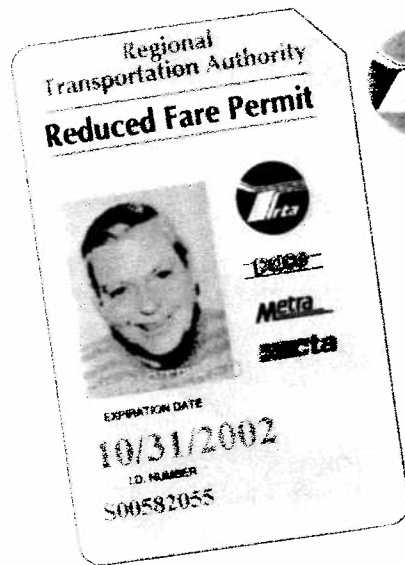


Answers To Your Questions About



The RTA Reduced Fare Permit

What Is The RTA Reduced Fare Permit?

The Reduced Fare Permit, offered by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), allows senior citizens, qualified persons with disabilities, and Medicare card holders to ride all RTA services at a reduced rate. These services include CTA buses and rapid transit, Pace buses, and Metra trains in the six-county region: Cook, DuPage, Lake, Kane, McHenry and Will.

What Are The Benefits Of Using The Reduced Fare Permit?

The RTA Reduced Fare Permit allows qualified users to ride CTA, Pace and Metra services at approximately half the full fare.

Who Is Eligible To Receive The Permit?

- All senior citizens who are within three weeks of their 65th birthday or older.
- Medicare card holders receiving social security benefits.
- Disabled persons receiving social security benefits.
- Disabled veterans receiving service connected disability benefits.
- Disabled persons who have their doctor validate their disability. These persons may have significant difficulty with, or are unable to do the following:
 - Walk more than one block.
 - Get on or off a standard bus or train.
 - Stand in a moving vehicle.
 - Use stairs or escalators.
 - Sit down or stand up.
 - Read informational signs or symbols.
 - Hear announcement by conductors, operators or attendants while in public transit vehicles or facilities.



Reduced Fare Program
Regional Transportation Authority
175 West Jackson - Suite 250
Chicago, Illinois 60604
312/913-3110 (Voice)
312/913-3111 (TTY)

How Do You Apply For A Reduced Fare Permit?

Call the RTA Travel Information Center at **836-7000 (voice)** or **312/836-4949 (TTY)** for information on how to apply for a Reduced Fare Permit.

If you are a senior citizen, you must register for the Reduced Fare Permit in person at one of the RTA registration centers located throughout the RTA's six-county region. Contact the RTA Travel Information Center to find the registration center nearest to you.

If you are disabled or a Medicare card holder under 65 years of age, you may call the RTA Travel Information Center to request that an application be sent to you by mail.

What Forms Of Identification Will Be Needed?

The forms of identification you will need to apply for an RTA Reduced Fare Permit will depend on your classification. Be prepared to have available:

- A clear copy of one of the following documents:
 - Driver's License
 - Passport
 - State issued ID card
 - U.S. Immigration Alien Registration Card
 - Other Official Government ID with your picture and date of birth
- One 1 1/2" by 1 1/2" color photograph clearly showing your face and shoulders.

If you are applying as a senior citizen, one of the forms of identification listed above must verify your age as 65 or older.

- A valid Medicare card along with a current printout from Social Security that shows you are disabled or that you are receiving social security benefits.
- A letter from your doctor verifying your disability. The doctor must also complete Section 5 of the application.
- A letter from the Veteran's Administration for 100% service connected disability or Form 544 for disabilities less than 100%.

How Long Can An RTA Reduced Fare Permit Be Used?

Your RTA Reduced Fare Card is valid for four years from the date of issuance. You will be notified when it is time for you to renew your card.

What If My Permit Reads Invalid Or Is Captured On The CTA/Pace Automated Fare System?

If your Permit stops working on the CTA/ Pace Automated Fare System, you have a damaged permit. For information on how to replace your permit please call our office at 1-312-913-3110. If your permit is captured by the CTA Automated Fare System, please contact CTA at 1-888-968-7282. If your permit is captured by the Pace Automated Fare System, please contact Pace at 1-847-364-7223.

How Long Does It Take To Receive My Permit After I Have Applied?

It takes approximately 3 to 4 weeks to receive your permit. If you do not receive your permit within this time, please call us at 1-312-913-3110.

What If My Permit Is Lost Or Stolen?

If your RTA Reduced Fare Permit is lost or stolen, you may obtain a replacement by calling the RTA Travel Information Center at **836-7000 (voice)** or **312/836-4949 (TTY)** and request that a replacement form be mailed to you. The form will require your signature and a replacement fee of \$5 for the first lost or stolen card and \$10 for the second lost or stolen card. Temporary cards are not issued. Applicants can expect a waiting period of approximately three weeks for a replacement card to be issued.