Walking Guide

Healthy, active living is encouraged on campus. A lot of people walk, bike, or take a bus to get to places on campus. The most common way to move around campus is by foot. Not only do you get your steps in by walking, but you also get to enjoy the landscapes and building architecture around campus.

Tips to Stay Indoors in the ‘Gopher Way’ Tunnel and Skyway
- Navigate your way from one building to another by using the Gopher Way signs and maps.
- Plan your route with this map.
- Routes can change to different floors within the same building or pass through uncommon areas.
- Allow for a little extra time to get to your destination.
- If you get to a locked door, try your U Card.
- For first-time Gopher Way users, consider a dry run before you need to use the route!
- Most tunnels and skyways are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Some tunnels/skyways are restricted; this is posted at tunnel/skyway entrances).
- Location of security cameras and disability access can vary.

Note: If you see broken or missing Gopher Way signs, please email the location to pts@umn.edu.

Popular Walking Routes On & Near Campus
Looking for a quick walk during your lunch break?
- Walk along the Washington Avenue Bridge and enjoy the beauty of the Mississippi River.
- On East Bank, check out the Northrop Mall area and the grassy field in front of McNamara Alumni Center.
- The St Paul campus offers beautiful gardens.
- Grand Rounds Trails are a short walk away from campus. Coming from Superblock, you can easily get to the East River Parkway trail.
- Avoid road traffic and enjoy the fresh air by using pedestrian- and bike-only bridges including Washington Avenue Bridge, 5th Street Bridge (Macy’s Holmes) and Northern Pacific Bridge Number 9.

For those walking on the northern side of East Bank campus - please do not take shortcuts across railroad tracks. It is dangerous. That is private property, trespassing is subject to fines.

Safety Tips
- Walking with a friend is encouraged. There is safety in numbers, and it’s more fun that way!
- Walk confidently but safely. Be aware of your surroundings and follow traffic signals.
- Walking through crowded and well-lit paths is encouraged.
- Trust your instincts. If someone makes you uncomfortable, move away from that person.
- Wear reflective-colored clothing at night to make you more visible.
- Emergency call buttons are located in the stairwells of parking ramps and garages as well as some spots along the Gopher Way.

Drivers must stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk, but don’t rely solely on drivers; protect yourself first.

Best Practices to Follow
- Obey the “Don’t Walk” and other traffic signals.
- Cross within the marked crosswalk. You can get a $128 ticket on campus for jaywalking.
- Look both ways before crossing!

USE INTERACTIVE MAPS
Use a smart phone map app like Google Maps or visit campusmaps.umn.edu to use the University’s interactive map.

To report icy sidewalks or streetlights that are out, call the Facilities Management Call Center at 612-624-2900. To report, call with the location and ID number on the pole.

Parking & Transportation Services
300 Transportation and Safety Building
511 Washington Avenue SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
612-626-7275
parking@umn.edu
http://www.umn.edu/pts

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Carry your U Card at all times! Active U Card is required to access the Gopher Way system and University buildings.

More information on building access:
https://safewalk.umn.edu/app/ or visit https://umn.edu/security

Questions? Contact PTS at parking@umn.edu or at 612-624-7275.

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Below-ground connection
Above-ground connection
Handrail available when other than 1st floor
Elevator - disability access
Stairs - no disability access
Wayfinding location
(QR codes found along Gopher Way to help navigate)