



A Guide to Moving to and Living in Chicago

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Living in Chicago

Understanding that it's challenging enough to enter a graduate program and even more daunting to move to a new city at the same time, we in the Admission Department have attempted to give you the insider's guide to finding a residence in Chicago. Some basic facts:

- Chicago is a city of neighborhoods, each with its own unique character.
- Rents and other costs of living will vary depending upon what neighborhood you live in.
- Generally neighborhoods closer to downtown will be cleaner, safer, and consequently more expensive.
- Most students who live in the city (as opposed to a suburb) live on the North Side. However, several live around the School (Old Town/Gold Coast
- area) and on the West or Northwest Sides.
- The following are some of the neighborhoods in which Chicago School students usually live. These neighborhoods are generally close to transportation.

*****For a map of the Chicagoland Area and the neighborhood layout, visit this web address*****

<http://www.dreamtown.com/services/map.pdf>

*****For a map of the surrounding suburbs, visit this web address*****

<http://www.chicago.il.org/SUBURBSMAP.HTM>

Chicago Neighborhoods

Lakeview

Trendy, busy and friendly. Residents tend to be college students, post-college aged and young professionals, with some older working class residents scattered throughout. Many shops, restaurants and clubs/bars. Congested with people and cars--difficult to find parking. Public transportation readily available. Includes Wrigleyville area (near Wrigley Field, where the Chicago Cubs baseball team plays). East and Central usually more expensive and congested than West and North parts, although this is changing. Includes Belmont Harbor (far east), Buena Park (far north) and Wrigleyville (around Wrigley Field).

Lincoln Park

Older, more expensive neighborhood populated mostly by professionals and some DePaul students. There are many park and recreation areas, including Lincoln Park Zoo. Wide variety of shops, restaurants and bars. Very difficult to find parking.

Near North Side

Convenient to school, but more expensive than most areas. Difficult to find parking. Includes Old Town, Gold Coast, River West, Streeterville, River North. River North includes many popular restaurants, night-clubs and comedy clubs, including Rainforest Cafe and the Hard Rock Cafe. The Gold Coast is a beautiful, quiet and expensive neighborhood. Old Town has many beautiful buildings, many on the historic register. Many art galleries are in this area, as well as designer clothing stores.

Printers Row/Dearborn Park/Burnham Park/South Loop

South of the Loop, which is the central downtown business district, named for the elevated tracks that form a loop around this area. Good location for school, downtown, etc. Because this is part of the business district, there are less dining and entertainment options in the evening. Much more expensive than some other areas, but can be manageable if sharing rent. Close to lake, museums, transportation. Parking is expensive, but fairly plentiful, due to the large number of lots.

West Town

Neighborhoods in this area vary greatly, from trendy, artistic Wicker Park (Damen, North & Milwaukee) in the north to European-style Ukrainian Village in the south (Chicago & Western). Multi-ethnic neighborhoods, with varying levels of rehabilitation. Wicker Park has a very big art and music scene, with a mix of working class and

young professionals. Wicker Park is less expensive and congested than Lakeview and Lincoln Park, but it's getting more so as more people discover the area. Ukrainian Village, East Village and Noble Square are less trendy, and as a result, housing is less expensive, but amenities are scarcer.

Logan Square/Bucktown

Culturally diverse neighborhood--families, professionals, working class. There are fewer restaurants, shops, and bars than other neighborhoods; however, due to gentrification, more of these establishments have been opening. Plentiful street parking. Logan Square has several boulevards lined with historic buildings. It is typical to get more space for your money in terms of housing. Bucktown's feel is closer to Wicker Park's than Logan Square's.

Lincoln Square & North Center

More family-oriented than other neighborhoods, particularly Ravenswood and Lincoln Square. Lincoln Square has a European feel to it, with shops and restaurants reflecting the early residents of this neighborhood. Roscoe Village, just east of Lakeview, offers less expensive rents with access to the trendy areas of Lakeview. However, this neighborhood is beginning to attract more people, and as a result, rents are increasing and parking is decreasing.

Uptown and Edgewater

Cheaper than other North Side neighborhoods, but with good and bad sections. Close to lake and transportation. Many historic buildings are currently ongoing rehabilitation as residents work to clean up the neighborhoods, reduce crime and attract investment. Fewer shops and restaurants than other North Side neighborhoods (i.e. Lakeview, Lincoln Park). Plentiful street parking, except for the area east of Broadway. Uptown contains several popular concert venues, including the Aragon Ballroom, the Riviera, and the Capone-era jazz club, the Green Mill. Andersonville is a small area of Edgewater centered at Clark and Foster that has Swedish and Middle Eastern influences, which can be seen in the area restaurants and shops. It tends to be populated by young professionals and can be more expensive than other parts of the neighborhood.

Rogers Park

This is the northernmost neighborhood in Chicago along the lake. This area is mixed, with safer and less safe areas. The area was historically a seat of Jewish culture in Chicago, though now it is probably the most culturally diverse neighborhood in Chicago. Loyola University is located here, and many students live nearby. Reasonable rents and plentiful street parking except close to Loyola (east by the lake).

Hyde Park

South Side. The area surrounding the University of Chicago. Diverse population, student atmosphere. Good transportation. Tends to be fairly expensive. Parking may be difficult. Can feel somewhat isolated.

Finding a Chicago address is simple once you understand how the city is laid out. The streets are arranged in a grid pattern, with Madison and State streets downtown marking the center of the grid. These two Streets are numbered 0 (zero), and every block moving away from the center is one hundred (100). To find a particular address, you determine how many "hundreds" away from the State-Madison center it is. On every map of the city you will see numbers next to the names of streets. These numbers tell you how many blocks away the street is from either State Street (if it's an east-west street) or Madison Street (if it's a north-south street). For example, to find 2400 North Sheffield, you first note that the address is 24 blocks north of Madison (24 "hundreds"). Sheffield is 1000 West, which means 10 blocks west of State (10 "hundreds") (you can find this out on a map). So, 2400 North Sheffield is 24 blocks north of Madison and 10 blocks west of State.

