U-Pass (Universal College Student Pass) Transit Program

Please read carefully before purchasing the U-pass. **This is not a parking pass.**

**Fall 2022 Information**

USC Transportation offers the U-Pass Transit program in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro). The reduced fare transit pass offer graduate students unlimited rides on Metro’s rail and bus lines for a given semester.

Please read all the information on this page before purchasing a pass. If you need help or cannot find the answer to your questions on this page, contact USC Transportation’s Rideshare Coordinator at tsubsidy@usc.edu.

**PURCHASE**

Fall 2022 passes are $108 ([$110 with new card](#)) fee and are valid for use from August 15, 2022 to January 29, 2023. Please make an appointment to pick up the U-Pass. Sales open on August 15, 2022. Sales end September 30, 2022. **(No passes will be sold after this date)**. New passes will be mailed to the address listed in your Transportation portal account online – in-person pick-up is not available.

**HOW TO PURCHASE THE U-PASS**

1. Take the Metro survey: [https://lametro.formstack.com/forms/upass_usc](https://lametro.formstack.com/forms/upass_usc)
2. For Purchase or Renewal of the U-Pass: Please go to [https://transnet.usc.edu/](https://transnet.usc.edu/)
   - Go to the parking section and click on **Access my account**.
   - On the customer authentication page you will find **Click Here to Create an Account**.
• Once you get to the classification part you will choose **Student/BUS U-PASS GRAD STUDENT**.
• Once the account is created you will go to the section **Get Permits**.
• **Click Next**
• **Renewal Only – Select BUS U-PASS RENEWAL ONLY**
• **(New Sign Up Only) - Select U-Pass + Tap Card**
• **Click Next**
• **Delivery Option (Pick-Up or Deliver)**

3. **Checkout**
4. Once the U-Pass is purchased, UPC & HSC students will have to email USC Transportation’s Rideshare Coordinator at tsubsidy@usc.edu. **The email must include the survey confirmation number.**
5. **Renewal Only** – Please send an email to USC Transportation’s Rideshare Coordinator at tsubsidy@usc.edu. **The email must include the U-Pass tap card number.** We will send an email to Metro to automatically reload.

**REFUND POLICY**

**No refunds** will be granted at any time for any reason. If the pass does not work, please email USC Transportation’s Rideshare Coordinator at tsubsidy@usc.edu so that we can exchange it for a new one. We cannot issue refunds once U-Pass has been purchased.

This is what a U-Pass Looks Like!
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why purchase a U-Pass?
This program offers students the opportunity to travel to campus and explore Los Angeles in a cheap and environmentally friendly fashion using public transportation, without having to worry about gas, car maintenance or parking.

How much can I save with this program?
That depends on how often you ride and how you pay for your Metro fare. Compared to Metro’s reduced-fare student pass ($43/month), you can save at least $60 over a four-month period. Compared to purchasing individual one-way tickets, the U-Pass will save you money after 30 round trips. In other words, if you commute to USC twice per week, you will save money with a U-Pass.

Can I purchase more than one pass?
No. A student can only purchase one U-Pass.

Where can I use the U-Pass?
The U-Pass is valid on the following transit agencies:

- Metro buses and trains. This includes the Metro Rapid bus lines, the Red, Blue, Green, Gold and Expo rail lines, as well as regular Metro buses including Zones 1.
- LADOT – DASH buses only. This does not include other LADOT transit services like Commuter Express.
- Santa Monica Big Blue Bus. If you have issues using your U-Pass on Big Blue Bus please contact their customer service line at (310) 451-5444.
- Culver City Bus
- Norwalk Transit System
- Torrance Transit
- Gardena Transit
- Long Beach Transit

The pass is not valid on any other services, such as Metrolink.
Can I use the U-Pass on Foothill Transit?
Currently, the U-Pass is valid on the Foothill Silver Streak (between El Monte and Union Station only) and is not valid on any other Foothill lines. However, the U-Pass is valid for all local Metro bus and rail, Big Blue Bus, Culver City Bus, GTrans, LA DASH, Long Beach Transit, Montebello Bus Lines, Norwalk Transit, Pasadena Transit, and Torrance Transit.

Can I purchase a U-Pass and have a parking permit?
No, students cannot possess a USC semester parking permit and a valid U-Pass at the same time.

What if my TAP Card stops working?
Please send an email to USC Transportation’s Rideshare Coordinator tsubsidy@usc.edu with the following information:
- Name and USC ID #
- Tap Card #
- Date, approximate time, and location where the failed transaction occurred (i.e., bus or rail, station or intersection)

What if the TAP Machine on my bus doesn’t work?
Some buses still have old TAP machines that do not read the U-Pass. If this occurs, you may need to pay the fare before boarding. Write down the route number and the individual bus number and send it to USC Transportation’s Rideshare Coordinator tsubsidy@usc.edu so that we can forward the information to Metro to allow them to update the machine on that particular bus. If you would like to receive a refund for fare that you paid due to a U-Pass malfunction, please contact Metro TAP customer service and provide the date, time, bus number, and TAP card number so an investigation can be done.
Is this program available to recent graduates?
No. The pass is available only for current, full-time, fee-paying USC graduate students. There is a Grad Pass Program. The GradPass Program is a reduced fare program that will assist college graduates as they transition out of the U-Pass program and into the workforce. The GradPass Program will allow the U-Pass Program participant to purchase Metro fare at the reduced College/Vocational rate of $43 for 12 months after graduation. USC currently does not participate in this program. If you want it please send a request to tsubsidy@usc.edu.
What constitutes “full-time”?  
USC’s pass is available for all students who qualify as full-time according to USC’s guidelines for their individual program.

Is this program available to online Virtual Academic Center (VAC) students?  
VAC students are not eligible to purchase a U-Pass because they do not pay the Grad Student Programming Fee, which is used to subsidize the cost of the program.

What if I’m not eligible for the U-Pass?  
You still may be eligible for a reduced-fare Metro TAP card through Metro. They have discounts for senior citizens, students, and people with disabilities. Check out the requirements and application instructions at: http://www.taptogo.net/Reduced_Fare

I lost my pass. What do I do?  
Email USC Transportation’s Rideshare Coordinator at tsubsidy@usc.edu request a replacement.

Can I add Stored Value onto the Metro U-Pass  
Yes, adding Stored Value allows Metro U-Pass users to ride 23 other transit systems. Fare can be loaded at TAP vending machines (TVM), at TAP vendor locations, or by phone 888-TAPTOGO (1.866.827.8646).

What happens if I add Stored Value and my Metro U-Pass is lost/stolen?  
1. Purchase a $2 replacement pass at the transportation office.  
2. Pick up the replacement pass in person according to the pick-up times stated at the top of this page (the lost/stolen pass will be deactivated)  
3. Call 866.TAPTOGO (866.827.8646) to request a transfer balance to the new U-Pass  
   • Lost/stolen U-Pass number is required to process the balance transfer. Obtain your lost/stolen U-Pass number when you pick up your replacement pass or email tsubsidy@usc.edu

Feedback