA-RAIL.

Air Travel Look in the Yellow Pages under Airline Companies to find a specific airline and its 800 toll-free number.

In most cases you can find best routes, rates, schedules, and make reservations by phone. Flights are usually full, so it is advisable to make advance reservations. Remember to cancel promptly if you are unable to make your flight. The Indianapolis airport is well suited for domestic and international flights.

Emergency air charter travel may be available from the Bloomington Airport. Call 825-7979.

Travel to the Indianapolis International Airport is available via the Bloomington Shuttle Service (332-6004), with pickup times from early morning until evening, seven days a week, from the Indiana Memorial Union and from several pickup points around town. Call them for details. Other limousine services (see the Yellow Pages) provide door-to-door services on a 24-hour basis; this service is more convenient but more expensive. Cars may also be rented for such airport trips. See the Yellow Pages under Auto Renting.



Local Transportation—Campus Buses

Indiana University operates buses that go to all points of the campus, to downtown Bloomington, and to the College Mall. Bus passes may be purchased at Campus Card Services, 501 N. Union St., phone 855-8711, or ordered during registration at the Registration Center in Franklin Hall. Passes entitling you to unlimited rides are available for either a single semester, or the academic year. Summer students can get summer passes. Single cash fares are always accepted. Call Campus Bus Service at 855-8384 for information on fares, schedules, and service. Current bus information is also available at www.iubus.indiana.edu

City Bus Service The City of Bloomington operates six bus routes around the city and one to the university, Monday through Friday, from 6:10 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. The one route that serves the university on Saturdays runs from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. There is no city bus service on Sunday. Children younger than 5 years of age ride free; the fare is 35 cents for ages 5 to 17, people with disabilities, and senior citizens who are 60 and older. Adults pay 75 cents. Transfer between routes is free. Remember to ask for a transfer coupon when you purchase your ticket. Tickets may be purchased at most grocery stores as well as the Bloomington Transit Office at 130 W. Grimes St., phone 336-7433. Drivers will accept either

tickets or exact change. Any IU student with a valid student photo ID card can ride any city bus without charge. For further details, check the Web site: www.bloomingtontransit.com.

Travel Agencies If you would like personal, efficient help in planning a trip, you can consult one of many local travel agencies that are listed in the Yellow Pages. The agency will advise you of all the routing options, schedules, and fares (with available discounts). They will also make all the reservation and ticket arrangements for travel by airplane, train, or ship. These agencies do not make bus arrangements, except for tour buses.

Automobile Rentals For short-term trips to nearby cities or weekend trips to parks or special events, it is more economical to rent a car, rather than buying one. In order to rent a car, you must have a valid driver's license and a major credit card. If you are a full-time student and have a valid license from your own country, you may drive if you also have an international driver's license. Different rental companies have different rates and rental rules. Check the Yellow Pages under Auto Renting.

Bicycles Bicycles can be purchased new or used, or rented, from dealers listed in the Yellow Pages, or from local individuals advertising in the classified section of the newspaper. It is strongly recommended, in addition to getting a strong bicycle lock, that you register your bicycle with the Parking Operations Office, Franklin Hall, Room 006 (or during your university registration). You will need to provide the bicycle's color, serial number, and manufacturer's name in order to get a tag. The cost is 5 dollars per year. Having your tag and bike's description on file with the university will be helpful in case the bike is lost or stolen. Bicyclists should follow the same traffic laws that apply to motorized vehicles. You are expected to know these laws, and remember—always wear a helmet!

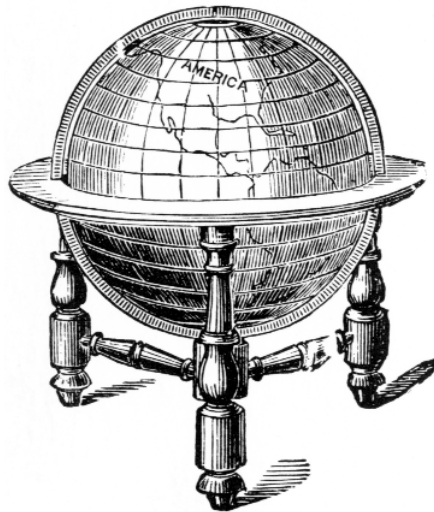
Motorcycles In order to operate a motorcycle, Indiana state law requires that you have a special license plate on your vehicle and a special endorsement on your driver's license. You can find dealers in the Yellow Pages under this category, or other sellers in the classified section of the newspaper. Again, know the laws and wear your helmet.

Automobiles Cars are expensive to buy and maintain. State law requires each car to be licensed and each owner to show extensive financial responsibility or buy accident insurance. Few companies sell insurance to drivers from other countries. For auto insurance brokers, look under Insurance in the Yellow Pages.

There is no student parking on or near the main campus, parking in town is costly, and free parking is difficult to find. Improperly parked cars are towed away, the driver is fined, and the cost to retrieve the car is high.

If you do decide you need to buy a car, know that you must also obtain an Indiana driver's license by taking and passing the Indiana driver's examination, which consists of a written examination of the state's driving laws, a road test, and an eye examination. Application to get this license must be made through the state's Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The Bloomington branch is located at 1612 S. Liberty Drive on the west side of town. The office is open Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information call 336-3018.

If you are stopped for a traffic violation, you will be asked to show a driver's license and proof of financial responsibility, such as auto accident insurance. Failure to do so may result in additional penalties. If you have an accident, be sure to get the other driver's name, address, driver's license number, and name of his insurance company. Follow this up with a report to the local police, noting the time and location of the accident. They will be helpful to you. This report should be filed within 5 days of the incident. Your insurance company can help with this. Remember—always buckle your seat belt.



Radio and Television

Radio There is a variety of radio stations that can be received in the Bloomington area. Most local stations broadcast music throughout the day. The music ranges from country to rock to classical. WGCL is located at 1370 on the AM band. WTTS (92.3) and WBWB (96.7) are commercial FM stations. There are two non-commercial FM stations in Bloomington. WFIU (103.7) is owned by Indiana University and is an affiliate of National Public Radio. WFHB (98.1) is a community radio station operated by volunteers who select and present programs. One other local radio station, WIUS (1570), can be received only in locations served by cable television. It is operated by IU students.

Television For students in the Halls of Residence, Indiana University provides a cable television service that includes all of the Indianapolis television stations, the university public television station (WTIU), and a number of program services such as SCOLA (international news reports), Cable News Network, Univision, Entertainment Sports Network, Black Entertainment Television, and Arts and Entertainment. A listing of the services is available from IUTV Services by calling 856-4536.

For residents living off campus, the local commercial cable television service is provided by Insight Communications. This service is available in most private houses and apartment complexes. It provides 36 television channels for a monthly fee. Movie channels are available for an additional fee.

Listings of television programs can be found in the daily newspapers. WFIU, the university public radio station, and WTIU, the public television station, both publish monthly program guides, available free when picked up at the Radio and Television Center. For a yearly contribution of \$25 each, the guides will be sent to your residence. These guides provide detailed program listings of each daily broadcast schedule.