

Your WSU Student ID Card

[00:00:12]

G'day, welcome to Western Sydney University. I'm Sid Sharma and I've got things every student should know. There's a great saying from a classic kids show - having fun isn't hard when you've got a library card - and it's true your WSU student card, also known as your library card or ID card is your ticket to heaps of opportunities both on and off campus, from discounted food around uni to cheaper tickets to see all Aussie icons. All of that from a little card in your wallet.

So here's things that you can do with your student card.

[00:00:47]

Number one. Getting around campus.

If you don't have a car at WSU, the best way to get to and get around your WSU campus is by using the University shuttle bus, which you can catch for free using your WSU student card. I'm chatting to Pete Hilt, from the course information team. You might have heard him on an earlier podcast. Pete is going to tell you about making the most of getting around campus with your student card.

[00:01:12] Pete

Yeah sure, so it's really helpful using your student card to get to and from uni, or work, cause if you don't have a car like myself, you can use your student card to get to the local station to any of our campuses and we will run a shuttle bus, depending on the distance from the station. It's a maximum of about 15 minutes on the shuttle bus to our campus.

[00:01:35] Sid

So what shuttle services are actually available?

[00:01:38] Pete

It's a free shuttle service and you just need your student card to ride on that shuttle service and it runs roughly every 15 to 30 minutes.

[00:01:46] Sid

That seems pretty frequent, so people can get around really quickly.

[00:01:50] Pete

Yeah, you rarely find yourself waiting for one to be honest.

[00:01:52] Sid

And so you need to have your card with you at all times to ride the bus?

[00:01:54] Pete

Yeah definitely. Sometimes they won't check for it, but if the bus ever fills up they will be pulling any one off that's not a student.

[00:02:04] Sid

So Pete, tell me how do you get your hands on one of these student cards?

[00:02:06] Pete

Yeah, sure. So there are a couple of ways. The first way is to just jump onto your student MySR Account, that's a My Student Records account, and you can do it online and take your own photo and have it printed out next time you go on to campus. Or you can just head to Student Central which is on every campus and they can do it manually in the office for you.

[00:02:31] Sid

Number two. Use it anywhere. Pete, Is it correct that you can use your student card across every WSU campus?

[00:02:39] Pete

Yeah that's definitely correct. So I live in Penrith, but I actually study at the Parramatta campus so I regularly use my student card to study in the library or in the computer Labs at the Penrith campus closer to home but I can also use it if I want to study at the Parramatta campus. If I wanted to study at the Campbelltown campus, Liverpool campus, I can use it wherever I want to.

[00:03:03] Sid

Number three. Access discounts on campus. Are you the type of person that needs a caffeine hit before your 9 a.m. lecture? Well, you'll be glad to know you can score mad discounts on your morning coffee with your WSU student card. And that's just the start of the amazing discounts that you can get all around campus with your WSU student card. To find out more, I'm chatting with Sid and Zeu.

[00:03:26] Zeu

Hi folks, I'm Zeu. I'm an international student from Bangladesh, I'm studying Bachelor of Engineering, majoring in Civil and also working with the university for the course information team.

[00:03:37] Sid 2

Hi folks, I'm Sid. I'm also an international student from India, and I'm studying Bachelor of Business, majoring in accounting and I'm in my 3rd year and I also work for the course information team.

[00:03:50] Sid

And you have the same name as me! So Sid, what exactly can you access on campus with your student card?

[00:03:57] Sid 2

On campus early morning rush is the great thing to do is to get a coffee and what's better than getting a discounted coffee with your student ID card.

[00:04:06] Sid

Do you have a favourite Cafe?

[00:04:06] Sid 2

I have, it's Piccolo Me and I love the coffees and they're staff are so energised in the morning, which makes your day happy as well. Discounted coffees and all the morning breakfasts they have it's really good. Also, there are various food outlets available on campus as well. Subway is one of them and they also give discount Subway subs and it's really good for students if they are having a long day in the university or if they are studying for the exams and they don't have time to cook food.

Apparently, for the Western Sydney University Kingswood campus, students who will be studying in there, there is a bar available as well on campus so they are really lucky because they will be getting discounted drinks as well over there.

[00:04:54] Sid

Ah, discounted happy hour. Awesome!

[00:05:02] Sid

Number four. Access discounts off-campus.

Your student card also gives you access to discounts all across Sydney and Australia if you're travelling further afield. Basically anywhere that offers a concession entry, that means that you as a student can get in for a discounted price. Zeu, what are some of the typical places that students can get discounted entry with their student card?

