

ARTICLE IV. FARES

Chapter 3.72 FARE SCHEDULE¹

3.72.010 Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- A. "Accompanying companion" means a person who is traveling with a SHUTTLE customer, has the same origin and destination, but does not need to assist the SHUTTLE customer with travel needs.
- B. "All-day pass" means a pass available for purchase on-board Pierce Transit vehicles or loaded on an ORCA card, or purchased ~~through PiercePay~~ utilizing a mobile ticketing app, for local fixed route and BUS PLUS service. An all-day pass is valid for unlimited rides on the service day the pass is issued. All-day passes shall have no transfer value on other transit agencies service.
- C. "Board of commissioners" means elected officials appointed by local jurisdictions to the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners.
- D. "Bus PLUS" means transit services differentiated from fixed route service by customer-initiated deviations from routes or schedules. Bus PLUS service does not require complementary Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit service.
- ~~E. "Class pass" means a pass that allows up to thirty people riding together to make a one-day round trip, on local fixed route transit service.~~
- ~~E. F.~~ "Disabled person (persons with disabilities)" means any person(s) with a mental, physical, or sensory disability that meets established criteria and has Pierce Transit-approved identification.
- ~~F. G.~~ "Discounted fare" means the fare offered to senior citizens, persons with disabilities or individuals with a valid Medicare card. A valid regional reduced fare permit is required to obtain the discounted fare.
- ~~G. H.~~ "Emergency situation" means adverse weather; fire/flood evacuation; threat of explosive devices, or other regional emergencies requiring rapid movement of any group or groups of people.
- ~~H. I.~~ "Farebox recovery" means the percentage of operating expenses that are met by fares paid by passengers. It is computed by dividing the system's total fare revenue by its total operating expenses.
- ~~I. J.~~ "Federal law enforcement officer" means a commissioned civilian federal law enforcement agent, as designated by the U.S. Attorney General and/or military police officers.
- ~~J. K.~~ "Fixed route" means transit service using buses to provide service at designated bus stops along specific routes on set schedules.
- ~~K. L.~~ "Full-fare" means the fare for riders nineteen years of age and older not specifically designated to qualify for a reduced fare.

¹Editor's note(s)—Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), adopted June 8, 2015, amended chapter 3.72 in its entirety to read as herein set out. Former chapter 3.72, §§ 3.72.010—3.72.150, pertained to similar subject matter. See Code Comparative Table and Disposition List for complete derivation.

L. ~~M.~~ "On Demand" means transit services differentiated from fixed route service by customer initiated on demand service in a zone.

M. "Personal care attendant" means a person traveling as an aide in order to facilitate travel by a person with disabilities ~~disabled person~~.

N. "Pierce Transit specific" means fare media that is only valid on Pierce Transit local service, and is not valid for travel and no transfer credit on Community Transit, Everett Transit, King County Metro Transit, Kitsap Transit, Sound Transit.

O. "Preschool child" means any person five years of age or younger when accompanied by a fare-paying passenger responsible for their supervision.

P. "Public safety officer" means a person commissioned by any state, county, or municipal law enforcement or fire protection agency.

Q. "PugetPass" means a regional bus pass valid for travel on Community Transit, Everett Transit, King County Metro Transit, Kitsap Transit, Sound Transit and Pierce Transit. PugetPass prices are set at thirty-six times the trip value of the pass.

R. "Qualified human services agency" means a verified 501(c)3 tax-exempt not for profit organization that provides services relating to: prevention and treatment of illnesses and substance abuse; children and family services; domestic violence prevention and services; and/or support of low income, seniors and/or disabled populations and that has applied for and been approved by Pierce Transit staff to buy certain fare media at a discounted rate.

S. "Senior citizen" means any person sixty-five years of age or over with a Pierce Transit-approved identification or a regional reduced fare permit (RRFP).

T. "Service day" means the span of service that comprises a day of transit service. Service begins at 3:00 a.m. and ends at 2:59 a.m.

U. "SHUTTLE" means specialized transportation (paratransit) for persons with disabilities.

V. "Special event" means any open to the public event of less than thirty days duration expected to attract significant numbers of people.

W. "Vanpool Commuter" is considered the age 18 and older and has applied for and been accepted into a vanpool.

X. ~~W.~~ "Youth" means any person six ~~to~~through eighteen years of age whom may ride independently but may need to be accompanied by a responsible party.

Fare policies:

A. The Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners shall review transit fares at least once every two years.

