

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-42

AMENDING CHAPTER 840 COMMISSIONS AND FARE STRUCTURE OF THE  
CODIFIED RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE GREATER CLEVELAND  
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT FARE CAPPING AND  
OPEN PAYMENTS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 1989-176, the Board of Trustees ("Board") of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority ("Authority") codified the resolutions establishing its policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Authority desires to implement fare capping; and

WHEREAS, in order to implement fare capping, Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure of the Codified Rules and Regulations of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority must be amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cuyahoga County, Ohio:

Section 1. That Code Book Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure is hereby amended to read as specified in Attachment A hereto.

Section 2. That the Board of Trustees hereby waives the fourteen-day period provided for in Article XI, Section 2 of the Bylaws.

Section 3. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Attachments: A. Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure

Adopted: March 18, 2025

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer



<b>TITLE/DESCRIPTION:</b>  AMENDING CHAPTER 840 COMMISSIONS AND FARE STRUCTURE OF THE CODIFIED RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE GREATER CLEVELAND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT FARE CAPPING AND OPEN PAYMENTS	<b>Resolution No.:</b> 2025-42
	<b>Date:</b> March 13, 2025
	<b>Initiator:</b> Finance
<b>ACTION REQUEST:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval      Review/Comment      Information Only      Other _____	

1.0 **PURPOSE/SCOPE:** This resolution will amend Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure of the Codified Rules and Regulations ("Code Book") of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority ("Authority").

2.0 **DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION:** The Policies and Procedures of the Board of Trustees were codified in 1989, pursuant to Resolution No. 1989-176. The Code Book is undergoing a comprehensive review and update so that the Code Book will conform to the current structure and operations of the Authority.

The Authority undertook a Fare Equity Study in 2019 that included extensive public involvement and technical analysis. The major long-term recommendation of this study was to implement fare capping. Fare capping allows customers to enjoy the discounts of unlimited-use passes without paying the full cost of a pass in advance and without incurring losses when their usage of the transit system falls below the break-even level of a pass. To benefit from fare capping, riders must either select the "tap & ride" function in the Authority's fare app or use a smart card.

Open payment allows customers to use contactless payment technologies, including credit cards or smart phones, to pay fares. Open payment mimics single-ride cash fares, prioritizes convenience and does not allow fare capping or discount fares.

In November 2024, the Authority performed a fare equity analysis and determined that the proposed changes will neither create a disparate impact on minority customers nor impose a disproportionate burden on low-income customers. On the contrary, minority customers and low-income customers will be the primary beneficiaries of the proposed fare structure change.

3.0 **PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND:** Does not apply.

4.0 **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/DBE BACKGROUND:** Does not apply.

5.0 **POLICY IMPACT:** This policy change authorizes fare capping, which makes riding RTA more affordable for many customers. For customers who value convenience more than potential savings, the policy change also authorizes open payments as an option.

6.0 **ECONOMIC IMPACT:** Does not apply.

7.0 **ALTERNATIVES:** Not adopting this resolution. Not adopting this resolution will leave the Code Book provision out of line with the current operations of the Authority.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION: This resolution was discussed at the February 4, 2025 and March 4, 2025 Committee of the Whole meetings and recommended for consideration by the full Board of Trustees. It is recommended that this resolution be adopted.

9.0 ATTACHMENTS:

A. Red-line of Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure

Recommended and certified as appropriate to the availability of funds, legal form and conformance with the Procurement requirements.



General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

CHAPTER 840

~~Commissions and Fare Structure~~Fare Code

840.01 Fares.

840.02 Children's fares.

840.03 Student fare s discount program.

840.04 Public personnel and miscellaneous fares.

840.05 Fares for personnel care attendants.

~~840.06 Fares for rides outside of County.~~

840.06 Fare capping policy

840.07 Open payments policy

840.08 Transfers from another transit agency.

840.09 Transfers.

840.10 Temporary promotional programs.

840.11 Ride happy or ride free program.

840.12 Employer and guaranteed ride home program.

840.13 Universal access programs.

840.14 Proof of payment fare system.

840.15 Multiple day fare pass program.

840.16 Authority to suspend collection of fares during times of emergency or construction related detours.

840.17 Commissions for the sale of tickets and passes.

CROSS REFERENCES

Formula grants for the enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities - see 49 U.S.C.A. 5310

Special provisions for capital projects - see 49 U.S.C.A. 5324

Public motor transportation companies - see R.C. Ch. 4921

Rates, fees and charges of public motor transportation companies - see R.C. § 4921.23 et seq.