Of course, nothing is perfectly clear. There are some angled streets, which result in confusing "Six Corners" intersections. Angled streets on the North Side include Lincoln, Clark, Broadway, Milwaukee, Elston, Clybourn and Grand west of Western Avenue. Angled streets on the South Side include Ogden, Archer, and Vincennes. Historical trivia: The angled streets follow former Native American trails.

Important Note: It is important to consider your own style, comfort level and preferences when deciding upon a place in which to live. If you are coming from an area in which the population density is low, perhaps a smaller city or rural area, consider whether you would be comfortable in a neighborhood that is crowded and noisy at almost all hours of the day and night. Remember, once you sign the lease, you're basically stuck there for the duration of it.

Neighborhoods by ZIP Code

Please note: Postal boundaries are not necessarily the same as neighborhood boundaries. Moreover, official neighborhood boundaries are not necessarily the same boundaries that are recognized by real estate agents or by people who actually live in the neighborhoods. These zip codes will be especially helpful if you plan on using the Chicago Reader on-line apartment listings.

Rogers Park--60626 (northernmost neighborhood on the lake)

Edgewater--60660 (south of Rogers Park on the lake)

Uptown (including Andersonville)--60640 (south of Edgewater on the lake)

Lakeview (including Roscoe Village)--60613 & 60657 (south of Uptown on the lake)

Lincoln Park--60614 (south of Lakeview on the lake)

Logan Square--60647 (west of the Kennedy Expressway-90/94)

Bucktown--parts of 60647, 60622, 60614 (west of the Kennedy, southeast of Logan Square)

Wicker Park--parts of 60647, 60622 (west of the Kennedy, southeast of Bucktown)

Lincoln Square--parts of 60625, 60640, 60659 (northwest of Lakeview)

Hyde Park--60637 (south of downtown)

Old Town--60610 (just north of downtown)

Gold Coast, River North--parts of 60610, 60611 (south of Old Town)

Ravenswood--parts of 60613, 60657, 60618 (west and north of Lakeview)

***Chicago neighborhood map on pg. 18

Ethnic Neighborhoods of Chicago

There are several ethnic neighborhoods in the city of Chicago. In each neighborhood, you will find a wide variety of restaurants, shops and cultural attractions. Here is a partial listing.

Greek

Called Greektown, this is located at Halsted (800W) and Jackson (400S).

Chinese

Chinatown is located at Cermak (2200S) and Wentworth (200W).

Asian

A large community of people from several Asian nations, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, and Laos. On Argyle (5000N) around Broadway (600W)

Italian

Called Little Italy, this neighborhood is less concentrated than it used to be, but you will still find several Italian restaurants and shops. Located on Taylor Street (1200S) around Racine (1200W) near the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).

Korean

Along Lawrence Avenue (4800N) from approximately Western (2400W) to Kimball (3400W)

Middle Eastern/Indian/Jewish

Devon Avenue (6400N) from Western (2400W) to California (2800W).

German

Called Pilsen after the area in Germany from which its original inhabitants came, it is on the near South Side around 18th Street (1800S) and Damen (2000W).

Puerto Rican

Marked on either side by a large metal sculpture of the Puerto Rican flag, this area runs along Division (1200N) from Western (2400W) to California (2800W).

Swedish

Called Andersonville, this is a small area in Edgewater around Clark Street (an angled street around 1500W on the east side of the city) and Foster (5200N). Interestingly, there is a Middle Eastern community here as well.

Polish

In the Avondale neighborhood along Milwaukee Avenue (an angled street around 3400W) between approximately Belmont (3200N) and Addison (3600N).

City Living

The Chicago Reader was by far the most mentioned source for finding apartments. The Reader is a free weekly newspaper that contains extensive apartment listings. The Reader comes out on Thursdays and is available in many locations throughout the city (such as restaurants and shops), especially Downtown and the North Side. The Reader also has an apartment finder service on the Internet. You mark your preferences (neighborhood by zip code, price, how many bedrooms, etc.) and a list of apartments that correspond to those preferences are displayed. This list is updated every Tuesday night, two days before the paper Reader comes out, so you can get a jump on the listings. Find them at www.chireader.com.

There are many apartment finders in the city. These services are usually free, although some do charge a fee. Many will drive you to the apartments after going over your requirements and preferences in their office. You usually don't have to make an appointment, but call ahead to be sure about this and whether they charge a fee. Student reactions to these finders were mixed. One student suggested that you use such services cautiously. "Be specific in your criteria...or you'll be dragged all over the city as they try to palm off their lurky apartments." Another student suggested that you let an apartment service show you some apartments and then go back on your own to find similar apartments for cheaper rent. If you find an area you like, you can also walk around looking for "For Rent" signs.

In general, apartment finding services can be a quick and efficient way to find an apartment. However, the agents can be insistent to the point of being pushy, as they often work on commission. It is possible to find better buys outside of these services, but it takes more effort and time. (See enclosed list of a sampling of apartment finders in Chicago.)

So, if you like the challenge of looking for a place on your own, or if it's worth it to spend a little more time and effort in order to get the right place, you'd be better off looking in the Reader or walking around specific neighborhoods. If convenience and saving time are important, use an apartment finder.

The International House, a hostel managed by the University of Chicago, will house students (both International and US) in the summer for approximately \$10 a day. The International House is located at 1414 E. 59th Street.

Suburban Living

Several students responding to our survey suggested the suburbs as a viable alternative to city living. Keep in mind that every suburb is different in terms of price, distance from school, access to public transportation and expressways, and quality of life. These are only a few of the suburbs surrounding Chicago.

Evanston, the suburb just north of the city limits on the lake, was suggested. A lot of housing is available starting in May and June because of the Northwestern University students leaving for the summer. The Pioneer Press and the Evanston Review are two papers that have a lot of listings. One student highly recommends Evanston as "a safe, close, cultural and convenient alternative to the city." The proximity to Northwestern University provides many student perks and discounts. The "L" (the city train system) and Metra (the commuter rail system) goes to Evanston. Prices tend to be on the high side (think Lakeview/Lincoln Park); South Evanston tends to be somewhat cheaper.

Skokie is just west of Evanston and tends to be considerably cheaper because it is farther from the lake. The students who live there like it, and a weekday branch of the CTA "L" (The Skokie Swift) goes into Skokie. Note that the Skokie Swift does not run on weekends, nor during all hours of the day.