B. The fixed route farebox recovery goal shall be twenty percent.

C. It is the intent of the Agency to achieve parity between its SHUTTLE fare and adult fixed route cash fare over time. The SHUTTLE fare will achieve parity when the ratio of the cash SHUTTLE fare to the cash adult fixed route bus fare is one to one.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Res. No. 15-072, § 1(Exh. B), 12-14-2015; Res. No. 2018-043, § 2(Exh. B), 11-15-2018; Res. No. 2019-026, § 2(Exh. A), 8-12-2019)

3.72.020 Local fixed route, On demand and Bus PLUS cash fares.

A. The cash fare for full-fare riders shall be two dollars during all hours of operation.

B. The cash fare for youth riders shall be ~~one~~zero dollar during all hours of operation with validated virtual or physical pass present for documentation.

C. The discounted cash fare shall be one dollar during all hours of operation.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Res. No. 15-072, § 1(Exh. B), 12-14-2015)

3.72.030 Tickets.

A. Full-fare tickets shall be two dollars per ticket.

B. Youth tickets on all modes shall be ~~one~~zero dollar per ticket with valid virtual or physical pass present for documentation.

C. Discounted tickets shall be one dollar per ticket.

D. SHUTTLE tickets shall be one dollar and seventy-five cents per ticket.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Res. No. 15-072, § 1(Exh. B), 12-14-2015; Ord. No. 17-015, § 1(Exh. A), 4-10-2017; Res. No. 17-028, § 2(Exh. A), 7-10-2017; Res. No. 2018-043, § 2(Exh. B), 11-15-2018)

3.72.035 Human service agencies program.

Qualified human service agencies may purchase paper one ride tickets and all day passes that are not for sale to the general public at a 50% discount of the current ticket or pass price, provided that such fare media is given to the qualified human service agency's clients free of charge.

Governmental entities and/or other organizations that provide human services but do not qualify as qualified human service agency(ies) may purchase paper one ride tickets and all day passes that are not for sale to the general public, but must pay full price for that fare media.

Subject to these parameters, the chief executive officer may develop other rules or requirements for the program to provide paper one ride tickets and all day passes to human service organizations.

(Res. No. 2019-026, § 2(Exh. A), 8-12-2019)

3.72.040 Local fixed route, On demand and Bus PLUS passes.

A. Full-fare all-day passes shall be two times the full-fare cash fare plus one dollar.

B. Youth with a validated virtual or physical pass present for documentation shall not pay a fare-all-day passes shall be two times the youth cash fare plus fifty cents.

C. Discounted all-day passes shall be two times the discounted cash fare plus fifty cents.

D. The full-fare monthly pass (two dollar regional PugetPass) shall be seventy-two dollars.

~~E. The youth monthly pass (one dollar regional PugetPass) shall be thirty-six dollars.~~

F. The discounted monthly pass (one dollar regional PugetPass) shall be thirty-six dollars.

~~G. The Pierce Transit specific discounted monthly pass shall be sixty-three dollars.~~

H. The Pierce Transit specific adult monthly pass shall be sixty-two dollars (which may be on a thirty (30) day rolling basis only if purchased through utilizing a Pierce Transit specific mobile ticketing app the Pierce Pay system).

~~I. The summer youth pass shall be thirty-six dollars for unlimited youth rides during June, July and August. The summer youth pass shall have no transfer value on Olympia Express or Sound Transit services.~~

~~J. The class pass shall be forty-eight dollars.~~

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Res. No. 15-072, § 1(Exh. B), 12-14-2015; Res. No. 2018-043, § 2(Exh. B), 11-15-2018)

3.72.050 SHUTTLE service fares.

A. The cash fare shall be one dollar and seventy-five cents, for registered SHUTTLE riders 19 years of age and older.

B. The Pierce Transit monthly pass shall be sixty-three dollars for fare paying riders.

~~C. The cash fare shall be zero dollars for riders 18 years of age and younger with a validated virtual or physical pass.~~

~~C.D.~~ One registered personal care attendant traveling with a SHUTTLE customer shall ride for free.

~~D.E.~~ Accompanying companions may travel with SHUTTLE customers for the same fares as described in subsections A. ~~and~~, B ~~and~~ C. of this section.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Res. No. 15-072, § 1(Exh. B), 12-14-2015; Res. No. 17-028, § 2(Exh. A), 7-10-2017)

3.72.060 Transfers.

Transfers are allowed for customers using an all-day pass or an ORCA card with e-purse pursuant to ORCA terms of use.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Res. No. 2018-043, § 2(Exh. B), 11-15-2018)

3.72.070 Free riding privileges.

A. An unlimited number of ~~children five years of age and under~~ preschool children ride free on any Pierce Transit service when accompanied by a person responsible for their supervision ~~fare paying passenger.~~

B. General authority Washington peace officers of a general authority Washington law enforcement agency, or fully commissioned federal peace officers may ride Pierce Transit service without payment of fare provided such officers are in uniform or display their police badge(s) to the transit operator.

