



Why is my child moving to Calgary Transit?

Each year the CBE Transportation Department reviews all yellow school bus routes to look for efficiencies. The review also considers potential movement of students to Calgary Transit for service within our guidelines.

The factors considered for a move to Calgary Transit include grade configurations, ride times, communities with existing Calgary Transit service, number of bus/train transfers, number of students and Calgary Transit capacity.

This year, 2,000 students at 19 middle/junior high schools used Calgary Transit as their mode of transportation to get to and from school. For 2017-18, another 1,300 Grade 6-9 students from five schools will move to Calgary Transit. Some communities at other middle/junior high schools will be moving as well.

More students are moving to Calgary Transit as part of the CBE's long-term transportation strategy.

Do I have to purchase my own Calgary Transit pass?

Yes, families need to purchase monthly passes for their students.

Who qualifies for a CBE rebate for Calgary Transit passes?

Grade 6-12 students who attend their designated community school for a Regular Program, who reside more than 2.4 km from the school and are assigned to Calgary Transit will pay \$151/year after a CBE rebate.

CBE students in other programs (including Alternative Programs) or who live closer than 2.4 km from their designated community school using Calgary Transit are not eligible for a CBE rebate.

How much will CBE rebate eligible Calgary Transit riders?

The government provides \$549/eligible student to the CBE for transportation. The rebate program will refund up to that amount for monthly passes purchased by families.

$\$70 \text{ monthly pass} \times 10 \text{ months} = \700

$\$700 - \$549 \text{ transportation funding rebate} = \151

More information and details about the CBE rebate program will be available in the fall.

If I qualify for free transportation, why do I have to pay extra for my Calgary Transit pass?

A Calgary Transit pass has additional benefits that allow you to access bus and CTrain service after school hours, holidays and on the weekends.

What if I can't afford to purchase a monthly pass?

As part of the CBE's 2017-18 waiver process, families will need to apply for the City of Calgary's Fair Entry program. This program offers a streamlined application process for City subsidy programs, including reduced rates for transit passes. You can find more information about the program at: calgary.ca/fairentry.

More specific information about Calgary Transit waivers will be available before the end of the school year.

Where can I find information about my Calgary Transit route?

For information on Calgary Transit routes and schedules, please visit <http://www.calgarytransit.com/>. You can also call 403-262-1000 for assistance with route planning and questions about Calgary Transit operations.

How can I ensure that my child is safe on Calgary Transit?

Calgary Transit is committed to keeping all users safe and has an extensive network of security features including cameras on buses and help phones for assistance. There are cameras at all CTrain stations that are monitored by security staff that are in direct contact with peace officers and can dispatch them quickly, or call other emergency responders. Transit peace officers are also available to quickly respond to any incidents.

Is there a dedicated bus to my child’s school? If not, can one be added?

At this time, there are 78 morning and 81 afternoon dedicated routes. These routes are available to all Calgary Transit riders. Lists of routes, maps and timings can be found on the Calgary Transit website: <http://www.calgarytransit.com/schedules-maps/school-express-routes>

Calgary Transit will evaluate ridership later in September and may consider adding new routes at that time based on their available resources.

What other measures are being taken to assist students?

The CBE is working closely with Calgary Transit and will provide school or classroom supports where possible, including tips to help support students through this transition.

Additional Questions From May 24 – June 8, 2017 Information Sessions

Why is my travel time on the bus and number of transfers greater than the CBE guidelines?

The majority of CBE students have a travel time on the bus of less than 60 minutes with not more than one transfer. However, that is not possible for all students. Some students have a longer travel time and more than one transfer depending on a variety of factors including distance from home to school.

How many schools have Grade 6 students taking Calgary Transit?

Information about middle/junior high schools with students riding Calgary Transit can be found on the [Calgary Transit](#) page of the CBE website.

How can you ensure the safety of Grade 6 students on public transit?

Families are responsible for transporting students to and from school and may choose from a range of transportation options. For families choosing to use Calgary Transit, the [Riding with Us](#) section of the Calgary Transit website offers tips and information on safety, etiquette and more.

What happens when weather/traffic affects the first run for school buses? Will they be late for second and third runs?

All traffic is affected in situations of poor weather. Students taking Calgary Transit have more options and flexibility as buses run more frequently. Students taking yellow school bus transportation only have one option, to take the one bus at the one time that it arrives at their stop.

It is wise for parents to ensure children are dressed appropriately for the weather, create a back-up plan and share that plan with your child. Your plan may include possibilities like carpooling with neighbours or dropping and picking up your children at school. We understand that these options are not possible for everyone and encourage you to develop a plan that is suitable to your family situation.

Is CBE working with Calgary Transit to offer a lower cost pass similar to the UPass from U of C?

Every student at the University of Calgary pays for the UPass whether they use Calgary Transit or not. This enables the cost to be spread out among all students.

The province of Alberta’s School Act states that any fees or costs a parent is charged by a board may only be used for the purposes for which they are collected. This means, even if a pass similar to the UPass were developed for CBE students, fees could still only be charged to people who use the service. Costs could not be spread across the whole system. Actual Calgary Transit ridership numbers for CBE students are not high enough to provide a discounted pass similar to the UPass.



<p>More information about Calgary Transit</p> <p>Website https://www.calgarytransit.com/</p> <p>Phone 403-262-1000</p> <p>Twitter @calgarytransit</p>
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