

August 4, 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian:



On behalf of Metro, we share the excitement of a new school year. Please familiarize yourself with the **Kids Ride Free** program so your student can take full advantage of this vital transportation benefit that provides free rides on Metrobus and Metrorail for DCPS and PCS students, and on Metrobus only for private and parochial school students.

Every student must tap a DC One Card or SmarTrip® card at the farebox/gate to ride the bus and rail system. Please read these instructions to make sure your child can access the Kids Ride Free program during the school year.

Load the pass onto a DC One Card with these simple steps:

1. Tap the DC One Card on a fare vending machine found in any Metrorail station or on any Metrobus. If there is a negative balance, bring it up to \$0.
2. If the card is tapped at a Metrorail station, after six hours or the next day, return to the same station and tap the card on a fare vending machine to load the pass.
3. If the card is tapped on a Metrobus, wait three business days for the pass to become available for loading. Tap the card again on a Metrobus farebox to complete the loading of the pass. Until the pass has loaded, students must add value to their DC One Card to ride Metrobus or Metrorail.

The DC One Card provides free rides for school and school-related activities within the District and at five border stations (Silver Spring, Friendship Heights, Capitol Heights, Southern Avenue, and Naylor Road). If a student takes a trip outside these boundaries, they will use the stored value on their DC One Card. If there is no stored value on the card, the balance will go negative, disabling the Kids Ride Free Pass. Once the balance is back up to \$0 (or more), the student will again be able to use the Kids Ride Free pass.

The Metro Transit Police Department is working to stop fare evasion, and that means all riders must tap their cards on rail and bus. Students with a DC One Card who must tap the farebox or pay full fare using a SmarTrip® card if they do not have their card with them.

Please take the time to help your student load the Kids Ride Free pass and review the rules for riding Metro so they can enjoy the benefits of free travel. If you have problems or questions, visit kidsridefree.dc.gov or call DDOT's School Transit Subsidy Program Office at (202) 673-1740.

With the Kids Ride Free pass loaded on the DC One Card, your student is ready for another engaging and exciting school year!

Best Regards,


Ronald A. Pavlik Jr.

Chief of Police, Metro Transit Police Department,
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

**Washington
Metropolitan Area
Transit Authority**

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By Metrorail:
Judiciary Square-Red Line
Gallery Place-Chinatown
Red, Green and
Yellow Lines

A District of Columbia
Maryland and Virginia
Transit Partnership