

Kaplan International

Berkeley



Situated in the heart of downtown Berkeley, only 20 minutes from San Francisco, Kaplan International Berkeley has provided countless international students with unforgettable learning experiences in the United States.

Berkeley is a major cultural center and is the home of the University of California Berkeley, one of the top universities in the world. As a vibrant college town, renowned for its unique charm and colorful mixture of people and lifestyles, Berkeley is an ideal location for international students. With San Francisco just a short, 20-minute train ride away, students take advantage of all this metropolitan city has to offer, while studying and living in a safe and relaxed atmosphere of academic excellence. Located in the Bay Area, Berkeley has long been a premier tourist destination due to the region's diverse landscape including beautiful forests, beaches, and mountains.

The Kaplan International school is located right in the center of downtown Berkeley, only one block from the UC Berkeley campus. Whether you're just starting your English studies or are already an advanced student, and whether you're looking for an intensive or a part-time course, you can surely find something to suit your needs.



Kaplan Berkeley school



Kaplan International Berkeley
150 Berkeley Square
Berkeley, CA 94704
USA

Kaplan International in the USA are accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training.

Kaplan International is a member of TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) and NAESA (Association for International Educators).



School Facilities

Classrooms

Kaplan International Berkeley has 10 well-equipped classrooms with interactive whiteboards.

Multimedia and Study Center

Kaplan International Berkeley has a large area for quiet study with individual study cubicles. There are 15 computers with internet access and online language learning resources. Headphones are also available.

Library

The Kaplan International school has a library with language learning materials and books for student loan, which includes not only study guides but also fiction books. The Kaplan International school is a block away from the Berkeley Public Library, which has extensive collections of foreign language books and ESL materials.

Student Lounge

There is a kitchen available for students' use. It includes filtered water, a refrigerator and a microwave. There is also a student lounge which includes an eating area as well as a lounge with a television, Wii games, and foosball table.

Cafeteria

The Kaplan International school is in the heart of downtown Berkeley, and surrounded by a variety of restaurant and cafe options.

Sports facilities

There are numerous parks with basketball courts, tennis courts, and a baseball field nearby.

Gym facilities

Students can join the nearby gym, such as the YMCA, at a discounted rate of \$35 per month. In addition students can join the UC Berkeley Gym or 24 Hour Fitness, both of which are just a short walk from the school.

Activities/Social Program

There is a wide choice of activities available to students in Berkeley. Popular activities include hiking in the Berkeley Hills, college sports at UC Berkeley, and visiting local farmers' markets. Plus, the sights and delights of San Francisco are only 20 minutes across the Bay by train. Weekend trips include wine tasting in Napa Valley, skiing in Lake Tahoe, Yosemite National Parks, Los Angeles, Las Vegas and more.



Kaplan classroom



Interactive whiteboards

Orientation Information

On the first day of your course you need to report to the Kaplan International Berkeley school.

Address: 150 Berkeley Square, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Orientation schedule:

- English courses: 10:00 am
- iGMAT/iGRE courses: 11:45 am

Your first day will be a Monday unless there is a national holiday on the Monday - in which case your first day will be Tuesday.

Your course will begin with an all-day introduction, which will include:

- A fun speaking activity
- A placement test to determine the level of the course you require
- A break
- Presentation: Student Visa - policies and procedures
- Homestay/apartment information
- Berkeley Tour
- Presentation: Student Activities

Please bring the following with you:

- Passport (original and a photocopy)
- Your I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility) or student (F-1) Visa
- I-94 (if applicable)
- Your address in the USA
- All your Kaplan documents and a pen and paper for note-taking purposes.
- Proof of medical insurance

At the end of the day you will receive information about your class schedule, classroom number, study level, specific skills, and the hours you are to attend class. You will be assigned to the most appropriate class for your level of English.

KAPLAN INTERNATIONAL BERKELEY

Local Information

Transport - buses and trains

Berkeley has an extensive transportation system including local bus lines and train system (BART) which services the East Bay, San Francisco, and local airports.

Banks and Post Office

There are numerous banks all within one-block of the Kaplan International school. The post office is a 5-minute walk away on Shattuck Avenue.

Restaurants and Cafes

Berkeley is famous for its culinary scene, with some of the most well-known chefs and restaurants in the world. There is also a great variety of cuisines from all around the world to suit every budget.

Department stores and supermarkets

There are several supermarkets and clothing stores within walking distance. Department stores are in San Francisco, just a 25 minute train ride from the center.

Telephone and Internet

The Kaplan International school provides students with wireless internet and nearby cafés and bookstores also have wireless internet capability. Pay phones are located in the Metro (BART) train station across the street from school.



Kaplan classroom



Student lounge



Computer lab



Student lounge

Cost of Living

Approximate prices in USD (subject to change)

Lunch	\$5.00 - \$10.00
Hamburger	\$5.00 - \$8.00
Coffee	\$2.00 - \$4.00

Tickets:

Movie	\$8.00 - \$11.00
Bus	\$2.10 per trip \$80 monthly pass
Bay Area Rapid Transport (BART) to San Francisco	\$3.90 one way

Sample Activities Schedule

Please note that this is a sample program and activities may change. Some activities are organized by the center and some activities are independent.

Week one

Monday	Orientation
Tuesday	Hiking in the Berkeley hills
Wednesday	Oakland A's baseball game
Thursday	Farmer's market
Friday	Student party
Saturday	Los Angeles trip

Week two

Monday	Orientation
Tuesday	Movie night
Wednesday	UC Berkeley campus tour
Thursday	Soccer game
Friday	Visit Golden Gate Park
Saturday	Wine tasting in Napa Valley

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Transfer Information

Kaplan Transfers

If you have paid for transfer service, an employee from K.I.S.S will be waiting for you at San Francisco International airport (SFO) or Oakland airport (OAK). They will be holding a Kaplan sign. Before your departure you will receive a welcome packet confirming this information.

If there are any problems, you should call the transfer service at 1-888-863-2482. You can also call Kaplan Berkeley's 24-hour phone numbers: 1-916-535-1767 or 1-888-331-2809. Be prepared to tell them your name, location, and the problem you have encountered.

Independent Transfers

Students who opt not to use the transfer service should use either a shuttle, taxi, or take a BART transport from San Francisco to Berkeley. The BART has a stop inside of the International Terminal at San Francisco International Airport (SFO), making it very convenient for students.

If students use BART, they are advised to take a Pittsburgh/ Baypoint train to the 19th Street Oakland station. Here students should exit and transfer to the Richmond Train, then exit at the Downtown Berkeley Station. From here the Kaplan International school is across the street. The ride time is approximately one hour.



Exterior view of Kaplan Berkeley



View of Berkeley