Naperville, a southwestern suburb near Lisle, has been suggested. One and two bedroom apartments near the Metra are plentiful, but studios are not. Those that are near the train tend to be quite expensive.

Des Plaines, in the O'Hare area, was described by a second year student as a nice suburb in which you get more apartments for your money.

Oak Park is just west of Chicago. The Green Line of the "L" goes directly into the town. It has inexpensive and expensive areas, and is a nice mix of urban and suburban. Quite cultural and open-minded.

Apartment Finding Services--a sampling from the Yellow Pages

The Apartment People www.apartmentpeople.com	3121 N Broadway (Lakeview) 51 W. Huron (River North)	773/248-8800 312-335-8802
The Apartment & Home Seekers www.aptandhomeseekers.com	5354 N Broadway	773/784-9100
The Apartment Source Visual Properties www.theapartmenteexperts.com	2638 N Halsted 1152 N State	773/404-9900 312/397-0697
Realty and Mortgage Co The Apartment Zone www.apartmentzone.com	928 W Diversey 1355 W Chicago	773/549-8300 312/829-7368
The Homestead Group www.chicago-apts.com	821 N Milwaukee	312/433-9100

Some suburban house finders:

Suburbs in general

Relcon Apartment Guide (city & suburbs) www.relconapartments.com	630/573-5394
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South suburbs

Homesearchers at 708/957-4663. No fee, "very nice service," says one student.
Home Base at 708/798-9460. \$75 fee, lots of sources.

Things to know before renting an apartment

Housing options include rental apartments, houses and rooms. We suggest finding an apartment, as a house will most likely be prohibitively expensive and quite difficult to find, and a room won't offer you the quiet, privacy and space you will need in which to live and study. Use the information included in this section to locate an apartment that best fits your needs.

In almost every circumstance you will have to sign a **lease** for an apartment. This is a legal document that serves as a contract between you and the landlord. You each have rights and responsibilities that are established by the city in which the apartment is located. At minimum, the lease should list the dates of occupancy (usually one year), who is to live there, what the tenant (you) is responsible for, such as heat, electricity and telephone, the amount of the rent and **security deposit** (an additional sum of money that covers any damage or cleaning expenses once you move out; if there is no damage, you will get it all back after you leave) and any restrictions, such as whether you can have a pet. In general, the landlord is responsible for general maintenance of the common areas (hallways, entryways) and anything that breaks or stops working in your apartment (broken windows, stove stops working, sink is clogged). You are responsible for cleaning the apartment and such things as light bulbs and batteries for the smoke detectors. A copy of Chicago's municipal code can be obtained from city hall if you wish to review the specific rights and responsibilities of the landlord and the tenant. These laws vary outside of Chicago (i.e., in the suburbs), so you'll need to ask those cities about their landlord/tenant laws.

Be aware that if you break your lease (move out before the lease is up), you can be sued by the landlord for the remainder of the rent plus other fees. It is possible that you might be able to arrange with the landlord your moving out early, but the landlord is not obligated to do this. You may also **sublease** your apartment (find someone else to move in under the terms of your lease), depending on your lease terms.

You are responsible for paying for your telephone and cable television, if you choose to have it. Most places will also require you to pay for your electricity. Sometimes heat is included, sometimes it isn't. The landlord almost always pays for water, sewer and garbage pickup.

Glossary of terms

Studio/Efficiency apartments: For one person. Many students live in these. Usually one large room plus a bathroom and kitchen facilities. Sometimes the kitchen will be separate, or there might be an alcove for a bed. Usually room for a futon (a Japanese-style mattress on a frame that folds from a couch to a bed), a small table or desk and a dresser. Sizes vary widely depending upon the area and the building.

A **convertible** is a small apartment that usually has an alcove or other space that can be blocked off with a screen or other divider. Bigger than a studio and smaller than a one bedroom.

Other apartments are **one, two or three bedrooms**. Apartments with more than three bedrooms are rare and more difficult to find.

Most apartments are **unfurnished**. You must supply your own furniture. Most apartments, however, will supply window blinds and major appliances.

You will pay more for **amenities** such as a pool, door attendant, and fitness room.

Many apartment buildings do not have **elevators**, so be sure to check this out if stairs are difficult for you. Most elevated building will have a charge for moving in and out along with specific move times.

Most, but not all, apartment buildings have **laundry facilities** in a basement or other room. Usually a wash costs up to \$2 (in quarters) and a dry from \$.25 to \$1. If there isn't a washer and dryer on site, find out where the nearest laundromat is and imagine yourself traveling that distance every time you need to wash clothes.

Some apartments will have a **building manager** who lives on site (in the building). The manager takes care of rent, maintenance and complaints. Others are owner-occupied (the owner/landlord lives in the building). Still others have neither, and you will have to call the landlord or manager if you have a problem.

A **garden apartment** is on the lower level, usually half below ground like a basement, but with windows. These tend to be cheaper, but also are not as safe, as the windows are very accessible. If you choose to live in one, make sure there are security bars on **all** the windows, or ask if the landlord will install them prior to you moving in.

When you find an apartment you want, the landlord may want to do a **credit check** (a check of your credit, including where you lived before, to see if you have paid rent on time and in full in the past). Credit checks cost around \$25 and you are generally responsible for the cost.

****INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS** -- explain that you are an international student and ask if s/he would be willing to forego the check. Be aware that some may not want to rent to you without a credit check.

Once you have been offered a lease and sign it you will most likely also have to give the landlord the first month's rent plus the **security deposit**. The security deposit typically is equal to one months rent and maybe up to two months. Your security deposit and first months rent is typically due when you sign your lease.

Security deposit example, if the apartment rents for \$700 a month, and the security deposit is \$700, you will have to pay him/her \$1,400 up front to secure the apartment. Remember, if your apartment is in good shape when you move out, you will get back the \$700 security deposit. One way to guarantee the return of your security deposit is to take pictures of your apartment after you move your furniture out and do the cleaning. Then, if the landlord tries to say you damaged or left the apartment dirty, you can prove that you didn't.