Private motor transportation companies - see R.C. Ch. 4923

Fees and charges of private motor transportation companies - see R.C. § 4923.13

Comprehensive fare policy - see VEH. & OP. Ch. 842

~~Discount fare cards - see SERV. 1084.01, 1084.02~~

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## 840.01 FARES.

The following fare media, with the rates of fares to be charged, are established as follows:

Cash Fares	Current	Effective October 4, 2020
Senior/Disabled	<del>\$1.25</del>	\$1.25
Student K-12	<del>\$1.75</del>	\$1.75
Bus/Rapid	<del>\$2.50</del>	\$2.50
Park-n-Ride	<del>\$2.75</del>	<del>\$2.75</del>
Out-of-County	<del>\$3.75</del>	<del>\$3.75</del>
 Tickets/Fare cards - 1 trip	 Current	 Effective October 4, 2020
Senior/Disabled - 1 trip	<del>\$1.25</del>	\$1.25
Student K-12 - 1 trip	<del>\$1.75</del>	\$1.75
Bus/Rapid - 1 trip	<del>\$2.50</del>	\$2.50
Park-n-Ride-1 trip	<del>\$2.75</del>	<del>\$2.75</del>
 Tickets/Fare cards - 2 trip		
Senior/Disabled - 2 trip	<del>\$2.50</del>	\$2.50
Student K-12 - 2 trip	<del>\$3.50</del>	\$3.50
Bus/Rapid - 2-trip	<del>\$5.00</del>	\$5.00
 Tickets/Fare cards - 5 trip		
Senior/Disabled - 5 trip	<del>\$6.25</del>	\$6.25
Student K-12 - 5 trip	<del>\$8.75</del>	\$8.75
Bus/Rapid - 5 trip	<del>\$12.50</del>	\$12.50
Park-n-Ride-5 trip	<del>\$13.75</del>	<del>\$13.75</del>
 Passes (Unlimited Rides within Cuyahoga County)	 Current	 Effective October 4, 2020
1-Day Passes		

All-Day Individual	<del>\$5.50</del>	\$5.00
Senior/Disabled	<del>\$2.75</del>	\$2.50

### **Passes (Unlimited Rides within Cuyahoga County)**

~~Current~~

~~Effective  
October 4, 2020~~

#### **1-Day Passes**

Children All-Day (ages 6-12 accompanied by adult)	<del>\$2.75</del>	\$2.50
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Student K-12	<del>\$4.50</del>	\$4.25
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#### **7-Day Passes**

~~Current~~

~~Effective-  
October 4, 2020~~

Senior/Disabled	<del>\$12.50</del>	\$12.50
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Bus/Rapid	<del>\$25.00</del>	\$25.00
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<del>Park-n-Ride</del>	<del>\$27.50</del>	<del>\$27.50</del>
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#### **Monthly Passes**

~~Current~~

~~Effective-  
October 4, 2020~~

Senior/Disabled	<del>\$48.00</del>	\$48.00
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Bus/Rapid	<del>\$95.00</del>	\$95.00
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<del>Park-n-Ride</del>	<del>\$105.00</del>	<del>\$105.00</del>
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#### **Specialty Passes**

1-Day Cleveland Pass (Limited Distribution)	<del>\$5.50</del>	\$5.00
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2 Day Cleveland Pass (Limited Distribution)	<del>\$11.00</del>	\$10.00
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4 Day Cleveland Pass (Limited Distribution)	<del>\$22.00</del>	\$20.00
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#### **Paratransit**

~~Current~~

~~Effective-  
October 4, 2020~~

Cash fare	<del>\$2.75</del>	\$2.75
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1-Trip fare card	<del>\$2.75</del>	\$2.75
All Day pass	<del>\$7.50</del>	\$7.00
5-Trip fare card	<del>\$13.75</del>	\$13.75

#### **Paratransit**

#### **~~Current~~**

#### **~~Effective October 4, 2020~~**

7-Day Pass	<del>\$30.00</del>	\$30.00
Monthly pass	<del>\$110.00</del>	\$110.00

#### **840.02 CHILDREN'S FARES.**

Each adult paying the applicable fare may be accompanied by up to three children under six years of age riding free and up to three children aged six through twelve using Child All-Day Passes.

(Res. 2004-126. Passed 9-21-04; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10.)

#### **840.03 STUDENT FARE DISCOUNT PROGRAM.**

- (a) (1) Any student in grades kindergarten through twelve residing within the County and attending a private or public school certified by the Ohio Department of Education will be entitled to pay student fares or utilize student tickets at a cost as set forth in Section 840.03, good for a full fare on all Authority services.
- (2) Any rider paying a student fare or using a student ticket is responsible for maintaining in his or her possession proof of enrollment in a school and/or system certified by the Ohio Department of Education and must produce such evidence if so requested by any Authority personnel.

