

# OC BUS YOUTH RIDE FREE PROGRAM



## AT A GLANCE

### AREA OF BENEFIT:

All 34 Orange County cities and the County of Orange

### PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS:

Orange County Youth (Ages 6 – 18)

### FUNDING:

State of California Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP)

### WEBSITE:

[OCTA.net/YouthRideFree](https://OCTA.net/YouthRideFree)

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Fact sheet as of 8/10/23

## OVERVIEW

The Youth Ride Free program allows youth ages 6 – 18 to ride all OC Bus fixed-route buses for free.

Eligible youth riders on OC ACCESS, OCTA's paratransit service, are also automatically able to ride for free as part of the Youth Ride Free program.

Youth Ride Free passes and marketing information are distributed in partnership with Orange County schools, with parents able to request a pass from participating schools, the OCTA store, or at [OCTA.net/YouthRideFree](https://OCTA.net/YouthRideFree).

## BENEFITS

- Offers a free fare for youth ages 6 – 18, providing a reliable transportation option for education, work, and leisure.
- Free pass valid on any OC Bus fixed-route service, including weekends and holidays.
- Paratransit-eligible youth riders also receive free rides on OC ACCESS service.
- Supports the economic recovery of Orange County and helps mitigate the financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic on low income and diverse populations.
- Helps introduce new youth riders to public transit, encouraging long term usage.
- Improves mobility options, while improving air quality and reducing traffic congestion.

## FUNDING

The program is grant-funded by the California Department of Transportation and the California Air Resources Board through California Climate Investments which help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen the economy, and improve public health and the environment.

## HIGHLIGHTS



- "Youth Ride Free" pass is a free, magnetic stripe OC Bus pass.
- A parental request form is required for the pass and is available in multiple languages through schools, the OCTA store, and at [OCTA.net/YouthRideFree](https://OCTA.net/YouthRideFree).



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