Pet security deposits are typically require in buildings that accept pets in addition to the regular deposit.

Other miscellaneous term explanations:

Rehab--short for rehabilitated. Usually an older building that has been fixed up. Also referred to as remodeled.

Vintage means an older, usually very beautiful building that has been rehabbed (but not necessarily). Often means that the rent is higher.

A **two-flat** means a building with two apartments in it. These, as well as three-flats, are very common in Chicago. They are usually brick.

Be aware that apartments may not actually be as described in the ad. For example, "cozy" often means small.

Common abbreviations found in newspaper ads

1BR/2BR/3BR	one, two or three bedrooms
ww cpt	wall to wall carpet
hdwd flrs	hardwood floors
nr L	near El (elevated train/subway train)
nr trans	near transportation (usually means El)
DR	dining room
bath	bathroom
ht	heat
elec	electricity
1BA/2BA	one bathroom/two bathrooms
frpl/wbfp	fireplace/woodburning fireplace
balc	balcony
ckng gas	cooking gas
appls	appliances
rm	room
CA	central air (air conditioning)
bsmt	basement
refs req	references required
kit	kitchen
Indry	laundry
gdn apt	garden apartment
inc	included
sec dep	security deposit
W/D	washer/dryer
lv msg	leave message
pkg	parking
avail	available

This is an example of how a classified advertisement in the newspaper might look:

Logan Square 2BR, sep DR, hdwd flrs, nr L, \$850 + sec dep.
Pkg avail. Avail immed. Call 555-5454.

Translation: Logan Square (a northwest side neighborhood) two bedroom apartment with a separate dining room and hardwood floors, near the elevated/subway train. Parking space is available (for an additional fee). \$850 a month plus a security deposit (most likely the same amount as the monthly rent, though you would need to ask).

The Office of Admission has surveyed current students regarding their apartment finding experiences. Below is a summary of their responses.

General Tips

- Start your search for housing early. You may end up choosing an apartment you wouldn't normally just because you're in a hurry.
- Know your rent limit and stick to it. Remember, you are probably going to be living on a fixed income, and the cost of living in the Chicago area can be high. Additionally, you will want to have some extra money to enjoy the city while you're here!
- Make sure you're going to be comfortable wherever you live. Graduate school can be stressful at times, and dealing with traffic, crowds, etc., may take additional time and add to your overall stress level. You want your home to be a place where you can relax.
- Each city/suburb has its own laws regarding tenant/landlord relations. In Chicago, landlords are required to attach a summary of the part of the Municipal Code that addresses this area. This code delineates the rights of the tenant, as well as how to remedy specific problems. You can get the complete code at City Hall. There are also several tenant rights organizations in the city.
- Ask about what happens to your security deposit while you're living in their unit. In the city of Chicago, landlords are required to put your deposit in an interest-bearing account that is separate from the account into which your rent payment goes and return the interest to you each year. This ordinance affects only buildings with a certain number of tenants. Ask the landlord or call one of the tenant organizations to check. Other cities may have different laws regarding this, so make sure you ask. Also, it is illegal for landlords to require you to mail your rent to a post office box. They need to have an actual street address.
- April 1st and October 1st are the traditional moving days in Chicago. Not all landlords follow this; however, you may find that your lease will be up on one of those two days, regardless of when you originally signed the lease.
- Chicago has a recycling ordinance. Every building with over a certain number of units (around 6 or 10) is required to have a recycling program in the building. Recyclables are put into blue bags, which can be purchased in grocery and other stores. Suburbs will have their own programs. Check with the landlord or with the city government offices.
- It is important to check out what kind of heat is offered in an apartment. Although it will most likely be very warm when you are looking, be aware that Chicago can get extremely cold, and how your apartment is heated will become very important to you. There are several options for heat: radiator--paid for by the landlord, uses steam (which puts moisture in the air), very warm, often difficult (if not impossible) to regulate; electric or gas--paid for by the tenant (you) and can be very expensive, depending upon how warm you like to keep your apartment. Most older buildings will have radiator heat. If you have to pay for your own heat, ask the landlord to tell you the average cost per month and show you a bill if possible.

Apartment Checklist

Below is a checklist of items, which will help you evaluate how well the building will meet your needs.

ITEM	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
Furnishings			
Stove			
Refrigerator			
Walls			
Floors and carpets			
Plumbing			
Water pressure and temperature			
Windows (incl locks)			
Fire escape			
Smoke detectors/ Carbon monoxide detectors			
Fire extinguishers			
Lighting			
Wiring			
Pest control/ garbage collection/ recycling			
Elevators (passenger & freight)			
Air conditioning/ ventilation			
Heating/thermostat			
Hallways/ common areas			
Closets/storage			
Kitchen			
Bedroom(s)			
Bathroom			
Parking			
Laundry			
Snow removal/ landscaping			

HELPFUL NUMBERS

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

800-721-8072 (Toll Free)
312/329-6600

Front Desk	Ext. 6600
Library	Ext. 6630
Jeff Keith (Tuition & Fees)	Ext. 6655
Ana del Castillo (Registration)	Ext. 6601
Ardie Elgersma (Financial Aid)	Ext. 6602
Admissions	Ext. 6666
Dr. Michael Horowitz (President)	Ext. 6652

Commonwealth Edison (electric)

Service Dept. 800/334-7661

People's Energy (gas/heat)

To establish service 312/240-7000

SBC (telephone)

To establish service 800/244-4444

Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)

In Chicago 312/836-7000
Outside Chicago 800/968-7282

Chicago Department of Housing

Landlord-tenant questions 312/744-5000

Illinois Tenants Union

Landlord-tenant problems, tenant rights 312/478-1133

Metropolitan Tenants Organization

Questions & references 312/292-4988

Chicago Department of Inspection Services

City Building Inspector 312/744-3400

Chicago Police Department

Emergency 911
Non-emergency 312/746-6000
Auto Pound Tow records 312/747-5513

Mayor's Office

Richard M. Daley 312/744-3315

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

312/744-2964

Cook County State's Attorney's Office

312/603-1880

Free Legal Aid by Phone

M-F, 9-11 am & 2-4 pm 312/951-7400

Immigration & Naturalization Services

312/385-1500

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

Driver's License/Titles/Plates 312/793-1010

CHICAGO TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Chicago has one of the best public transportation systems in the country. It is possible to live in the city (and even some of the suburbs) without a car. Here is some basic information about the RTA (Regional Transportation Authority).

