



Visiting U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters

Base National Capital Region

Types of Visitors

The Douglas A. Munro Coast Guard Headquarters Building (CGHQ) is located on the St. Elizabeths campus in southeast Washington, D.C. St. Elizabeths is a secure campus, with access open only to individuals specifically assigned to U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters. A valid Common Access Card (CAC) or personal identity verification (PIV) card issued by the federal government is required for access. All others are considered visitors and must be sponsored, registered, and escorted, including:

- New Coast Guard civilian, military, and contractor personnel
- Retired Coast Guard personnel
- Coast Guard personnel from other units
- Coast Guard dependents
- Government agency representatives, including from the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Defense
- VIP and business-related meeting attendees

Required Visitor Identification

A valid state or federal-government issued photo ID must be presented at the visitor's center for visitor access to the campus. One of the following forms of ID may be used:

- Current **“REAL ID”** compliant Driver's license or identification card issued by a State or outlying US possession. See <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id> for information.
- Current Federal Agency issued CAC or PIV.
- Current Military ID (DD Form 2) or dependent ID card (DD Form 1173) with photo.
- Current US Passport or Passport Card.
- Current Foreign Passport.
- Current Permanent Resident Card.
- I-551 Stamp in foreign passport.
- Current Alien Registration or Resident Alien card.
- Current Temporary Resident card.
- Current Employment Authorization card.
- Certificate of Citizenship.

For non-U.S. citizens:

Legal status will be verified through United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS). Present foreign passport with US Visa and I-94 or Permanent Resident Card and/or:

- I-551 Stamp and foreign passport.
- I-551/Alien Registration or Resident Alien card.
- I-551/Permanent Resident Card.
- I-766/Employment Authorization card.
- B1/B2 requires Employment Authorization Card and verified Adjustment of Status
- Application.

This applies to all individual 16 years of age or over.





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Visitor Requests and Parking

A sponsoring CGHQ employee must submit a request for visitor access at least 48 hours prior to the visit. Parking must be requested at the time that the initial visitor request is made.

All visitors are processed through the Gate 4 visitor's center, located at the end of St. Elizabeths Road SE. The visitor's center is fully staffed and open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Visitors requiring access afterhours must be escorted at all times by their CGHQ employee sponsor. Escorts are responsible for their guests at all times.

Temporary parking is available outside the visitor's center to allow for processing. After obtaining their parking permit during processing, visitors may park in the CGHQ parking garage on Level P6 in spaces marked for visitors or the disabled (with appropriate placard displayed). All visitors must exit the garage through the visitor lobby on Level P6.

Questions can be directed to Command Security and Safety at (202) 372-4266 during business hours.

Getting to CGHQ

By Metrorail and Metrobus: The closest Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrorail station to the St. Elizabeths campus is the Anacostia station on the Green line. WMATA operates weekday Metrobus service between the Anacostia station and the St. Elizabeths campus, and limited service to and from the L'Enfant Plaza station. Campus bus stops are just outside Gate 4. Visitors may use the buses by paying the normal bus fare with cash or their SmarTrip card.

The [Anacostia-Fort Drum Line](#), the A4 and the W5, stops at Bus Bay G at the Anacostia Metro station. Weekday service from Anacostia begins at 5:12 a.m., and the last bus departs from CGHQ at 7:05 p.m. Buses run about every five minutes during rush hours and every 15 minutes otherwise.

The [South Capitol Street Limited Line](#), the W9, provides one-way weekday service about every 15 minutes during rush hours only. Morning service is from L'Enfant Plaza to St. Elizabeths and picks up at 7th and D Streets SW. Afternoon service is from St. Elizabeths to L'Enfant Plaza and drops off at 7th Street and Maryland Avenue SW. Service from L'Enfant Plaza begins at 6:20 a.m., and the last bus departs from CGHQ at 6:15 p.m.

By Vehicle: *From I-295 North*, take Exit 3A, Suitland Parkway/U.S. Naval Station. At the stoplight at the bottom of the ramp, make a right onto Firth Sterling Avenue SE.

From I-295 South, take Exit 4A, Suitland Parkway/U.S. Naval Station. At the bottom of the ramp, merge onto Suitland Parkway. At the first stoplight, make a right onto Firth Sterling Avenue SE.

From I-395 or within the District of Columbia, head outbound on South Capitol Street SW, drive over the Fredrick Douglas Memorial Bridge, and bear left onto Suitland Parkway. At the first light, make a right onto Firth Sterling Avenue SE.

Then, from any direction above, continue on Firth Sterling and make a left onto St. Elizabeths Rd SE, the access road for CGHQ. You've missed the turn if you see an entrance to Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling.

GPS and online map directions to CGHQ vary in their accuracy, with Google Maps and Waze currently proving to be the most accurate. In either Google Maps or Waze, simply search for "USCG Headquarters Visitor Entrance" or "1790 Ash St. SE Washington, DC".

Visitors should proceed to Gate 4 at the end of St. Elizabeths Rd SE for processing at the visitor's center. Visitors who have been cleared in advance to park in the VIP area by the ceremonial entrance should enter at Gate 6, about 200 yards from the start of the access road, on your left. Present your credentials, proceed to the CGHQ building on your right, and then park on the street closest to the ceremonial entrance.

