



# Visiting U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters

## Base National Capital Region

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### 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

### Visitor Requests and Parking

Visitor requests are managed by Base National Capital Region's Command Security and Safety Department. 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, which intersects with Firth Sterling Avenue 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.

### 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:

- State-issued driver's license or non-driver identification card
- U.S. government-issued CAC, PIV, or military identification card
- U.S. passport or passport card, or a foreign passport
- U.S. border crossing card, permanent resident card, or alien registration card
- Native American tribal document





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### Getting to CGHQ

**By Metrorail:** The closest Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrorail station to the St. Elizabeths campus is the Anacostia station, located on the Green line. L'Enfant Plaza, which serves the Blue, Orange, Silver, Green and Yellow lines, is the closest transfer station.

Weekday bus service is provided between the Anacostia Metro station and the St. Elizabeths campus, as well as limited service between the L'Enfant Plaza station and campus. Visitors may use the buses by paying the normal bus fare with cash or their SmarTrip card. Campus bus stops are just outside Gate 4.

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 service about every 15 minutes during rush hours only. Morning service is from L'Enfant Plaza to St. Elizabeths and picks up on the west side of Seventh Street SW near the corner of D Street SW. Afternoon service is from St. Elizabeths to L'Enfant Plaza and drops off at the corner of Seventh Street SW 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, onto Barry Road SE. At the stop sign, 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 light, 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 Road SE, the access road for CGHQ. You've traveled too far if you've driven under the overpass and see an entrance to Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling.

GPS and online map directions to CGHQ vary in their accuracy. It is recommended that you enter "2699 Firth Sterling Ave SE, Washington, DC" as your destination address. While not a real address, it will get you to the intersection of Firth Sterling Avenue SE and St. Elizabeths Road SE for access to the campus.

If you have been cleared to park in the VIP area next to the ceremonial entrance, following the directions above and then proceed about 200 yards to Gate 6 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. All other visitors should proceed to Gate 4 at the end of St. Elizabeths Road for processing.

