



Faculty/Staff Commuter Choice Program

Description

The CSUF Commuter Choice Program is dedicated to mitigating parking demands on campus and providing commuting options to Faculty and Staff who drive alone.

Step 1: Eligibility

CSUF Employees who participate at least 70% of their scheduled work days are eligible to receive the following benefits.

Step 2: Explore Options

- **Bike or Walk:** Earn \$2/day without a parking permit, or \$0.50/day with a parking permit.
- **Carpool:** Earn \$1/day if the carpool members share one permit, or \$0.50/day if each member keeps their own permit.
- **Bus – Orange County:** Employees who do not own a parking permit may pick up a free Employee Bus Pass (E-Pass) from the Parking Office Monday through Friday (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) to commute to work on campus by OCTA bus.
- **Bus – L.A. and other counties:** Receive up to \$75/month reimbursement without a parking permit, or up to \$19/month reimbursement with a parking permit.
- **Rail/Train:** Receive up to \$120/month reimbursement without a parking permit, or up to \$30/month reimbursement with a parking permit.
- **Vanpool:** Receive up to \$120/month reimbursement without a parking permit, or up to \$30/month reimbursement with a parking permit.

Step 3: Direct Deposit

Commuter Rewards are disbursed monthly in the form of a check or direct deposit. To sign up for direct deposit, fill out the [Travel Direct Deposit Form](#).

Step 4: Supplementary Programs

- **Inclement Weather Parking Permits:** During inclement weather days (raining or above 90 degrees), registered walkers and cyclists without parking permits may print an Inclement Weather Permit through the [Parking & Transportation Services website](#).
- **Guaranteed Return Trip (GRT):** In case of an unexpected or unplanned illness or emergency, participants can receive a ride home free of charge up to four times per year.
- **Rideshare Infrequent Need Parking Permits:** Rideshare participants without a parking permit can print up to two complimentary permits each month through the [Parking & Transportation Services website](#).



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Step 5: Taxable Fringe Benefits

- All financial incentives received from the Commuter Choice Program are considered taxable reportable income which must be reported to the State Controller’s Office on a monthly basis.
- With exception are transit, rail, and vanpool reimbursements per [Internal Revenue Code § 132\(f\)](#).
- Tax deductions will be reflected on employee payroll checks following the month the benefit was received.
- Taxes are based on a mandatory “flat” tax rate at 35.65%.

The breakdown based on 2018 tax withholdings rates is as follows:

Tax	Rate
Federal	22%
State	6%
Social Security	6.2%
Medicare	1.45%
Total	35.65%

Questions? Contact Elissa Thomas at elthomas@fullerton.edu or (657) 278-4405.