

New Fareboxes



MERRIMACK VALLEY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Coming soon!

The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority will begin using new fareboxes on Monday, January 30, 2012. MVRTA Tap and Ride Cards and Charlie Cards will now be accepted as forms of payment.

Read below to find out where to get your Tap and Ride Card and how to use it!

How do I use the new fareboxes?

Cash Payment: For passengers paying with cash, the process will be the same as the old fareboxes. Simply insert your fare and take a seat. If you will need a transfer please ask for it when paying your fare.

Tap and Ride Card Payment: To pay with a Tap and Ride Card, simply tap your card to the orange target on the farebox. The proper fare will automatically be deducted from your card. If you have a monthly pass added onto your card, the farebox will recognize it and allow you to ride with no additional charge. A free transfer is automatically added onto your card so there is no need to ask the driver for one. Tap your card on the second bus and no additional money will be deducted from your card.

What is a Tap and Ride Card?

Tap and Ride Cards are the new way to pay your bus fare. You can add value on them or put your monthly pass on it. The card is compatible with the MBTA and LRTA fareboxes as well. You only need 1 card in order to ride all systems where Charlie Cards are accepted!

How do I add stored value onto my Tap and Ride Card?

- Stored value can be added on the bus at the farebox. Let the driver know that you intend to add money to your card so they can set the farebox properly, tap your card, insert the money, and tap your card again to pay for the ride you are taking then.

- You can also add money at a Transit Center (Haverhill Transit or Buckley Transportation in Lawrence). Hand the customer service representative your Tap and Ride Card and the amount of money you would like to put onto the card (in cash) and the customer service representative will handle the rest.

How do I add a monthly pass onto my Tap and Ride Card?

MVRTA monthly passes must be added at a Transit Center. Bring your card and cash to the Transit Center and the representative will handle the rest.

What if I already have a Charlie Card?

If you have stored value on it, you can use it the same way you would on the MBTA.

Where can I get a Tap and Ride Card?

Buckley Transportation: 295 Common Street, Lawrence or
Haverhill Transit: 12 Washington Square, Haverhill
Senior citizens and persons with disabilities will have their photo taken at a transit center which will go on the back of their card.

What different fare media can I have on my Tap and Ride Card?

There are 3 different media types you can have: Stored Value and a monthly pass from 2 different agencies. *Stored value* works like a debit card and can be used anywhere the Charlie Card is accepted. *Monthly passes* are specific to the agency where you buy it. For example, you can have a monthly pass for the MVRTA and one for either the LRTA or MBTA.

How much money can I add to my card?

You can add up to \$100 on a full fare Tap and Ride Card or \$40 on a ½ fare card. **You must add a minimum of \$5 at a time.**

What do I do with my old passes?

- If you have already started using your 10/20 ride pass or monthly pass hand it to the driver when you get on the bus. (Do not place it in the farebox.) The driver will verify that it is valid and hand it back.

- If you have a current pass, but haven't started using it yet, bring it to a transit center and the customer service rep will exchange it for a Tap and Ride Card with the same amount loaded onto it.

- Wednesday, February 29, 2012 will be the last day that old passes will be accepted on the bus. After March 1st, customers wishing to exchange their passes must do so at the transit center.

Other Important Notes

- At the farebox, if you are doing something other than paying a fare (ie. buying a day pass, adding value to your card, checking your balance) please inform the driver of your intentions before putting money into the box or tapping your Tap and Ride Card. Not doing this could result in an improper fare being deducted.
- If you are paying with a ½ fare Tap and Ride Card you may be asked for an ID with your date of birth or your Medicare Card.
- If your transfer from boarding your first bus to your second bus will be longer than 90 minutes and you are paying with a Tap and Ride Card, ask the driver for a paper transfer when boarding. (Transfers expire after 90 minutes, but this way the driver can verify that you are transferring from another bus.)

Fare Structure

Cash fares will remain the same as before, but you will receive a discount for using a Tap and Ride Card! Fares are as follows:

Cash Fares

Adult.....	\$1.25
Senior/Disabled.....	\$0.60
Salisbury Beach.....	\$2.00
Hampton Beach.....	\$3.00

Day Passes

1 Day Pass.....	\$3.00
1 Day Pass Senior/Disabled.....	\$1.50

Tap and Ride Card Fares

Adult.....	\$1.00
Senior/Disabled.....	\$0.50
Salisbury Beach.....	\$2.00
Hampton Beach.....	\$3.00

Monthly Pass

Adult.....	\$30.00
Senior/Disabled.....	\$15.00
Student.....	\$15.00

Commuter Bus

Cash Fare.....	\$5.00
Tap and Ride Card Fare.....	\$4.00