(b) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer may execute agreements for the sale and/or distribution of student tickets and passes.

(Res. 1982-242. Passed 8-19-82; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

Students must have proper photo identification, if applicable.

~~Bus/Rapid passes and farecards as well as all-day individual passes can be used on Park-n-Ride bus service upon payment of a per boarding surcharge equal to the then-prevailing difference between the cash fare for Park-n-Ride service and the cash fare for Bus/Rapid service.~~

(Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2006-131. Passed 7-18-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10; Res. 2010-43. Passed 6-22-10; Res. 2012-10. Passed 2-21-12; Res. 2012-91. Passed 10-23-12; Res. 2016-36. Passed 6-7-16; Res. 2017-33. Passed 5-16-17; Res. 2018-33. Passed 3-27-18; Res. 2019-42. Passed 4-16-19; Res. 2020-40. Passed 5-12-20; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

- (c) (1) Any student in grades kindergarten through twelve residing within the County and attending a private or public school certified by the Ohio Department of Education will be entitled to pay student fares or utilize student tickets at a cost as set forth in Section 840.03, good for a full fare on all Authority services.
- (2) Any rider paying a student fare or using a student ticket is responsible for maintaining in his or her possession proof of enrollment in a school and/or system certified by the Ohio Department of Education and must



produce such evidence if so requested by any Authority personnel.

(d) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer may execute agreements for the sale and/or distribution of student tickets and passes.

(Res. 1982-242. Passed 8-19-82; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.04 PUBLIC PERSONNEL AND MISCELLANEOUS FARES.**

(a) Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority employees, board members and retirees shall be permitted to ride free upon presentation of an identification card issued by the Authority.

(b) Municipal Police Officers, Cuyahoga County Sheriffs, State Highway Patrol Officers and full-time Municipal Fire Department Personnel shall be permitted to ride free on GCRTA vehicles while in official uniform.

(c) All persons on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States of America shall be permitted to ride free on GCRTA vehicles while in official uniform. (Res. 1993-119. Passed 7-20-93; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10; Res. 2012-38. Passed 4-17-12. Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.05 FARES FOR PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS.**

That personal care attendants ~~(PCAs)~~, as defined in Federal federal Americans With Disabilities Act ("ADA") regulations, shall ride free on Paratransit vehicles and pay the applicable fare on all other RTA services when accompanying ADA-eligible Paratransit riders.

(Res. 2016-36. Passed 6-7-16.)

#### ~~840.06 FARES FOR RIDES OUTSIDE OF COUNTY.~~

~~841 On routes that extend more than two miles outside of Cuyahoga County, the fare for traveling to or from any point outside Cuyahoga County will be as follows:~~

~~842 Prevailing out-of-county cash fare;~~

~~843 Bus/rapid farecard or pass plus one dollar twenty five cents (\$1.25);~~

~~844 Park-n-Ride Bus farecard or pass plus one dollar (\$1.00); and~~

~~845 Senior/disabled customers pay no additional fare for out-of-county service.  
(Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142.~~

~~846 Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed~~

~~847 3-23-10. Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)~~

#### 840.06 FARE CAPPING POLICY

The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement fare capping. Fare capping ensures that riders receive the lowest available fare in the daily, rolling 7-day, and monthly categories based on their usage of the system. To benefit from fare capping, riders must either select the “tap & ride” function in the Authority’s fare app or use a smart card.

#### 840.07 OPEN PAYMENT POLICY

The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement open payment, enabling customers to use contactless payment technologies (including credit cards or smart phones) to pay fares. Open payment mimics single-ride cash fares, prioritizes convenience and does not allow fare capping or discount fares.

#### **840.08 TRANSFERS FROM ANOTHER TRANSIT AGENCY.**

GCRTA will accept a transfer from the following agencies for a free single ride on GCRTA service as follows:

- (a) Laketran (Lake Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - In Lake County
    - In Euclid and Richmond Heights
  - (b) Metro (Summit Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - At the VA Medical Center University Circle
    - In Southeastern Cuyahoga County Brecksville
  - (c) SARTA (Stark Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - At the VA Medical Center University Circle
  - (d) PARTA (Portage Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - At the VA Medical Center University Circle
    - At Southgate Transit Center
  - (e) Medina County Transit
    - In Strongsville
    - In Medina County, but passengers boarding GCRTA in Medina County must pay the one dollar (\$1.00) out-of-county surcharge in addition to presenting a transfer.
- (Res. 1999-72. Passed 5-25-99; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.09 TRANSFERS.**

