ELI Activity:
**Tour of Downtown and Mt. Washington**

Let’s explore the city! We’ll meet by the tent in Schenley Plaza ([Google Map](#)) on **Saturday, July 10**, at 1:45 p.m. and depart at 2:00 p.m. (Be sure to eat lunch before you arrive!) From the ELI, we will take the bus downtown and explore. After that, we’ll walk to Point State Park and then take the train to Station Square where we’ll take the incline up to the top of Mt. Washington for some of the best city views you’ll ever see. We should be back to campus around 5:30 p.m., but you’re free to leave anytime you wish.

Don’t forget, the bus, the train and the incline are all free with your Pitt student ID card! Also, the Pittsburgh Port Authority currently requires all passengers to wear face masks covering the nose and mouth. All participants are expected to follow [University, Pennsylvania](#), and/or [CDC](#) guidelines for face coverings, personal protective equipment, and personal hygiene during this and all ELI activities.

Please [register in advance](#) for this activity so that we know how many students to expect. Contact Rob at [rom17@pitt.edu](mailto:rom17@pitt.edu) if you have any questions.

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ELI Activity:
**ELI Picnic**

**Wednesday, July 14**

@ 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Schenley Plaza

Join us for the ELI Picnic on **Wednesday, July 14 at Schenley Plaza** ([Google Map](#)) for a picnic, fun, and games. This a BYOBs picnic – Bring Your own Bites and Blankets. In other words, bring your lunch from home, purchase food from one of the kiosks at Schenley Plaza or from a restaurant nearby, or eat lunch before you arrive and just come for the conversation and fun!

We’ll meet near the tent in Schenley Plaza at 1:30 p.m. There are tables under the tent, but feel free to bring a blanket to sit on in the grass in case all of the tables are full. We’ll also have traditional picnic games and prizes.

Please [register in advance](#) so that we know how many students to expect. Contact Rob at [rom17@pitt.edu](mailto:rom17@pitt.edu) if you have any questions.

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IEP:

**ELI Final Exam Schedule**

**Summer 2021**

**Friday, July 30**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaking</th>
<th>9:00-11:00 a.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monday, August 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grammar</th>
<th>9:00-11:00 a.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listening</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tuesday, August 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>1:00-3:00 p.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Thursday, August 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELI Closing Ceremony</th>
<th>12:00-1:00 p.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**IEP/PAEP:**

**Change of Address**

Have you moved since you started at the ELI? The ELI and the University of Pittsburgh both need to maintain accurate information for their records. If you do not have an accurate mailing address on file, you may miss important letters and bills. Please make sure that if your address has changed since you started at the ELI that you fill out a [Change of Address](#) form. It’s quick and easy.
**Listening Corner**

Since many of us are spending more time at home these days, listening to podcasts is a great way to learn English while you’re exercising, taking a walk or hanging out in the evenings or before class. Each week, The ELI News will recommend a podcast that you might enjoy and that can help you to improve your English ability.

This week’s recommendation is for All Ears English Podcast. They have podcasts for IELTS preparation, General English and Business English. The hosts, Lindsay McMahon and Gabby Wallace are from Boston. They focus the podcast on using everyday vocabulary and idioms, expressions, and phrasal verbs. It also provides suggestions for how to make small talk in American English. This podcast is suitable for intermediate to advanced level English-language learners – in particular professionals or university students.

If there’s a podcast you enjoy and you would like to share with your classmates and teachers, please send the name and a link to the podcast homepage to elipitt@pitt.edu.

Happy Listening!!

**ELI Email Directory**

If you need to email your teacher but forgot his or her email address, you can always find it on the ELI web site. When you email your teachers, you must use your Pitt email account. Email providers such as Naver, Hotmail, Yahoo, and other free email services, often encounter problems with the Pitt email system. If you do not use your Pitt email address, your email be blocked or marked as spam.

**IEP:**

**F1 Students and Part Time Study**

Students with F1 visas have the benefit of taking a vacation term for part time study. If you have studied full time at the ELI for two semesters, you can choose to take a break next semester or to study part time. You may only take one vacation term during your study at the ELI.

Please remember that you must pre-register for this benefit. You cannot change to a vacation term after the term starts. There are no exceptions to this rule. The deadline for choosing a vacation term or part time study for F1 students is August 2, 2021.

Also, please remember that students who are sponsored by their governments are usually not allowed to study part time because of sponsor rules. If you are a sponsored student and would like to study part time, you must provide a letter of permission from your sponsor before August 2. This letter must be in English. The ELI does not make these requests for students; you must speak to your sponsor yourself.

**IEP:**

**Letters of Recommendation**

Many of you will need to ask Stacy for a letter of recommendation if you are applying to other institutions. There are two important things to remember when making a request for a letter. The first factor is that letters of recommendation are based on your performance at the ELI. Stacy uses your grade reports as a resource for information about your performance. If you miss a lot of classes and don’t do your work, your letter of recommendation will not be strong. In addition, please remember that the ELI usually does not consider students below ELI Level 4 to be ready for academic work. The ELI can provide letters confirming your attendance and work ethic if you are below Level 5, but for academic readiness recommendations, you should be in Level 5 or above.

