

RIPTA BUS PASSES

Changes are coming to the [Rhode Island Public Transit Authority](#) (RIPTA) Seniors and People with Disabilities [Bus Pass Program](#), the first of which is required **new bus passes effective September 1, 2016**. All eligible passengers and pass holders must re-qualify for the **NEW** Reduced Fare Bus Pass Program; qualifying passengers will receive a bus pass with a white wave.



Passengers can get their bus pass at either the Customer Service Office at RIPTA's headquarters, 705 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, or at the Photo Identification Office at 1 Kennedy Plaza in downtown Providence. Both locations are open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

While new passes are required by September 1st, no fare changes are scheduled to go into effect until January 1, 2017, and **passengers with the new passes will continue riding for free in this calendar year**.

RIPTA began the re-qualification process in April, working closely with Elderly Affairs and our partners in the community, specifically senior centers throughout the state. RIPTA's outreach has been extensive, including increased "road show" visits to senior centers so that more applicants could be processed in the communities.

In order to [qualify for this Reduced Fare Bus Pass Program](#), participants must be at least 65 years old and not have income in excess of the 200% of the federal poverty level, or have a disability and not have income in excess of 200% of the federal poverty level. New passes will be valid for two years from the date of the participant's next birthday. Individuals who obtained their passes before January 1, 2013 will be required to pay \$10 for their new passes. Anyone who obtained their pass after January 1, 2013 will still need to re-qualify but will not have to pay the \$10 processing fee.

[Customer Checklist: Acceptable Documentation for Reduced Fare Bus Pass](#)