A customer is not entitled to receive a transfer when paying a cash fare. Customers who need to transfer can do so using passes or farecards. Each trip on a farecard provides a two and one-half hour boarding privilege. Bus/Rapid passes and farecards as well as all day individual passes can be used on Park n Ride bus service upon payment of a per boarding surcharge equal to the then prevailing difference

~~between the cash fare for Park n Ride service and the cash fare for Bus/Rapid service. See Section 840.03.~~

(Res. 1990-206. Passed 11-27-90; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10; Res. 2016-36. Passed 6-7-16; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.10 TEMPORARY PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS.**

(a) The ~~CEO, General Manager,~~ Chief Executive Officer is hereby authorized to conduct temporary programs for the promotion of ridership. The programs may offer fare incentives or complimentary rides for specific routes, for the entire system and for community sponsored events with a duration of up to sixty days.

(b) The ~~CEO, General Manager,~~ Chief Executive Officer shall consider the economic impact to the Authority when offering fare incentives or complimentary rides.

(c) The ~~CEO, General Manager,~~ Chief Executive Officer shall report the results of promotional activities to the Board of Trustees on at least an annual basis.  
(Res. 1993-120. Passed 7-20-93; Res. 2019-67. Passed 6-18-19.)

#### **840.11 RIDE HAPPY OR RIDE FREE PROGRAM.**

Under the "Ride Happy or Ride Free Program," the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer may provide customers a free ride in compensation for a service failure. The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to terminate the program if they deem it to be ineffective.

(Res. 2001-15. Passed 1-23-01; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.12 EMPLOYER AND GUARANTEED RIDE HOME PROGRAM.**

(a) The ~~CEO, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer,~~ Chief Executive Officer may conduct a program to encourage employers to purchase and provide fare media to their employees on a pretax basis.

(b) A "Guaranteed Ride Home Program" will be open to all Authority commuters who purchase their prepaid fare media from their employers through the Authority's employer program and who enroll in the Guaranteed Ride Home Program prior to participation. Participants will be limited to four emergency rides home per year at the actual cost of the ride, up to thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per ride.

(c) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement administrative procedures that all enrolled participants will be required to follow for scheduling an emergency ride home and submitting reimbursement requests.

(d) This program may be terminated at the discretion of the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer.

(Res. 2003-020. Passed 2-18-03; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.13 UNIVERSAL ACCESS PROGRAMS.**

(a) The ~~CEO~~General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to negotiate and enter into agreements with organizations ("Sponsors") that purchase from the Authority universal access privileges for all members of a clearly defined group. A group includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) All students at a university, college, school, or school system;
- (2) All students within a clearly defined subgroup, such as undergraduate students;
- (3) All students enrolled at a particular educational facility or campus;
- (4) All employees of an employer;
- (5) All employees of an employer who work at a particular work site or facility;
- (6) All employees of multiple employers who work at a clearly defined work site such as an industrial park, airport, or multi-tenant office building;
- (7) All residents of a new transit-oriented residential development; or
- (8) All registrants (minimum of 500) at a conference or event scheduled to occur in Cuyahoga County.

(b) Universal access agreements may be offered to groups where the Authority will benefit from underutilization of the riding privileges. Underutilization means that all members of the group receive access to the Authority's riding privileges but the group members use the riding privilege to varying degrees. Some group members fully utilize the riding privilege, some use it to a limited degree, and some do not use it at all. This underutilization is the sole justification for the discount pricing of Universal Access Programs.

(c) Pricing. The ~~CEO~~General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, Chief Executive Officer or his or her designee will negotiate initial discount levels of any agreement based on reasonably expected levels of underutilization measured by surveying group members or a similar method of estimation. The discount levels for subsequent periods will be based on follow-up measurements or estimates of actual utilization levels by members of the defined group.

(Res. 2011-93. Passed 10-18-11; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.14 PROOF OF PAYMENT FARE SYSTEM.**

(a) Juvenile Violation Fare.