RTA has three segments--CTA (Chicago Transit Authority), Metra Suburban Rail, and PACE suburban bus system.

The CTA consists of the Elevated trains (the L or el) and the bus system. **The L** has six lines, each coded by color, as well as by a route name.

The Red Line (Howard-Dan Ryan) runs north-south from Howard Street, which separates Chicago and Evanston in the north, to 95th Street on the South Side, along the Dan Ryan Expressway (90/94). This is a 24 hour train.

The Blue Line (Congress/Douglas/O'Hare) runs from O'Hare Airport southeast to downtown, then goes to the west/southwest on two separate lines. This is a 24 hour train.

The Green Line (Harlem/Lake) runs west from downtown to the suburb of Oak Park and south from downtown to 63rd Street. This train stops running in the late evening.

The Brown Line (Ravenswood) circles downtown (The Loop) and then goes north and northwest to Kimball and Lawrence. Certain legs of this train stop running late at night.

The Orange Line also circles downtown and goes southwest to Midway Airport. This is a 24 hour train.

The Purple Line (Evanston Express) also circles downtown and follows the same route on the north side as the Red Line, but makes fewer stops and goes further into Evanston. This train has limited weekly hours and no weekend service.

The Yellow Line (Skokie Swift) connects the suburb of Skokie with the Red and Purple Lines at Howard. This train has limited weekly hours and no weekend service.

CTA buses run on all major streets and cost the same as the L. Some run all night (Owl Service), while others only run until early or late evening. While not as fast as the L, there are more of them and they go to all parts of the city.

Fares-L and buses--One way rides cost \$1.75. The CTA uses fare cards, or Transit Cards. Each station has fare card machines that dispense plastic reusable cards. You can add money in any denomination, from \$.05 to \$100 after an initial \$1.75 (or higher) to purchase the card. Station agents will not make change, although there are change machines in some stations. Transfers from bus to rail, bus to bus, or rail to bus cost \$.25 and must be used within two hours. A second transfer within the two hour time frame is free. The fare card automatically keeps track of the time. You can also buy pre-paid cards in the following denominations: 1 day, 2 days, 3 days, 7 days, and monthly.

There are certain stations at which you can transfer between L lines for free. At the Belmont and Fullerton stations you can transfer free between the Red, Brown, and Purple Lines. At the Clark/Lake station you can transfer between the Blue, Brown, Green, Orange and Purple Lines. At the Washington and Jackson stations you can transfer between the Red and Blue Lines. At the Howard station, you can transfer between the Purple, Red and Yellow Lines. You can also transfer between the Brown, Orange, Green and Purple lines at any station in the downtown Loop area (it's called the Loop because the tracks circle a section of downtown). A few train stations offer free transfers from to bus. Call CTA for more information, or see their map.

Several L stations have Park & Ride lots and Kiss & Ride drop off points. Only some stations have disability accessibility, unfortunately. Many buses now have the ability to lower the front part of the bus for ease of boarding. Only a few are wheelchair accessible.

Metra Suburban Rail runs from downtown in several directions to the suburbs. The fares are calculated based upon the zone to which you are traveling. You can buy tickets on the train or at the station. There are three stations downtown from which trains depart. Note: if you buy your ticket on the train, and you got on at a station that had a ticket agent, you'll get charged an additional dollar.

The Metropolitan Railroad operates 12 surface train lines serving the six-county area which hub into downtown Chicago from the outlying Chicago suburbs.

Visit www.metrarail.com or call Metra Passenger Services at:

Weekdays 8:00am to 5:00pm CT

Metra Passenger Services

(312) 322-6777

TDD (312) 322-6774

Evenings & Weekends

Transit Information Center

836-7000 - City or Suburbs

TDD (312) 836-4949

PACE Suburban Buses run in the suburbs. You can **call RTA at 312/836-7000** for detailed schedule and fare information, as well as for maps and other information. RTA includes CTA, Metra and PACE. Check out their Web site at www.transitchicago.com.

Taxi Services

Chicago's **taxis**, despite a recent increase in fares, are more reasonable than those of many other major US cities. Charges are \$2.25 at the drop of the flag, \$1.80 per mile and 50¢ for each additional passenger. Cabs can be hailed anytime in the Loop and other central neighborhoods; otherwise call Yellow (312/829-4222) or Checker taxis (312/243-2537).

If you have a car and plan on **driving in the city**, here is some very basic information about Chicago roads and traffic.

Expressways--There are several major expressways (interstates) that intersect Chicago. Expressways are identified by number, which do not change, but the name given to each stretch is different depending upon what part of the Expressway in which you are referring.

Interstate 90/94 North/West is called the **Kennedy Expressway** from downtown north to where the two roads split (around Irving Park Road). **Interstate 90** goes northwest to O'Hare Airport and retains the name of Kennedy Expressway, while **Interstate 94** heading north to Milwaukee becomes the **Edens Expressway**. After O'Hare, **Interstate 90** becomes the **Northwest Tollway**.

Going south from downtown, **90/94South/East** is called the **Dan Ryan Expressway**. When the two split around 65th Street, **Interstate 94** remains the Dan Ryan, and **Interstate 90** becomes the **Chicago Skyway** into Indiana. Later **Interstate 94** splits again (around 100th Street) and the west leg becomes **Interstate 57**, while the east leg becomes the **Calumet Expressway**.

Interstate 55, which goes southwest from downtown, is called the **Stevenson Expressway**. It does not change names.

Interstate 290, which runs due west from downtown, is called the **Eisenhower Expressway** (or the **Ike**). It goes to the western suburbs and eventually connects with **Interstate 88/Regan** (tollway).

Traffic

Traffic can be a nightmare on the Expressways during rush hours. Here in Chicago, rush hours are from approximately 6:30 am to 10:30 am and 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm. It is often better to wait until rush hours are over to travel on the Expressways, especially the Kennedy and the Eisenhower. Traffic is often bad any time on these two expressways, however. Traffic is also worse any time it rains or snows, regardless of the condition of the roads. Friday afternoons are hellish, with rush hour beginning any time after noon. Traffic is also affected by season and, as they say here, there are two seasons in Chicago, winter and construction, and nothing in between.

