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July 2025

## Supporting the Careers of SEA Taxi Drivers



Dear Friends,

Taxi drivers are a vital part of the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) community, transporting travelers to their destinations while keeping the airport and our region moving. Now, a new partnership between the Port of Seattle and the [International Rescue Committee](#) (IRC) is creating opportunities for SEA [on-demand taxi drivers](#) to grow their skills and pursue their career goals — if and when they choose.

Beginning this summer, SEA taxi drivers can work with career navigators to receive culturally competent and multilingual support, available through IRC, to explore pathways in port-related industries, including aviation, maritime, construction, and green jobs. Support options include:

- Creating resumes and practicing interview skills
- Filling out job applications, including for Port of Seattle roles
- Referrals for port-related job training programs, such as Airport University
- Touring Port sites, or visiting the [Port Jobs office](#), or training programs to see opportunities firsthand

This program is voluntary and is designed to strengthen drivers' existing skill sets and increase employability in port-related industries. For drivers who want to strengthen their current taxi business, the program can help them learn more about Seattle's tourism industry and tools that can enhance their day-to-day work. During its first year, the program's goal is to provide career navigation services to 50 taxi drivers.

The program is designed to meet the unique needs of SEA's taxi driver community. IRC Career Navigator Rediet Getahun is available at the drivers' rest

stop two days per week, with flexible meeting options at coffee shops, the IRC office nearby, or wherever drivers feel comfortable. Communication will also take place via WhatsApp, flyers, and word of mouth to reach drivers where they are. Services will be available in Somali, Amharic, Punjabi, Spanish, English, and other languages commonly spoken by SEA taxi drivers.

For those exploring careers outside of the Port sectors, IRC can provide referrals to other programs, including a nursing training pathway or self-paced job readiness training through Upwardly Global, an IRC partner offering English language support and digital skills training. SEA on-demand taxi drivers interested in exploring these services can reach out to IRC's Ryan Smith at [ryan.smith@rescue.org](mailto:ryan.smith@rescue.org) or (360) 200-8969.

We're very excited to begin this next chapter in our work to support our community and the important professionals that help keep our region moving forward..

In Unity,



**Bookda Gheisar**

Senior Director, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

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## Centering Equity and Taking Action

**Visa holders or green card holders / lawful permanent resident: Here is what to expect when you return to the U.S. after traveling internationally**



Are you a visa holder, green card holder, or lawful permanent resident traveling internationally? The Port of Seattle is committed to making our facilities a welcoming, safe, and inclusive place for all people. We want you to understand your rights and know what to expect before you return to the U.S. and go through Customs at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA). [Check out our web page for suggestions](#) on how to prepare, resources to share with family and friends who aren't traveling with you, and general information on reentering the country through the International Arrivals Facility.

## Supporting Travelers with Alzheimer's at SEA Airport



One in three older adults in the United States dies with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia — a staggering number that reflects the growing impact on families and communities. Many more are living with dementia, often undiagnosed, and face daily challenges as they travel, interact with others, and move through public spaces, like SEA Airport.

During Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Month — and every day — SEA is committed to creating a travel experience that is accessible for all. That's why SEA has partnered with the Alzheimer's Association to step up care for this growing population. Through staff training, ongoing presentations, outreach at Alzheimer's community events, and future programs, SEA is working to ensure



that every traveler can feel supported, safe, and seen. [Read the blog post on this partnership →](#)

## Port of Seattle Statement on Passage of the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act”

“The Port of Seattle is closely tracking the potential impacts of the passage early this month of the federal reconciliation package (H.R. 1 – the One Big Beautiful Bill Act) on Port operations. Specifically, the bill eliminates clean energy credits for commercial clean vehicles, clean vehicles, alternative fuel vehicles, EV charging infrastructure, renewable and alternative fuels, and energy-efficient commercial buildings.



These are important tools in the Port’s work to improve air quality and reach zero emissions from its operations, both through its fleet vehicles and building operations, and removing them will hamper national progress to address air quality and greenhouse gas reduction....” [Read the full statement on the Port’s website →](#)

## The Green Guide to Sustainable Travel



We aim to run the greenest and most energy-efficient airport and seaport in North America. When you travel through SEA Airport, you're experiencing a commitment to sustainability firsthand. We've set ambitious milestones to achieve this, including reducing emissions and waste, ensuring energy-efficient operations, and building sustainable and resilient infrastructure.

Every day, the Port prioritizes our sustainability investments and programs, making your airport experience progressively greener. [Learn more about this work and how you can help when you're traveling →](#)

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**Port of Seattle  
Commission**

Ryan Calkins  
Sam Cho  
Fred Felleman  
Toshiko Hasegawa  
Hamdi Mohamed

**Port of Seattle  
Executive Director**

Stephen P. Metruck



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2711 Alaskan Way, Seattle, WA, 98121 US

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