- (1) All passengers, including juveniles, are required to have in their possession proof of purchase of a valid, paid fare whenever present in any facilities or vehicles that have been restricted to passengers with a pre-purchased fare. Any juvenile found without proof of a valid, paid fare is in violation of this requirement. On the first offense, the juvenile shall be given a warning. On the second and subsequent offenses, the juvenile shall be charged

- a violation fare of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).
- (2) The violation fare shall be paid within thirty days of the mailing of the notice of fare violation by U.S. mail, GCRTA website, or in person at the GCRTA Customer Service Center.
  - (3) If the juvenile fails to pay the violation fare within thirty days of the mailing of the notice of the violation, the record may be forwarded to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, Juvenile Division, for referral to the county's Community Diversion Program.
- (b) Adult Administrative Fee.
- (1) Effective November 1, 2011, adults found to be in violation of the proof of payment fare collection system may pay an administrative fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) within seventy-two business hours and a criminal citation will not be filed. If, however, the administrative fee is not paid within seventy-two business hours, the citation will be referred to the appropriate court for criminal prosecution.
  - (2) The twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) administrative fee shall be paid within seventy-two hours to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority by U.S. mail, GCRTA website, or in person at the GCRTA Customer Service Center.
  - (3) Adults who receive a violation citation after November 1, 2011 and, thereafter, receive an additional violation citation within twenty-four months are not eligible for the administrative fee in lieu of the filing of a criminal citation.
  - (4) After twenty-four months from a previous violation, adults found to be in violation of the proof of payment fare collection system may pay the twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) administrative fee described in paragraph (b)(1) hereof and a criminal citation will not be filed.  
(Res. 2011-81. Passed 9-20-11; Res. 2011-82. Passed 9-20-11. Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.15 MULTIPLE DAY FARE PASS PROGRAM.**

(a) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement a multiple day fare pass program for 1-day, 2-day and 4-day passes, priced consistent with the price of a daily pass.

(b) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to offer other multiple day passes, provided that these passes are also priced consistent with the price of a daily pass.

(c) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to offer tiered pricing options as a function of group size for large group purchases of the multiple day passes.

(Res. 2012-10. Passed 2-21-12. Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

**840.16 AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND COLLECTION OF FARES DURING TIMES OF EMERGENCY OR CONSTRUCTION RELATED DETOURS.**

(a) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer shall be and is hereby authorized to suspend the collection of fares for RTA services when an unforeseen occurrence, condition, or event requires that commuters be transported promptly and effectively as a result of the emergency situation or when customers are required to be detoured due to an RTA project.

(b) During such emergency situation, fares may be suspended system-wide or along such routes as may be affected by the emergency situation.

(c) The duration of such suspension of fares authorized by this section may continue until such time as the emergency is abated, but not to exceed twenty-four hours, unless the emergency is of such a catastrophic nature that the continued suspension of fares is in the public interest.

(Res. 2003-019. Passed 2-18-03; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

**840.17 COMMISSIONS FOR THE SALE OF TICKETS AND PASSES.**

(a) The sales commission rates for the Authority's authorized pass outlets are hereby fixed as follows:

<u>Fare Media</u>	<u>Commission</u>
1- trip fare card (each)	\$0.03
2- trip fare card (each)	0.06
All-day pass (each)	0.06
5-trip fare card (each)	0.15
7-day pass (each)	0.25
Monthly pass (each)	0.60

(b) These commissions are to be paid only to authorized ticket and pass sales outlets.

(Res. 1991-128. Passed 6-18-91; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

(c) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer or their designee is hereby authorized to enter into agreements with business entities, employers, etc., for the sale of tickets and passes and the payment of the commissions set forth in subsection (a) hereof.

(Res. 1980-319. Passed 9-16-80; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-42

AMENDING CHAPTER 840 COMMISSIONS AND FARE STRUCTURE OF THE  
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OPEN PAYMENTS

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WHEREAS, the Authority desires to implement fare capping; and

WHEREAS, in order to implement fare capping, Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure of the Codified Rules and Regulations of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority must be amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cuyahoga County, Ohio:

Section 1. That Code Book Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure is hereby amended to read as specified in Attachment A hereto.

Section 2. That the Board of Trustees hereby waives the fourteen-day period provided for in Article XI, Section 2 of the Bylaws.

Section 3. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Attachments: A. Chapter 840 Commissions and Fare Structure

Adopted: March 18, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer

Attachment A to Resolution

CHAPTER 840  
Fare Code

- 840.01 Fares.
- 840.02 Children's fares.
- 840.03 Student fares discount program.
- 840.04 Public personnel and miscellaneous fares.
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- 840.15 Multiple day fare pass program.
- 840.16 Authority to suspend collection of fares during times of emergency or construction related detours.
- 840.17 Commissions for the sale of tickets and passes.

