1. **Public Transit (Train + Bus)**
    - **Train**: Take Amtrak or Metrolink from Los Angeles Union Station to Oceanside Transit Center (2 hours). From Oceanside, a local bus or tram can connect you to San Marcos (45 minutes).
    - **Cost**: Around $20–$60, payable with international credit/debit cards.
    - **Cash Option**: Metrolink ticket kiosks accept USD.
    - **Phone Number**: Not required for booking but helpful for updates.
2. **Intercity Buses (Greyhound/FlixBus)**
    - **Routes**: Greyhound or FlixBus from Union Station to Oceanside. Use local transit from Oceanside to San Marcos.
    - **Cost**: $10–$25.
    - **Payment**: Accepts credit/debit cards; some terminals accept USD cash.
    - **Phone Number**: Not required for booking but may be useful for app notifications.
3. **Airport Bus Services (LAX FlyAway + Metrolink)**
    - **FlyAway Bus**: Take the LAX FlyAway bus to Union Station. From there, board Metrolink or Amtrak to Oceanside, then a bus to San Marcos.
    - **Cost**: Around $25–$50.
    - **Payment**: Accepts credit/debit cards.
    - **Phone Number**: Not required.
4. **Shuttle Services**
    - **Options**: Shuttle services like **Elife**, **SD Fantastic Ride**, **GMG Transportation LLC**, and **Cali Limos LLC** offer private rides from LAX to San Marcos.
    - **Cost**: Ranges from $277 to $1,543, depending on the company and service.
    - **Payment**: Typically requires a credit/debit card, and no cash options are listed.
    - **Phone Number**: Likely required for tracking and communication through apps.
5. **Ride-Sharing & Taxis**
    - **Taxis**: Available at LAX for $80–$120, accepts cash or credit.
    - **Uber/Lyft**: Typically, $80–$120. Requires credit card; **US phone number strongly recommended** (an international number *might* work but is unreliable, which could cause missed ride updates).