C. The board of commissioners of Pierce Transit shall ride free on all Pierce Transit services.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Ord. No. 17-015, § 1(Exh. A), 4-10-17)

3.72.080 Special event service.

The fare for special event transit service shall be equal to local fixed route fares for all fare categories. ~~Up to four children, ages 13 and under, may ride free when accompanied by a fare paying passenger.~~

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015)

3.72.090 Special express and supplemental service.

The rate for special express and supplemental service shall be based on the local direct hourly rate with a minimum charge of two hours.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015)

3.72.100 Special rates of fare.

- A. For the purpose of attracting new ridership, relieving congestion, developing marketing strategies, testing prices or experimental service, and implementing other special events, programs or promotions, the chief executive officer may temporarily waive, discount or increase fare, ticket and pass prices. The waiver or discount shall not require the addition of regularly scheduled public transportation services and, in the judgement of the chief executive officer, the value of the program or promotion and the benefit to the public exceeds the expected loss of revenue. The loss in revenue of all such waivers or discounts shall, in the aggregate, be no greater than three hundred thousand dollars annually.
- B. The chief executive officer is authorized to suspend fares at such time an emergency situation is determined to exist.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Ord. No. 17-015, § 1(Exh. A), 4-10-17)

3.72.110 Conference and convention visitor passes.

Pierce Transit is authorized to sell special conference and convention visitor passes. The pass per day rate shall be calculated at twice the full-fare cash fare.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015)

3.72.120 Bicycle locker rental rates.

- A. The chief executive officer is authorized to set bicycle locker rental and key deposit rates at a nominal level which will encourage use, recover some administrative costs and allow for productive management.
- B. Rates will be reviewed annually with thirty days' advance written notice of any rate change sent to all persons renting lockers.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015)

3.72.130 Vanpool Services—Defined—Fares.

A. Definitions.

1. "Commuter vanpool" is defined as a group of people, meeting the definition of Vanpool Commuter, who travel round trip per day to and from work. The fare structure is set by the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to modify or adjust certain components of the authorized fare structure to achieve program goals within the following parameters:
 - a. Round-trip mileage sums may be modified or adjusted no more than twice per year.
 - b. A maximum of one fare tier may be added or removed no more than once per year.

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- c. Fare amounts may be increased or decreased by a maximum of 25%. An increase or decrease of greater than 25% must be approved by the board of commissioners prior to implementation.
 - d. Variables used for determining fares may not be added or removed by the chief executive officer.
 - e. The board of commissioners shall be notified of all modifications or adjustments to fare amounts authorized by the chief executive officer at least two weeks in advance of implementation.
 - f. Written notice of any fare change must be provided to all current commuter vanpool participants at least thirty days in advance.
2. "Special use vanpool" is defined as one which serves a finite group of people and which is sponsored by an organization or an agency. Use of this vanpool is usually limited to that organization's or agency's staff and/or clients. Fares are set by the chief executive officer to include a fixed rate and mileage rate that includes an amount estimated for full or partial recovery of the fixed rate, depending upon how fares are collected.
 3. "Shared use vanpool" is defined as supplemental use of a given commuter vanpool which is used during non-commute hours primarily by social service agencies. The vanpool is used during commute hours as a commuter vanpool. Fares will be set by the chief executive officer and will be based on a mileage rate.
 4. "Community use vanpool" is defined as one that serves and is available to all members of a given community or organization for transportation for employees and clients outside a usual commute. Services are not limited to one round trip per day. Fares will be set by the board of commissioners.
 5. "Vanshare" is defined as a service that provides the link connecting commuters from home to established bus, train, or ferry service or from said service to employer. This service will be limited to thirty (30) miles or less round trip per day. The fee is set by the chief executive officer to include a flat rate.
- B. Vanpool fares will be based on recovering a majority of the program's direct operating costs.
- C. Vanpool fares will be reviewed biannually by the board of commissioners.

D. Youth fares for all vanpool services is zero dollars.

(Res. No. 15-030, § 1(Exh. A), 6-8-2015; Res. No. 16-032, § 1(Exh. A), 9-12-2016; Res. No. 2021-014, § 2(Exh. B), 11-8-2021)