CROSS REFERENCES

- Formula grants for the enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities - see 49 U.S.C.A. 5310
  - Special provisions for capital projects - see 49 U.S.C.A. 5324
  - Public motor transportation companies - see R.C. Ch. 4921
  - Rates, fees and charges of public motor transportation companies - see R.C. § 4921.23 et seq.
  - Private motor transportation companies - see R.C. Ch. 4923
  - Fees and charges of private motor transportation companies - see R.C. § 4923.13
  - Comprehensive fare policy - see VEH. & OP. Ch. 842
-



**840.01 FARES.**

The following fare media, with the rates of fares to be charged, are established as follows:

**Cash Fares**

Senior/Disabled	\$1.25
Student K-12	\$1.75
Bus/Rapid	\$2.50

**Tickets/Fare cards - 1 trip**

Senior/Disabled -1 trip	\$1.25
Student K-12 - 1 trip	\$1.75
Bus/Rapid -1 trip	\$2.50

**Tickets/Fare cards - 2 trip**

Senior/Disabled - 2 trip	\$2.50
Student K-12 - 2 trip	\$3.50
Bus/Rapid - 2-trip	\$5.00

**Tickets/Fare cards - 5 trip**

Senior/Disabled - 5 trip	\$6.25
Student K-12 - 5 trip	\$8.75
Bus/Rapid - 5 trip	\$12.50

**Passes (Unlimited Rides  
within Cuyahoga County)****1-Day Passes**

All-Day Individual	\$5.00
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**Passes (Unlimited Rides  
within Cuyahoga County)**

**1-Day Passes**

Children All-Day (ages 6-12 accompanied by adult)	\$2.50
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Student K-12	\$4.25
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**7-Day Passes**

Senior/Disabled	\$12.50
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Bus/Rapid	\$25.00
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**Monthly Passes**

Senior/Disabled	\$48.00
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Bus/Rapid	\$95.00
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**Specialty Passes**

1-Day Cleveland Pass (Limited Distribution)	\$5.00
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2 Day Cleveland Pass (Limited Distribution)	\$10.00
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4 Day Cleveland Pass (Limited Distribution)	\$20.00
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**Paratransit**

Cash fare	\$2.75
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1-Trip fare card	\$2.75
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All Day pass	\$7.00
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5-Trip fare card	\$13.75
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7-Day Pass	\$30.00
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Monthly Pass	\$110.00
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#### **840.02 CHILDREN'S FARES.**

Each adult paying the applicable fare may be accompanied by up to three children under six years of age riding free and up to three children aged six through twelve using Child All-Day Passes.

(Res. 2004-126. Passed 9-21-04; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10.)

#### **840.03 STUDENT FARE DISCOUNT PROGRAM.**

- (a) (1) Any student in grades kindergarten through twelve residing within the County and attending a private or public school certified by the Ohio Department of Education will be entitled to pay student fares or utilize student tickets at a cost as set forth in Section 840.03, good for a full fare on all Authority services.
- (2) Any rider paying a student fare or using a student ticket is responsible for maintaining in his or her possession proof of enrollment in a school and/or system certified by the Ohio Department of Education and must produce such evidence if so requested by any Authority personnel.

(b) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer may execute agreements for the sale and/or distribution of student tickets and passes.

(Res. 1982-242. Passed 8-19-82; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

Students must have proper photo identification, if applicable.

(Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2006-131. Passed 7-18-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10; Res. 2010-43. Passed 6-22-10; Res. 2012-10. Passed 2-21-12; Res. 2012-91. Passed 10-23-12; Res. 2016-36. Passed 6-7-16; Res. 2017-33. Passed 5-16-17; Res. 2018-33. Passed 3-27-18; Res. 2019-42. Passed 4-16-19; Res. 2020-40. Passed 5-12-20; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

- (c) (1) Any student in grades kindergarten through twelve residing within the County and attending a private or public school certified by the Ohio Department of Education will be entitled to pay student fares or utilize student tickets at a cost as set forth in Section 840.03, good for a full fare on all Authority services.
- (2) Any rider paying a student fare or using a student ticket is responsible for maintaining in his or her possession proof of enrollment in a school and/or system certified by the Ohio Department of Education and must produce such evidence if so requested by any Authority personnel.

(d) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer may execute agreements for

the sale and/or distribution of student tickets and passes.

(Res. 1982-242. Passed 8-19-82; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.04 PUBLIC PERSONNEL AND MISCELLANEOUS FARES.**

(a) Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority employees, board members and retirees shall be permitted to ride free upon presentation of an identification card issued by the Authority.

(b) Municipal Police Officers, Cuyahoga County Sheriffs, State Highway Patrol Officers and full-time Municipal Fire Department Personnel shall be permitted to ride free on GCRTA vehicles while in official uniform.