Owning a car in Chicago

Owning a car in the city can be expensive and frustrating. Parking can be difficult, as well as pricey. Insurance is more expensive in the city. City residents also need to buy a city sticker. Additionally, if you live on certain blocks, you may need to buy a parking permit. If a certain percentage of residents sign a petition, the city designates that block as permit parking only. Permits are not expensive, and you can get visitor permits for a small fee.

A word about No Parking and Tow Zone signs

Take these signs seriously. **Never** park in an area marked Tow Zone. In all neighborhoods, and other upscale and parking-deficient areas, your car will be towed before you're even all the way inside the building. Towing charges are expensive (\$100 or more); the lots are never convenient and often in shady areas. There is nothing more heart-stopping than walking outside and realizing that your car is not where you left it. Additionally, it is illegal to "feed the meters;" this is putting additional money in after the original maximum amount has run out. Parking enforcement officials will chalk your tires to monitor this.

Other quirks of Chicago transportation

Watch for orange street cleaning signs tied to fences and trees. If you are parked on that side of the street on the day posted, you will be towed (see above). This is important for those of you who have found a great spot and don't want to move it; make sure you check on your car daily. Also, from approximately October 1 until April 1, many major streets are designated Snow Routes. This means that after a snowfall of 2 inches or more, it becomes a tow zone (see above). This occurs even in the middle of the night, so if the forecast calls for snow overnight, you might want to move your car from those streets.

Driving to The Chicago School

Main Campus

325 North Wells Street
Chicago, IL 60610

The main campus is located on Wells Street along the north shore of the Chicago River in the River North neighborhood. The campus is conveniently located near public transportation and parking. Please note that Wells Street is a one way street going south.

Driving

- **From the west**, take I-290 (Eisenhower Expressway) and exit I 90/94 West/North. Exit Ohio Street East (only goes east). Follow Ohio and at third light turn Right/South on Wells Street. The campus is just before the river on the Left/East side of Wells.
- **From the north**, take I-90 (Kennedy Expressway) into downtown Chicago and exit Ohio Street East (only goes east). Follow Ohio and at third light turn Right/South on Wells Street. The campus is just before the river on the Left/East side of Wells.
- **From the south**, take I-90/94 (Dan Ryan Expressway) into downtown Chicago and exit Ohio Street East (only goes east). Follow Ohio and at third light turn Right/South on Wells Street. The campus is just before the river on the Left/East side of Wells.
- **From the southwest**, take I-55 (Stevenson Expressway) to I-90/94 (Dan Ryan Expressway) into the Kennedy Expressway) into downtown Chicago and exit Ohio Street East (only goes east). Follow Ohio and at third light turn Right/South on Wells Street. The campus is just before the river on the Left/East side of Wells.

Parking: The Chicago School does not have parking facilities however, there are several commercial parking lots close to campus.

- **InterPark Parking** (401 North Wells Street)
Chicago School visitors can get a discounted hourly rate.
After 4:00 p.m. parking is \$8.00
- **CPS Parking** (located east of the building with entrance on LaSalle)
\$24 per day
In by 9:00 a.m. out by 7:00 p.m. - \$12.00 per day
After 4:00 p.m. M-F and all day Saturday - \$8.00
- **Imperial Parking** (located on ground level on the north side of the building with entrance on Kinzie)
In by 9:00 a.m. - \$10.00 per day
- **The Sterling Self-Park Garage** (located between Clark and LaSalle on Kinzie)
\$21 per day
In by 9:00 a.m. out by 7:00 p.m. - \$12.00 per day
After 3:00 p.m. and weekends - \$6.00
- **Marina City Towers** (located on Dearborn, between the Chicago River and Kinzie)
In by 10:00 a.m. out by 7:00 p.m. - \$9.75

Things to do in Chicago

The following is a sampling of some of the many things to do in Chicago. This list is by no means complete, and inclusion in this list does not equal a recommendation. Part of the fun of the city is exploring it, so use this as a jumping-off point and have fun!

Museums

The Art Institute of Chicago--Michigan & Adams
Museum of Contemporary Art--220 E. Chicago
The Field Museum of Natural History--Roosevelt at Lake Shore
The Museum of Science and Industry--57th & Lake Shore
Adler Planetarium--1300 S. Lake Shore
Shedd Aquarium and Oceanarium--1200 S. Lake Shore
Terra Museum of Art--666 N. Michigan
Chicago Historical Society--Clark at North
Chicago Cultural Center--78 E. Washington
Smart Museum of Art--5550 S. Greenwood
Also numerous ethnic/cultural museums and art galleries

Theatres

Steppenwolf Theatre (Gary Sinise, John Malkovich)-- 1650 N. Halsted
Schubert Theatre (Hubbard Street Dance Chicago)-- 22 W. Monroe
Chicago Theatre-- 500 E. 67th
Briar Street Theatre (Blue Man Group)-- 3133 N. Halsted
Second City/Second City, Etc (comedy, improvisation)-- 1616 W. Wells
ImprovOlympic (improvisation)-- 3541 N. Clark
Piper's Alley (Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding)-- 210 W. North Ave.

Festivals

Taste of Chicago (Grant Park, ten days from late June to early July)
Air and Water Show (North Avenue Beach, August)
Blues Festival (Grant Park, June)
Jazz Festival (Grant Park, Labor Day weekend)
Chicago Folk and Roots Festival (Wells Park, July)
Around the Coyote Art Festival (Wicker Park, September)
Chicago Gospel Festival (Grant Park, June)
Jammin' at the Zoo (Lincoln Park Zoo, June)
Venetian Night (Navy Pier, July)

Rock the River (Wacker and Michigan along the Chicago River, August)

Also numerous neighborhood and ethnic/cultural festivals throughout the summer.