The second important factor is time. Please remember that it takes approximately one week to receive a letter of recommendation. Stacy has many letters to write, and she cannot provide them immediately when you ask for them. Please plan ahead when making your requests.

**IEP:**

**Transfer Process**

Students with F1 visas who want to transfer to a new school must contact Stacy to complete the transfer. You must provide a copy of the acceptance letter and the transfer form from the new school. You may transfer at any time during the term, but you must complete this process to remain in legal status. Remember that if you complete your final term of study at level 6 at the ELI, you have a 60-day grace period. During that time, you may stay in the U.S. without studying, and you may request a transfer at any time during that 60-day period. If you do not complete level 6, you have a 2-week grace period, and you must request a transfer within that time.

If you do not request a transfer during the grace period, you will be out of status at the end of your grace period, and it will be too late to transfer your SEVIS record. Please contact Stacy if you have any questions about this process.

**Frazier Flash Sale on Pirates Games**

Because Pirate player Adam Frazier was voted by fans to be the Second Baseman for the National League at the 2021 All-Star Game, the Pirates are celebrating by offering a great...
sale on tickets to this season’s games. Right now you can get 2 tickets for $26 on any Pirates home game this season. This special Frazier Flash Sale price expires at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, July 9. Click the link for details and to purchase tickets.

IEP/PAEP:
**Pitt Campus Recreation Facilities Resume Drop-In Format**

As of July 6, access to all campus recreation facilities, such as gyms and swimming pools, have resumed the drop-in format. You are no longer required to reserve a time slot for workouts. Please note that not all campus recreation facilities are fully reopened. You can find the hours of operation for all open facilities on the [Student Affairs Campus Recreation website](http://www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news). Please note that all Covid precautions are in effect, such mask wearing.

**Perks of Your Pitt ID: Cheap Seats and Museum Visits**

As a Pitt ID holder, you are eligible for some great perks. You’re might be aware that your Pitt ID grants you free access to the Pittsburgh Port Authority bus system and the T (Pittsburgh’s limited subway system). But did you know about Cheap Seats and Museum Visits?

**Cheap Seats** is a program that grants discounted tickets for cultural events to University of Pittsburgh students, faculty and staff with a valid Pitt ID. Tickets are limited to 4 per show. You can purchase tickets on behalf of non-Pitt folks in your event-going group, but you must attend the show with them and bring your Pitt ID with you. If you are not attending the show, you cannot purchase the discounted tickets for others. Cheap Seats includes, but is not limited to, shows by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh CLO and CLO Cabaret, Quantum Theatre, PICT Classic Theatre, and more. Some restrictions apply, so click the link for full details.

Additionally, during the Fall and Spring semesters only, valid Pitt ID holders have free museum visits with many local museums. Unlike Cheap Seats, anyone attending the museums with you must pay the full price listed that applies to them (ex: senior citizen admission, adult admission, kid admission). Click the link for details on which museums offer free tickets to Pitt ID holders and how to get it.

**Happening in Pittsburgh**

When participating in any event, please double-check the event information before you leave your home, and follow appropriate Covid precautions. Remember that public transportation and ride share services still require a mask be worn over the nose and mouth by both drivers and passengers.

**Thursday, July 8**

**Pittsburgh CLO Summer Under the Stars:** starts at 8:30 p.m. July 8-10 the Pittsburgh CLO presents a once-in-a-lifetime experience of watching Broadway shows under the stars at Heinz Field in a partnership with the Pittsburgh Steelers. This is the Pittsburgh CLO’s 75th Anniversary, and what better way to celebrate the stars of Broadway than under the stars in the sky? This week’s performance is *The Wizard of Oz*, including favorites such as “Over the Rainbow” and “If I Were King of the Forest” and the song “Jitterbug” which was cut from the film production. Ticket prices will vary. Check the [Frequently Asked Questions](http://www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news) for Covid policies and policies regarding bags, cameras, etc.

**Sunday, July 11**

**Dollar Bank Cinema in the Park at Schenley Plaza:** movie starts at 7:30 p.m. Grab a blanket, towel, or lawn chair and your favorite movie snacks, because the Dollar Bank Cinema in the Park is back for Summer 2021. The Schenley Plaza location will feature Frozen II on the big screen on July 11. Arrive early to set up a good spot to view the screen, as this event is very popular. This event is free. Follow @PghEventsOffice on Twitter and Facebook for updates and weather cancellations. Restrooms available.

**Kid’s Day at Schenley Plaza:** 12:00-4:00 p.m. Free activities for children including crafts, special guests, performances, and free rides on the PNC Carousel. [Sign up](http://www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news) for the fun.

**Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix:** starts at 10:00 a.m. This week-long Pittsburgh historical automotive tradition is back this year with a whole week of events including the Kick-Off Rallye, PVGP Historics at the Pitt-Race Complex, the Invitational Car Show on Walnut Street, the Waterfront Car Cruise, and of course, racing in Schenley Park to conclude the week on Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25. Please note that some of these events will involve road closures, so if you plan to attend, check to see if your bus or expected travel route will be affected. Please take all Covid precautions, wear (and reapply) sunscreen with a high SPF, and stay hydrated.

**Wednesday, July 14**

**Dollar Bank Cinema in the Park at Flagstaff Hill:** movie starts at 7:30 p.m. Arrive early to nab a good spot, as this event is popular. Flagstaff Hill is located in Schenley Park at the back end of CMU’s campus, across the street from Phipp’s Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. July 14 showing is Wonder Woman 1984. This event is free. Follow @PghEventsOffice on Facebook and Twitter for updates.
and weather cancellations. Restrooms may not be available.

**Clothing and Shoe Sizes in the United States**

As many of you already know, clothes and shoes are sized differently in the United States than in other countries. What can make it even more confusing is that you might be a different size in one clothing brand than in another. Hopefully this article will make clothes and shoe shopping in the United States a little easier.

The United States uses the Imperial Units (inches, feet, etc.) to measure everything, including clothing. This means that because the inch is a larger unit than the centimeter, your clothing size in the US is probably smaller than in your home country. The types of measurements taken to determine a size are still the same (bust/chest, waist, hip), so if you know these measurements you can generally find your standard size using a size chart. For your convenience, we’ve included a size chart for both [Women’s Standard US Sizes](#) and [Men’s Standard US Sizes](#) that is in both inches and centimeters.

However, many clothing labels will have their own size guides, so check their websites for details and go by their size guide when shopping that label. Regardless of labels and designers, to purchase clothes that fit, make sure you have taken accurate body measurements.

If you do not know how to take these measurements, you can purchase a measuring tape from most stores in the laundry section and search YouTube for “body measuring tutorial” for a video on how to take the proper measurements (you may want a friend to help make sure the measuring tape isn’t too high or low in the back if you feel comfortable doing so). Or, if you feel comfortable, many department stores that have in-store tailoring, like Macy’s, can take some or all body measurements for you. Just ask one of the associates for details.

Shoes sizes in every country are calculated based upon width and length of the foot. In the United States, wider shoe sizes are usually designated using the term “wide width” or a “W” after the size number. We found a [Standard Shoe Size Chart](#) that lists US sizes in comparison to other country’s shoe sizes to help you find the right fit. Whenever possible, wear a sock or one of the disposable “footie” nylon socks when trying on shoes to keep the process hygienic. Shoe-buying tip: buy shoes in the middle of the day, when you’ve been walking around. Your feet swell a little during the day. Buying shoes later in the day helps you to find shoes that accommodate that comfortably.

When looking at sizes in both clothing and shoes, remember that in the United States a half-size is designated by either a decimal point or a fraction, not a comma. And remember that the style of the garment or shoe may also affect fit.

We hope you found this article helpful. Happy shopping!

**Understanding PAT Bus Schedules and the TruTime App**

Navigating a bus system in a new city can be tricky! This article can help you understand the buses in Pittsburgh. When looking at a [Pittsburgh Port Authority (PAT) bus schedule](#) or the [TruTime app](#), you will notice that each bus has a number and a name/place. For example: 71D Hamilton. 71D is the number and “Hamilton” is the name (for Hamilton Avenue).

You’ll also notice on the schedule or app that there is are “Inbound” and “Outbound” designations. This usually means that the bus is heading towards downtown (Inbound) or away from it (Outbound). This affects which bus stop you will use, because the bus only runs in one direction at a time.

Let’s use the 71D Hamilton again for our example. If you’re at the ELI, and wish to go downtown, you can catch the 71D Hamilton in the Inbound direction. The closest Inbound 71D bus stop to the ELI is at 5th Avenue and Atwood St. When the bus stops at Atwood St. to let you on and the doors open, the sound system will say “71D, Downtown.” If you are still unsure if the bus is going the direction you want, you can politely ask the driver.

When you want to leave downtown and return to the ELI, you will need the 71D in the Outbound direction. When the bus is heading in the Outbound direction, it announces itself as the “71D Hamilton” because it is heading away from downtown towards Hamilton Avenue.

If a bus doesn’t go to Downtown, you can tell the Inbound/Outbound direction by the point of origin for the bus route. The Inbound direction is the first origin listed. For example, the 93 Lawrenceville-Hazelwood bus has Lawrenceville placed first in its name, so its Inbound direction is Lawrenceville. This makes Hazelwood the Outbound direction. If you can’t figure out which bus stop is Inbound or Outbound, look at the map of the bus route, or look at the bus’s sign. The direction the bus is going should match on the bus stop sign, bus app, and the announcement.

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Visit the ELI NEWS online: www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news