(c) All persons on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States of America shall be permitted to ride free on GCRTA vehicles while in official uniform. (Res. 1993-119. Passed 7-20-93; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10; Res. 2012-38. Passed 4-17-12. Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.05 FARES FOR PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS.**

That personal care attendants, as defined in federal Americans With Disabilities Act ("ADA") regulations, shall ride free on Paratransit vehicles and pay the applicable fare on all other RTA services when accompanying ADA-eligible Paratransit riders.

(Res. 2016-36. Passed 6-7-16.)

#### **840.06 FARE CAPPING POLICY**

The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement fare capping. Fare capping ensures that riders receive the lowest available fare in the daily, rolling 7-day, and monthly categories based on their usage of the system. To benefit from fare capping, riders must either select the "tap & ride" function in the Authority's fare app or use a smart card.

#### **840.07 OPEN PAYMENT POLICY**

The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement open payment, enabling customers to use contactless payment technologies (including credit cards or smart phones) to pay fares. Open payment mimics single-ride cash fares, prioritizes convenience and does not allow fare capping or discount fares.

#### **840.08 TRANSFERS FROM ANOTHER TRANSIT AGENCY.**

GCRTA will accept a transfer from the following agencies for a free single ride on

GCRTA service as follows:

- (a) Laketran (Lake Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - In Lake County
    - In Euclid and Richmond Heights
  - (b) Metro (Summit Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - At the VA Medical Center University Circle
    - In Southeastern Cuyahoga County
  - (c) SARTA (Stark Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - At the VA Medical Center University Circle
  - (d) PARTA (Portage Co. transit agency)
    - At any downtown stop
    - At the VA Medical Center University Circle
  - (e) Medina County Transit
    - In Strongsville
    - In Medina County
- (Res. 1999-72. Passed 5-25-99; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.09 TRANSFERS.**

A customer is not entitled to receive a transfer when paying a cash fare. Customers who need to transfer can do so using passes or farecards. Each trip on a farecard provides a two and one-half hour boarding privilege.

(Res. 1990-206. Passed 11-27-90; Res. 2006-78. Passed 5-16-06; Res. 2008-63. Passed 4-15-08; Res. 2008-142. Passed 10-14-08; Res. 2010-11. Passed 2-16-10; Res. 2010-19. Passed 3-23-10; Res. 2016-36. Passed 6-7-16; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.10 TEMPORARY PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS.**

(a) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is hereby authorized to conduct temporary programs for the promotion of ridership. The programs may offer fare incentives or complimentary rides for specific routes, for the entire system and for community sponsored events with a duration of up to sixty days.

(b) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer shall consider the economic impact to the Authority when offering fare incentives or complimentary rides.

(c) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer shall report the results of promotional activities to the Board of Trustees on at least an annual basis.  
(Res. 1993-120. Passed 7-20-93; Res. 2019-67. Passed 6-18-19.)

#### **840.11 RIDE HAPPY OR RIDE FREE PROGRAM.**

Under the "Ride Happy or Ride Free Program," the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer may provide customers a free ride in compensation for a service failure. The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to terminate the program if they deem it to be ineffective.

(Res. 2001-15. Passed 1-23-01; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.12 EMPLOYER AND GUARANTEED RIDE HOME PROGRAM.**

(a) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer may conduct a program to encourage employers to purchase and provide fare media to their employees on a pretax basis.

(b) A "Guaranteed Ride Home Program" will be open to all Authority commuters who purchase their prepaid fare media from their employers through the Authority's employer program and who enroll in the Guaranteed Ride Home Program prior to participation. Participants will be limited to four emergency rides home per year at the actual cost of the ride, up to thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per ride.

(c) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement administrative procedures that all enrolled participants will be required to follow for scheduling an emergency ride home and submitting reimbursement requests.

(d) This program may be terminated at the discretion of the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer.

(Res. 2003-020. Passed 2-18-03; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.13 UNIVERSAL ACCESS PROGRAMS.**

(a) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to negotiate and enter into agreements with organizations ("Sponsors") that purchase from the Authority universal access privileges for all members of a clearly defined group. A group includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) All students at a university, college, school, or school system;
- (2) All students within a clearly defined subgroup, such as undergraduate students;
- (3) All students enrolled at a particular educational facility or campus;
- (4) All employees of an employer;
- (5) All employees of an employer who work at a particular work site or facility;
- (6) All employees of multiple employers who work at a clearly defined work site such as an industrial park, airport, or multi-tenant office building;
- (7) All residents of a new transit-oriented residential development; or
- (8) All registrants (minimum of 500) at a conference or event scheduled to occur in Cuyahoga County.