[00:05:24] Zeu

I reckon That's the part I most love about my student card, getting all those concessions. Trust me students out there, you are going to love when you get your student card and get those concessions because your ID card, you might think it's just limited to acting as a proof of identity, but it's not! You get discounts on movie tickets, sports activities and what not. There's loads to look out for for getting discounts.

Keeping that in mind, I'd just like to share my personal experience - I remember when I came in 2 years back, I went to Canberra one day and there was the Science Exhibition Centre called Questacon and I showed them my student card, got the discounted entry and trust me it feels awesome!

[00:06:11] Sid

It's like a VIP, isn't it?

[00:06:13] Zeu

You feel so special, like you're up to the level like there.

[00:06:17] Sid

All you need to do is flash your card.

[00:06:20] Zeu

That's it, that's all you have to do.

[00:06:25] Sid

Number 5. Access the library. Well I'm back with your friendly librarian Karen from the first episode. Karen, can you please tell me a little bit more about exactly what you can do with your library card?

[00:06:37] Karen

Your library card is your student card so once you have that you have access to the building first of all and then your student number and your electronic sign in - your password will give you access to all the library's computers so you can sign in and get the same desktop here there and everywhere, wherever you sign-in it's all connected to your student number.

More importantly, you can also print with that, you can load money onto your student card, and you can use that for printing if you need it. The same password that you use to login to the computers is the password that you use to login to all electronic resources. So if you hit a paywall with any part of the library system, your student number and your password will unlock that for you so you can get access to the databases.

[00:07:23] Sid

Also tell me a little bit about study hall that the library offers.

[00:07:26] Karen

Study hall is, we recognise students don't always come to the library during Library hours but they still need the library facility, so what we have is the study hall service, which is available at most campuses most nights. You can come in 24 hours of the day, you swipe in with your student card, gives you full access to the building, it's safe, it's lit, there's a security guard there for you. You can also access the computers and the entire collection whilst you're there. So, if you are working and the only study time you have is at night-time or perhaps if your study environment at home isn't the greatest, maybe it's too loud or maybe it's over crowded something like that, then you can always come to the library and get the free Wi-Fi, use the computers, use the collection, there is places you can spread out, especially at night.

[00:08:13] Sid

Maybe even get a nap in there as well. I've heard a little bit about the study smart program as well that the Library runs. Would you mind telling me a little bit about that as well?

[00:08:23] Karen

Yeah of course. and most importantly, at Western Sydney I think the focus we all want to see you succeed, no one wants to see students fail. Everybody wants to do what they can to get you through. So at the library we have the study smart zone, and there's three types of services that you can get there. The first is you can see the librarian who can provide you with support for finding the right resource, looking at scholarly resources, and helping you determine what's a good source to use and what's not. Then also the librarian can help you reference and reference your assignment properly. They are making sure you're getting the proper marks for that and that you're not accidentally plagiarising anything. So that's the librarian.

We also have the study smart service, where we have advisors who will look at what you have written so far and give you immediate feedback on what you've written. This is very useful, they'll correct grammar, they might correct minor spelling, or they might say things like you seem to be repeating yourself here or this point is good you should expand on that. Really good academic feedback. So these advisors you can book in with, The Librarian you can walk straight in and just see if they're available. The advisors you can book in as you arrive and there's also mathematics support as part of the study smart zone as well. But most importantly, come and get the help that's available to you. if there's something you're not getting, it really is up to us to help you, help you succeed.

[00:09:41] Sid

Yeah, it sounds like the library is it really good first point of contact for academic support when it comes to assignments and homework.

[00:09:47] Karen

Yeah, indeed, and it's not just during Library hours. There is an online chat service with the library and generally also if you can't get that chat service, there's an email services as well and that will be answered within the next day. So if you got specific things that are you having problems with and it's outside of library hours, I recommend you just put it into the chat, or send us an email. It will get responded to and you will get that one to one advice.

[00:10:12] Sid

Sounds great Karen, the library is obviously a massive resource at WSU.

[00:10:18] Karen

Yeah, and in fact it's not just the service we provide at the face-to-face level, there's a lot of online resources as well as part of this study smart service. If you need help with essay writing, there's tutorials, there's tip sheets, there's PDF guides that will walk you through it. There's also a lot of academic literacy workshops that you can attend and they will cover some basic University skills if you are having trouble making the transition.

[00:10:43] Sid

Just to reiterate, the library is free and accessible through the student ID card?

[00:10:46] Karen

Yeah, completely free even the after hours access is through your student card.

[00:10:52] Sid

Well thanks for joining us Karen.

[00:10:53] Karen

Thanks very much. Thanks for having me.

[00:11:01] Sid

Thanks for listening. Subscribe and keep an ear out for future episodes. If you have any more questions, head to westernsydney.edu.au. I'm Sid Sharma, see you soon.