Newcomers Guide

Welcome to Bellevue! Known as a “City in a Park” because of its many parks and trails, Bellevue is the fifth largest city in Washington. Bellevue is also the Eastside's high-tech and retail center with gleaming high-rises downtown, a diverse population of approximately 140,000 and schools rated among the best in the country.

This guide will help you get settled here, with links to key services and information. You can learn more about the city at https://bellevuewa.gov.

Utilities

Start water service from Bellevue Utilities, which also provides sewer and stormwater drainage. You can also sign up with Republic Services for garbage and recycling collection. https://bellevuewa.gov/utilities-service

Schools

Determine which school district and school your child or children are attending. Most students here are in the Bellevue School District. https://bellevuewa.gov/public-schools
Register Your Alarm

Alarms in homes and businesses that alert the police must be registered with the city through Public Safety Corporation. https://crywolfservices.com/bellevuewa

Community Centers

Bellevue’s five community centers and other recreation facilities offer plenty of activities. https://parks.bellevuewa.gov/community-centers

Police and Fire

Protecting you from crime and fire, and helping with medical emergencies. If you are in an emergency, call 911. For other issues, go to https://police.bellevuewa.gov or https://fire.bellevuewa.gov.

Neighborhoods

Learn about Bellevue’s neighborhoods and the services the city provides for them. https://bellevuewa.gov/neighborhoods

City Government

The city manager oversees daily operations; policy direction comes from our elected city council, with recommendations from resident boards and commissions. Fourteen departments provide essential services. https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government

Fun Stuff

Swimming, theater, arts classes, golf, youth and adult sports, berry picking and much more. https://bellevuewa.gov/things-to-do

Parks and Trails

With 2,700 acres of parks, including Downtown Park, Kelsey Creek Farm and the Bellevue Botanical Garden, there are many options for getting outside. https://parks.bellevuewa.gov/parks-and-trails

City News

The city’s Communications Office informs and engages residents through online news releases, social media, newsletters and video. https://bellevuewa.gov/newsroom

Libraries

The King County Library System has libraries downtown and in Eastgate and Lake Hills, along with the Crossroads Library Connection. https://kcls.org

Stay Connected

Request services and check out city news, events and jobs with our service app/web portal, MyBellevue. https://bellevuewa.gov/mybellevue

Register to Vote

Register to vote with the Secretary of State. https://wei.sos.wa.gov/agency/osos/en/voters/Pages/register_to_vote.aspx

Vehicle Registration

Register your vehicle and/or get a Washington driver’s license with the state Department of Licensing. http://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/moving.html