(b) Universal access agreements may be offered to groups where the Authority will benefit from underutilization of the riding privileges. Underutilization means that all members of the group receive access to the Authority's riding privileges but the group members use the riding privilege to varying degrees. Some group members fully utilize the riding privilege, some use it to a limited degree, and some do not use it at all. This underutilization is the sole justification for the discount pricing of Universal Access Programs.

(c) Pricing. The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer or his or her designee will negotiate initial discount levels of any agreement based on reasonably expected levels of underutilization measured by surveying group members or a similar method of estimation. The discount levels for subsequent periods will be based on follow-up measurements or estimates of actual utilization levels by members of the defined group.

(Res. 2011-93. Passed 10-18-11; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.14 PROOF OF PAYMENT FARE SYSTEM.**

(a) Juvenile Violation Fare.

- (1) All passengers, including juveniles, are required to have in their possession proof of purchase of a valid, paid fare whenever present in any facilities or vehicles that have been restricted to passengers with a pre-purchased fare. Any juvenile found without proof of a valid, paid fare is in violation of this requirement. On the first offense, the juvenile shall be given a warning. On the second and subsequent offenses, the juvenile shall be charged a violation fare of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).
- (2) The violation fare shall be paid within thirty days of the mailing of the notice of fare violation by U.S. mail, GCRTA website, or in person at the GCRTA Customer Service Center.
- (3) If the juvenile fails to pay the violation fare within thirty days of the mailing of the notice of the violation, the record may be forwarded to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, Juvenile Division, for referral to the county's Community Diversion Program.

(b) Adult Administrative Fee.

- (1) Effective November 1, 2011, adults found to be in violation of the proof of payment fare collection system may pay an administrative fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) within seventy-two business hours and a criminal citation will not be filed. If, however, the administrative fee is not paid within seventy-two business hours, the citation will be referred to the appropriate court for criminal prosecution.
- (2) The twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) administrative fee shall be paid within seventy-two hours to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority by U.S. mail, GCRTA website, or in person at the GCRTA Customer

Service Center.

- (3) Adults who receive a violation citation after November 1, 2011 and, thereafter, receive an additional violation citation within twenty-four months are not eligible for the administrative fee in lieu of the filing of a criminal citation.
- (4) After twenty-four months from a previous violation, adults found to be in violation of the proof of payment fare collection system may pay the twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) administrative fee described in paragraph (b)(1) hereof and a criminal citation will not be filed.  
(Res. 2011-81. Passed 9-20-11; Res. 2011-82. Passed 9-20-11. Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.15 MULTIPLE DAY FARE PASS PROGRAM.**

(a) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to implement a multiple day fare pass program for 1-day, 2-day and 4-day passes, priced consistent with the price of a daily pass.

(b) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to offer other multiple day passes, provided that these passes are also priced consistent with the price of a daily pass.

(c) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer is authorized to offer tiered pricing options as a function of group size for large group purchases of the multiple day passes.

(Res. 2012-10. Passed 2-21-12. Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

#### **840.16 AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND COLLECTION OF FARES DURING TIMES OF EMERGENCY OR CONSTRUCTION RELATED DETOURS.**

(a) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer shall be and is hereby authorized to suspend the collection of fares for RTA services when an unforeseen occurrence, condition, or event requires that commuters be transported promptly and effectively as a result of the emergency situation or when customers are required to be detoured due to an RTA project.

(b) During such emergency situation, fares may be suspended system-wide or along such routes as may be affected by the emergency situation.

(c) The duration of such suspension of fares authorized by this section may continue until such time as the emergency is abated, but not to exceed twenty-four hours, unless the emergency is of such a catastrophic nature that the continued suspension of fares is in the public interest.



(Res. 2003-019. Passed 2-18-03; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

**840.17 COMMISSIONS FOR THE SALE OF TICKETS AND PASSES.**

(a) The sales commission rates for the Authority's authorized pass outlets are hereby fixed as follows:

<u>Fare Media</u>	<u>Commission</u>
1- trip fare card (each)	\$0.03
2- trip fare card (each)	0.06
All-day pass (each)	0.06
5-trip fare card (each)	0.15
7-day pass (each)	0.25
Monthly pass (each)	0.60

(b) These commissions are to be paid only to authorized ticket and pass sales outlets.

(Res. 1991-128. Passed 6-18-91; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)

(c) The General Manager, Chief Executive Officer or their designee is hereby authorized to enter into agreements with business entities, employers, etc., for the sale of tickets and passes and the payment of the commissions set forth in subsection (a) hereof.

(Res. 1980-319. Passed 9-16-80; Res. 2020-68. Passed 9-1-20.)