

UC Berkeley – Clipper BayPass Program Overview (Fall 2023)

Updated August 15, 2023

UC Berkeley is partnering with Bay Area public transit agencies, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) on a two-year pilot project to study the benefits of a transit pass that provides access to all transit services in the 9-county Bay Area. Beginning in August 2022, 12,000 randomly selected UC Berkeley students will automatically have their Student EasyPass upgraded to a Clipper BayPass, at no charge to the student or the university.

What services will the Clipper BayPass cover?

The Clipper BayPass will allow access to all bus, rail, and ferry services in the 9-county San Francisco Bay Area that accept Clipper (listed at right) for no charge beyond the existing cost of the EasyPass (paid through student fees). Please review the agencies on your right that will accept your pass.

[AC Transit](#)

[BART](#)

[Caltrain](#)

[City Coach](#)

[County Connection](#)

[Dumbarton Express](#)

[FAST](#)

[Golden Gate Ferry](#)

[Golden Gate Transit](#)

[Marin Transit](#)

[Muni](#)

[Petaluma Transit](#)

[SamTrans](#)

[San Francisco Bay Ferry](#)

[Santa Rosa CityBus](#)

[SMART](#)

[SolTrans](#)

[Sonoma County Transit](#)

[Tri Delta Transit](#)

[Union City Transit](#)

[Vine](#)

[VTA](#)

[WestCAT](#)

[Wheels](#)

What BayPasses do NOT cover:

- SFMTA Cable Car rides
- BayWheels Bikeshare (Clipper BayPasses can be used to *access* bikes, but do not provide rides).
- BART Parking

When will the project start, and how long will it last?

The Clipper BayPass went into effect around August 26, 2022. Recipients would have had the benefits automatically appear on the student's existing (or newly issued) EasyPass Clipper card, and the student will not have to do anything to get the upgrade. The pilot was in effect for the 2022-23 academic year, available to students who were both enrolled for the school year and had paid the \$95 per semester Student Class Pass Fee.



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What is updated and changing this year?

The Clipper BayPass pilot will continue to be available through the 2023-2024 academic year, if the student was already selected for the pass, have continued to enroll as a current student, and the student has paid the \$105 per semester Student Class Pass Fee.

UC Berkeley nor Parking & Transportation will not be accepting requests or applications for the 2023-24 school year. The pilot will utilize the data from the existing pool, and those who have lost the privilege (either through graduation or excusal from UC Berkeley) will not have benefits reassigned to new applicants or a new pilot group.

If I were selected in August 2022, When can I use my BayPass?

Users who were notified of their selection will have their Clipper BayPass installed on or before August 26, 2022 (some users were notified that their passes will be online by September 5, 2022). Users are asked to register their cards through [ClipperCard.com](https://clippercard.com) and monitor their cards online (P&T will not do it for them).

Until the BayPasses are loaded, students will need to put money on their Clipper Cards if they choose to ride a non-AC Transit mode (including BART). P&T will not issue refunds for trips made. Please review the email that P&T sent on (either August 18th or August 20th, 2022) for further guidance.

If you have not received an email from either of the two dates, then you were not selected for the BayPass.

Who will receive the pass upgrade and how are those people chosen?

In August 2022, 12,000 UC Berkeley students received the Clipper BayPass (approximately one out of 3.6 enrolled students). Student ID numbers will be randomly selected by Student Affairs and the Consultant hired by the MTC. Students who are not randomly selected for the Clipper BayPass will continue to have the standard EasyPass, which provides free access to AC Transit, both Local and Transbay services.



How will I know if I have been selected to receive the Clipper BayPass?

All enrolled students will receive an email notification from Parking & Transportation on August 18, 2022, on their enrollment into the Clipper BayPass Program on or before August 26, 2022 (Some individuals did receive an email from P&T about enrollment on August 20, 2022, in which their passes will be uploaded during the first week of September). Please review the email in your inbox or spam folders.

What will be studied and how will the information be used?

Bay Area public transit agencies such as BART and AC Transit and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission will use information collected during the pilot project to study how the Clipper BayPass affects how much people use public transit and what services they ride. This research will be based on information generated by the Clipper System, as well as through student surveys. Findings from the study will inform the development, pricing, and implementation of future institutional pass products.

How will my privacy be protected?

As with the existing EasyPass program, all data generated through the pilot project will be overseen in accordance with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Clipper Privacy Policy, FERPA, and other applicable university policies.

What if I lose my pass or it stops working?

Questions about replacing lost or malfunctioning cards can be directed to UC Berkeley's Parking and Transportation department, who will be supported by the program's project management team and Clipper staff, as necessary. For passes that are not operational, you will need to visit the Parking & Transportation office at UC Berkeley (1995 University Avenue, first floor) during normal business hours.



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Can I share this pass with my family or friends?

No. The pass should only be used by the students selected for this program and any violators will be removed from the program. The pilot will inform development of a more permanent institutional pass product, which will be more universally available. Sharing or selling passes is a violation of the User Agreement between the pass holder, UC Berkeley, and AC Transit and may be subject to revocation of the pass, a fine, and referral to Student Affairs for disciplinary action.

Is use of this pass restricted to commuting to/from school?

No, and the pass enables unlimited travel on all Bay Area transit services, and participants are encouraged to use it for all travel needs, regardless of need. We encourage pass users to utilize the Clipper BayPass for all trips, even outside of commuting times.