Sports

Chicago Bulls (basketball)--United Center (west side)
Chicago Blackhawks (NHL hockey)--United Center
Chicago Cubs (NL baseball)--Wrigley Field (in Lakeview)
Chicago White Sox (AL baseball)--Comiskey Park (south side)
Chicago Bears (football)--Soldier Field (just south of downtown by the lake)
Chicago Fire (soccer)--Soldier Field
Kane County Cougars (baseball)--Geneva (western suburb)
Chicago Wolves (hockey)--Rosemont Horizon (in Rosemont, by O'Hare)

Music/Nightlife

Blues

B.L.U.E.S.-- 2519 N. Halsted
B.L.U.E.S. Etc-- 1122 W. Belmont
Kingston Mines-- 2548 N. Halsted
Buddy Guy's Legends-- 254 S. Wabash

Jazz

Green Mill--4802 N. Broadway
Green Dolphin Street--2200 N. Ashland
Pops For Champagne--2934 N. Sheffield
Underground Wonder Bar--10 E. Walton

Dance Clubs

Biology Bar-- 1520 N. Fremont
Cherry Red--2833 N. Sheffield Ave.
Crobar--1543 N. Kingsbury
Dragon Room-- 809 W. Evergreen
Four-- 1551 W. Division
Funky Buddha Lounge-- 728 W. Grand Ave.
Excalibur-- 632 N. Dearborn
Le Passage--937 N. Rush St.
Level--1045 N. Rush St.
Sound Bar-- 226 W. Ontario St.
The Apartment--2251 N. Lincoln Ave.
Transit-- 1432 W. Lake St.
Wet--209 West Lake Street
Zentra-- 923 W. Weed St

Gay/Lesbian Clubs and Bars

Roscoe's Tavern (mixed)--3356 N. Halsted St.
North End (males)-- 3733 N. Halsted
Girlbar (females)-- 2625 N. Halsted
Charlie's Chicago (mixed, mostly male)-- 3726 N. Broadway
The Closet (mixed, mostly female)-- 3325 N. Broadway

Live Music Venues

Double Door--1572 N. Milwaukee
Empty Bottle--1035 N. Western
House of Blues--329 N. Dearborn
Lounge Ax--2438 N. Lincoln
Martyr's--3855 N. Lincoln
Metro-- 3730 N. Clark St.
Phyllis' Musical Inn--1800 W. Division
Schuba's--3159 N. Southport
Alive One-- 2683 N. Halsted

Outdoor Music Venues

Navy Pier--downtown
New World Music Theater--Tinley Park (south suburb)
Ravinia--Highland Park (north suburb)
Petrillo Band Shell--Grant Park (downtown)

Specialty Bars/Clubs

Irish Eyes (Irish)-- 1420 W. Grace
Equator Club (African/Caribbean)--4715 N. Broadway
Jilly's Retro Club (Retro)--1009 N. Rush
Polly Esther's (Disco)--213 W. Institute
Wild Hare (Reggae & Afro-Caribbean)--3530 N. Clark

Hang-out Bars

Alumni Club--15 W Division, 2251 N. Lincoln
Glascott's Groggery-- 2158 N. Halsted
Gunther Murphy's--1638 W. Belmont
Holiday Club--1471 N. Milwaukee
John Barleycorn's--658 W. Belden
Joy Blue--1403 W. Irving Park Road
Kendall's-- 2263 N. Lincoln
Jub Jub Club--2447 N. Halsted
Lakeview Links--3206 N. Wilton
The Map Room--1949 N. Hoyne
Sheffield's-- 3258 N. Sheffield
The Leg Room-- 15 W. Division
Ruby Slipper-- 1161 N. Dearborn
Cubby Bear-- 1059 W. Addison

