

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS RTD TRANSPORTATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

1. What is a DPS-RTD bus pass?

This is a free monthly RTD pass that is given to students who would be eligible for DPS school bus transportation and next year will ride RTD.

2. Who is eligible for the DPS-RTD Student Pass?

Any student who is otherwise eligible to ride a school bus is eligible for a DPS-RTD pass at no charge. There has been no change in transportation eligibility guidelines. This means that a student who resides more than 3.5 miles from his/her neighborhood school and attends this school, or a student who attends a magnet program and resides more than 3.5 miles from the location of the magnet program, is eligible for transportation. Call the Transportation Hotline at 303-825-2611 if you have questions about transportation eligibility.

Students who attend a school other than their neighborhood school through the choice process will not be eligible for a DPS-RTD student pass.

3. When will my son/daughter learn about the details of the RTD transportation program as it applies where he/she attends?

Each student's first DPS-RTD student pass will be included in the packet given to students during the fall registration process. Also, specific procedures related to DPS-RTD student pass distribution and pick-up times will be provided to students.

4. When will passes typically be distributed at schools?

- Eligible students will pick up DPS-RTD passes at the school approximately the third week of each month. DPS-RTD passes may only be picked up at the school where the student attends.
- DPS-RTD passes will not be available from RTD offices or sales facilities like King Soopers.
- Lost or stolen passes will not be replaced.

5. What if my son/daughter is new to the school and is eligible for transportation?

If the student is new to the school and is not yet on the eligibility list, RTD coupons (tokens) will be provided to students by the high school until the Department of Transportation or the high school have verified eligibility.

6. What conduct is expected of students who ride the RTD bus?

- Students are expected to behave appropriately on RTD buses, as they were on DPS buses.
- The district’s discipline policy (IJK/IJK-R) applies to all students while riding RTD and at bus stops.
- Policy JICC-R - Student Conduct on School Buses specifies expected behavior while riding on RTD. Parents will be provided a copy of the bus conduct rules. A summary of the expectations is provided below.

Appropriate conduct while at a DPS bus stop includes respect of private property, avoidance of littering and conduct in an orderly manner. Conduct while on a DPS bus specifies inappropriate behavior such as throwing of objects, smoking, littering, not remaining seated, eating, transporting of dangerous items, damaging the bus or other disruptive behavior to the driver.

7. What if I have questions about my son/daughter(s) eligibility to receive a pass or a change in eligibility occurs?

RTD-DPS pass eligibility will be updated regularly based on changes in residence, school, and/or program. Updated information will be provided to schools on a regular basis. Additional information may be obtained from the high school your son or daughter attends or by calling the Department of Transportation Hot Line at 303-825-2611 beginning in July.

8. How do I find out more information about the RTD route that my son or daughter may ride?

We have worked closely with RTD to expand bus service where we anticipate students will need it the most. Families can call the RTD information center at 303-299-6000 for assistance in planning routes to school. On August 1, information about school service will be on the RTD website at <http://www.rtd-denver.com>. On September 5, information about expanded bus service for school routes will be accessible on the same website through RTD’s Trip Planner.

9. Who will be responsible for lost or stolen passes?

The student will be responsible, as neither RTD nor DPS will replace lost or stolen passes. Students will need to make arrangements for their own transportation to school until the beginning of the next month when a new pass will be provided.

10. Will the RTD Teen Pass sales program continue?

Yes. This is a monthly option for students who choose to take advantage of an RTD discounted program. This opportunity will continue at each of the high schools for students who are not eligible for a DPS-RTD student pass. The cost of the pass is \$19.00 per month. Lost passes are not the responsibility of the schools or RTD.

11. Will the DPS transportation “exception” program continue?

In the past, many students have applied for an exception to use district transportation. Exceptions were granted on a “space available” basis within the transportation area and subject to the Department of Transportation’s annual approval. Beginning next year, transportation exceptions will be very limited based on the move to RTD. Exceptions will be available on curb-to-curb busses (special education) at the 7:30 to 2:45 schedule.