Will I have to pay an additional cost for the Clipper BayPass?

No. The pass is covered by your Class Pass fee, at no charge to UC Berkeley. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and BART funded this pilot.

Why are some people getting the pass and not others?

This is a pilot program designed to evaluate the new pass and to understand how Berkeley students travel. Therefore, now, the Clipper BayPass is being distributed to a randomly selected group of students.

While we have spent the last few years listening to your requests for better transit options for the campus, including discounted BART fares and access to other agencies. Parking & Transportation lobbied BART and MTC on behalf of the campus community to have all students partake in the pass, or to have selected groups be able to obtain the pass.

P&T was not successful in providing passes to the entire campus, mainly due to the funding available and the other program's partners and their populations (SF State, SJ State, and Santa Rosa Junior College). This pilot program, however, is the first step to achieve an affordable and scalable regional transit pass, and hopefully will be available to all students at little or no additional cost in the future.



If I do not receive the Clipper BayPass, will I still be able to use my current AC Transit Student EasyPass?

Yes. If you are not selected to receive the new pass, you can continue to use your existing AC Transit Student EasyPass, which will allow you to travel on all AC Transit routes in the East Bay. Details about the Student EasyPass are [here](#).

If affordability is an issue, we ask that you review and apply for the [Clipper START program](#), which is a discounted fare program for those who need to take transit. Applicants (you must live in the Bay Area and meet federal income guidelines) will receive a second Clipper Card in the mail (which cannot be combined with EasyPasses).

What should students do regardless of selection into the BayPass Program?

Students should register their Clipper Cards on the [Clipper Card website or app](#) to monitor when all passes (AC Transit EasyPass or Clipper BayPass. P&T does not have the capability to manually upload passes, nor can they view whether a pass has been uploaded to their card. Students should check the mobile app or website to see the status of their cards.

How long will I have the Clipper BayPass?

If you receive the Clipper BayPass, you will have it for two years, if you were (1) selected for the BayPass in the Fall of 2022, (2) currently enrolled as a UC Berkeley student, and (3) pay the \$95 (currently \$105 for the 2023-26 academic years) semester Class Pass Fee.

What if I currently have an existing AC Transit EasyPass?

The Clipper BayPass will be a no-cost add on that will be included with your pass. **If you have a Regional Transportation Connection Discount ID Card or a Clipper START Card**, you will need to register all cards and use both cards at your discretion. We will NOT be able to combine discount cards.

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What happens if I lose my pass?

The procedures for lost or stolen cards will be the same as before the launch of the pilot with the Student EasyPass.

We require that replacement cards be done with the UC Berkeley Parking and Transportation Department. Our office hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30-4:00pm at 1995 University Avenue. A new card will be issued to you (included with the Clipper BayPass if you were selected to participate), subject to existing card replacement fees.

If you are a BayPass holder and you need to replace the Clipper Card with the BayPass benefit, you will need to wait up to three weeks for the benefit to apply to your new card. Please budget your trips accordingly during that time; P&T nor UC Berkeley can expedite card issuances, nor do they have control over the process to update benefits to existing cards. **Your existing AC Transit Student EasyPass benefits are operational and local/transbay trips can be made with the existing EasyPass.**

I am having difficulties with my Clipper Card and do not have either EasyPass or BayPass benefit. What do I do?

Make sure that you have tagged your EasyPass Clipper Card aboard an AC Transit bus and that the initial pass has been working.

- **If the card is not working, or it has deducted a fare from the card**, you must bring the malfunctioning Clipper Card along with your Cal 1 Card and EasyPass Clipper Card to our office for manual reactivation (we are open this week Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm). Do not go to the Cal1 Card office, as they will not be able to assist with your issue.
- **If your EasyPass benefit was working, and you have successfully tagged the pass on an AC Transit bus**, make sure you have tried to use the pass on a non-AC Transit service (e.g., at a BART Station, Caltrain, or Muni).
- **If you haven't received an "Events Pass" on the Clipper Card Mobile App**, meaning that you either cannot see the benefit on the Clipper Card dashboard nor you cannot tag onto a non-AC Transit vehicle or station (and you've been charged a fare), Please follow up with us and we will rectify the situation with AC Transit.



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Who can I contact if I have questions about the Clipper BayPass?

Please contact Berkeley Moves staff at berkeleymoves@berkeley.edu

How can I ensure that I can advocate for all students (and the campus community) to receive the Clipper BayPass in the future?

Parking and Transportation Staff oversees two advocacy groups focused on improving transit access for the campus at large. One of the priorities of the Alternative Transportation Unit ([Berkeley Moves!](#)) is to advocate on behalf of the campus and to work with MTC and BART to make this program permanent after the pilot is over; and the benefits affordable to **both** employees and students at UC Berkeley.

During that time, We encourage you to inquire about these two programs by emailing us at berkeleymoves@berkeley.edu:

- The [Class Pass Oversight Committee \(CPOC\)](#) focuses on efforts to improve AC Transit and Bear Transit services as mandated by the Student Class Pass Fee.
- The [Mobility and Equity Committee \(MEC\)](#) focuses its efforts on all modes of transportation, not limited to AC Transit, to enhance and improve transit for all UC affiliates.