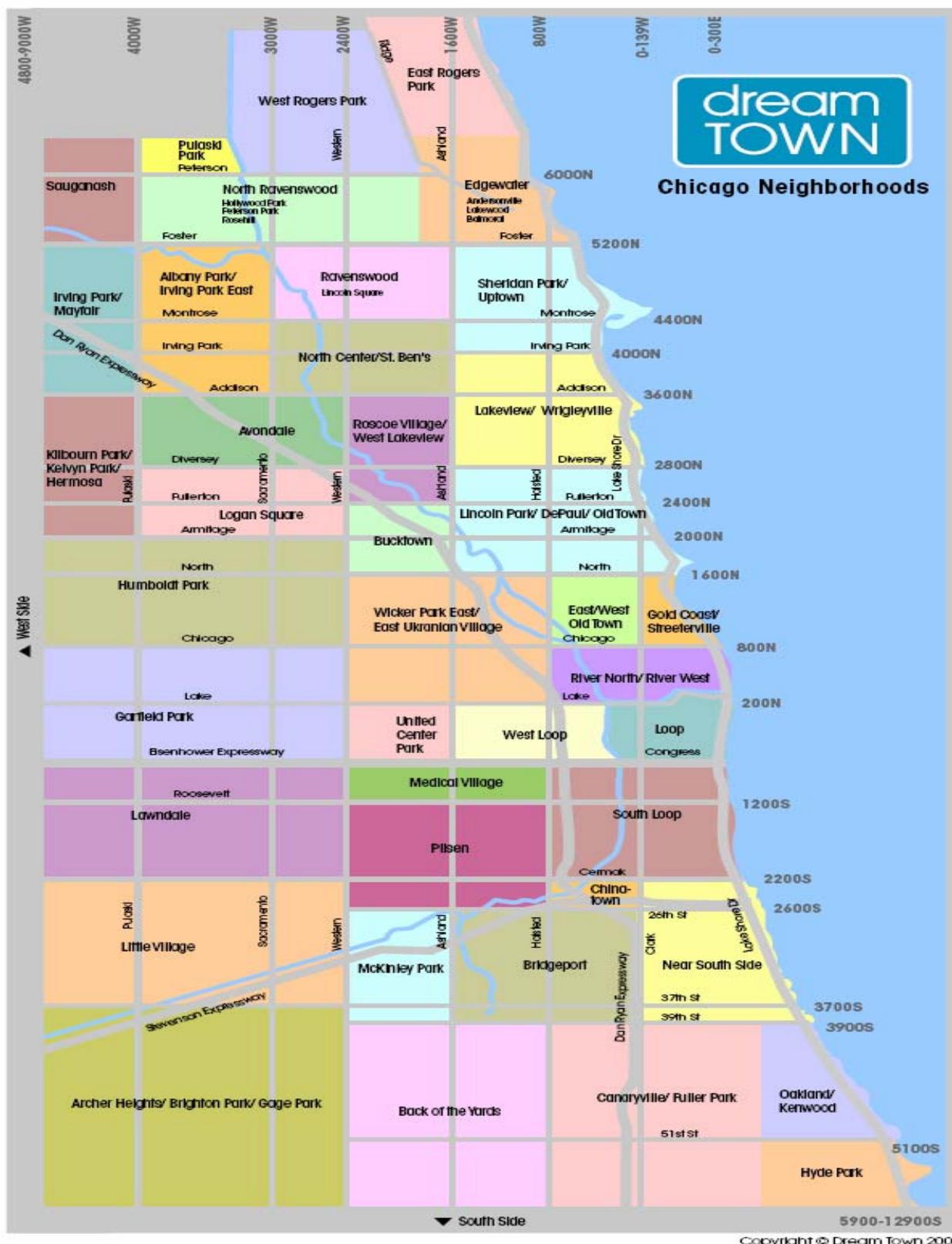
Coffeehouses

Logan Beach Cafe--2537 N. Kedzie
Intelligentsia--3123 N. Broadway
Bean Counter Cafe--1932 Central, Evanston
Gourmand--728 S. Dearborn
Gloria Jean's--many Chicago locations
Seattle's Best--many Chicago locations
Starbucks--many Chicago locations
Caribou Coffee--many Chicago locations
West Gate Coffee House--924 W. Madison

Other attractions

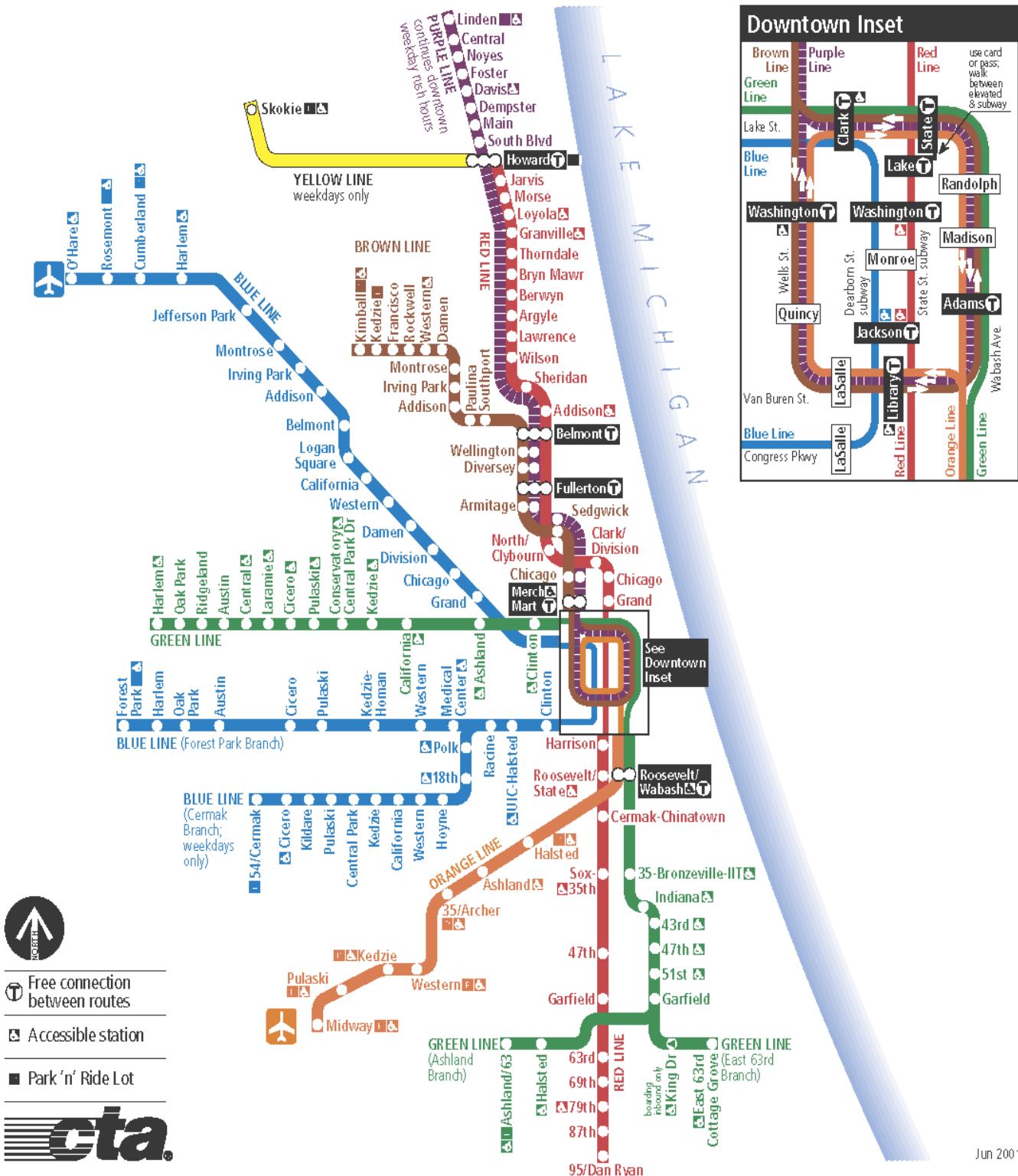
Navy Pier (Chicago-downtown on the lake)--carousel, Ferris wheel, restaurants, bars, entertainment,
Chicago Children's Museum, IMAX theatre, fireworks twice a week
Chicago Botanical Gardens (Glencoe-north suburb)
Morton Arboretum (Lisle-west suburb)
Lincoln Park Zoo (Chicago-north side on the lake)
Brookfield Zoo (Brookfield-west suburb)
Garfield Park Conservatory (Chicago-west side)

Chicago Neighborhood Map



<http://www.dreamtown.com/services/map.pdf>

CTA Map



Jun 2001

<http://www.transitchicago.com/maps/maps/fwebmaptrain.gif>