

Free Travel Entitlement Information for Schools



VIC PARK – ARMADALE/THORNLIE

SHUTDOWN

FROM 20 NOV '23

What is the Free Travel Entitlement?

The State Government announced a Free Travel Entitlement in recognition of the inconvenience caused by the Armadale/Thornlie Line Shutdown. As a result, we'll provide six months of free travel to eligible, regular Armadale/Thornlie Line passengers (including school students).

To be eligible you will need to be:

- A current SmartRider user;
- Have used a train service from an Armadale/Thornlie Line station between Carlisle and Armadale and at least once a week for 13 weeks (does not have to be consecutive) in the six months prior to 17 September 2023.

Those eligible will automatically have a free travel token applied to their SmartRider for free travel between 20 November 2023 to 31 May 2024 so there is no need to apply or register for the entitlement.

What about students starting Year 7 in 2024 who have not already met the eligibility criteria?

In recognition that many students do not start travelling on public transport until they start high school, the Government has extended the free entitlement to include students starting Year 7 in 2024. Students starting Year 7 in 2024 who have not already met the eligibility criteria but would ordinarily have travelled from an affected station (i.e. stations between Armadale/Thornlie to Carlisle) to get to or from school will be eligible for free travel from the start of the school year until 31 May 2024.

As many schools use SmartRiders for purposes other than travel, the Free Travel Entitlement will be issued in addition to Student SmartRiders, so new students should apply for their Student SmartRider in the normal manner and also be given a free travel pass if they believe they will be taking public transport between the start of the school year and 31 May 2024.

How will students collect their free travel pass?

Transperth will send free travel passes to eligible schools (overleaf) at the start of the 2024 school year for the incoming Year 7 cohort.

The distribution of the free travel pass will be managed by the school. A step-by-step process on how the school will manage the free travel passes has been included.

What do I need to do?

STEP 1: You will need to provide a nominated representative at the school for Transperth to send the free passes and communicate with.

The school will also need to advise Transperth of an approximate number of passes required (i.e. an estimated number of Year 7 students who are anticipated to start in the 2024 year). Transperth will provide some spare passes for additional students or replacement passes if students lose their cards (see Step 4 below).

Please email freetravel@pta.wa.gov.au to nominate your representative and number of passes required by Friday, 24 November 2023.

STEP 2: Transperth will issue the free travel passes to the school at the start of the school year in 2024.

The application process for these passes will begin from 8 January 2024 or whenever your school is open for students to collect passes. We request that you also nominate this date.

STEP 3: The free travel pass will be issued to Year 7 students by your school representative, if you are satisfied that the student:

- Was likely to have travelled to and from school by train from an impacted station (i.e. stations between Armadale/Thornlie to Carlisle); or
- Is not in Year 7 but is new to the school and would have met the criteria above.

STEP 4: Make sure the student is aware of key rules under the Terms and Conditions of use including:

- The free travel pass can only be used by the student to whom it is issued
- The student must carry their Student SmartRider or appropriate identification with them as well as the free travel pass
- It does not include free public transport for parents/guardians
- The free travel period will end 31 May 2024, at which point the student will need to pay a fare
- If the student loses or damages the free travel pass they will need to pay a fare while they wait for a new free travel pass to be issued. This will be done via the school. The Public Transport Authority is not liable for any expenses incurred as a result of students losing their Free Travel Entitlement in this instance, nor will it refund any fares as a result.

Full Terms and Conditions can be found overleaf.

Which schools are eligible for the free travel pass?

Eligible schools include:

- Ursula Frayne Catholic College
- Kent Street Senior High School
- Sowillo Community High School
- Australian Islamic College (Thornlie)
- Cannington Community College (inc Edu Support Centre)
- St Norberts College
- John Wollaston Anglican Community School
- Kenwick School
- Kelmscott Senior High School
- John Calvin Christian College
- Lumen Christi College
- Armadale Senior High School (inc Edu Support Centre)

What if a student attends a school outside of those listed above and would have travelled from an impacted station (i.e. stations between Armadale/Thornlie to Carlisle)?

If a student attends a school outside of those listed above and would have travelled by train from an impacted station (i.e., stations between Armadale/Thornlie to Carlisle) then they can apply for a free travel pass at one of our InfoCentres.

Students must provide:

- Proof of enrolment at the school
- Proof of address, which must be from an impacted area (i.e. Carlisle to Armadale/Thornlie).

What if a student is not eligible or in Year 7?

For those students who are not starting Year 7 at one of the schools listed above and do not meet the eligibility criteria (for example, they are new to the school and have just moved into the area) they can be provided with a free travel pass by the school.

Who can I contact for more information?

Please email freetravel@pta.wa.gov.au for any questions about the Free Travel Entitlement.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE

Use of the Armadale/Thornlie Line Shutdown Free Travel Entitlement is subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. That the Free Travel Entitlement applied to a student's SmartRider is issued subject to the conditions of the Public Transport Authority Act and Public Transport Authority Regulations 2003.
2. The SmartRider card with the free entitlement token applied or the free travel pass may only be used by the customer to whom it is issued.
3. You consent to the collection, use and disclosure of your information in accordance with Public Transport Authority's Privacy Statement which can be found at www.transperth.wa.gov.au/privacy
4. The Free Travel Entitlement is not transferable or refundable (cannot be used by parents/guardians).
5. The Free Travel Entitlement is valid from the start of the school year to 31 May 2024 or when the Public Transport Authority applies/removes the token, whichever period is greater.
6. The Free Travel Entitlement includes free public transport on the Transperth network (bus, train and ferry) during this period.
7. Students with a free travel pass must also carry their Student SmartRider or another form of identification with them when travelling to verify their entitlement.
8. If the student loses or damages the free travel pass and/or their SmartRider, they will need to pay fares while they apply and wait for a new free travel pass or replacement SmartRider. The Public Transport Authority is not liable for any expenses incurred as a result of students losing their Free Travel Entitlement in this instance, nor will it refund any fares as a result.