

Rider Assistance

TCAT has rider apps that provide trip-planning and real-time information for new and experienced riders alike. See: <https://tcatbus.com/ride/apps/>



Google Maps is great for TCAT trip planning.

Other apps available in the Google Play and Apple App stores are:

MyStop



Transit



Moovit



Ithaca Transit
iPhone (only) app

On TCAT's website:

Avail Bus Tracker

<https://realtimetcatbus.availtec.com/InfoPoint/>

Swiftly Bus Tracker:

<https://live.goswift.ly/tcat/>

Need help, please contact us:

Email us at tcat@tcatmail.com

(607) 277-RIDE (7433)

Our customer service desk is open 8am to 5pm Mon.-Fri.



Connect with us:



Facebook: Everything TCAT



Twitter: TCATRides



Instagram: TCATmovesyou

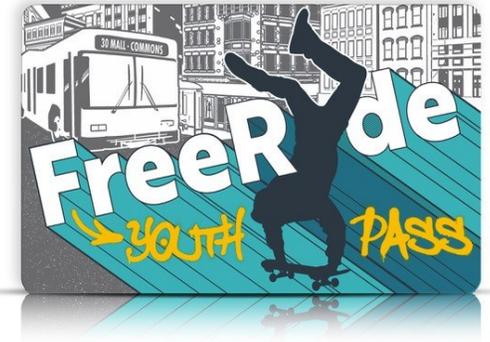
Stay connected while you ride!

TCAT Offers

FREE  

WiFi on its buses!

Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc.
737 Willow Ave., Ithaca, NY 14850
Phone: (607) 277-RIDE(7433)
Email: tcat@tcatmail.com



TCAT FreeRyde

Information Guide
for Parents,
Guardians & Students

A cooperative effort between
TCAT and Tompkins County
schools and youth advocates.



Updated Nov. 2022

What is FreeRyde?

Free Ryde is a program launched in spring of 2022 that provides unlimited free rides on TCAT buses 24/7 to youths who qualify (See below).

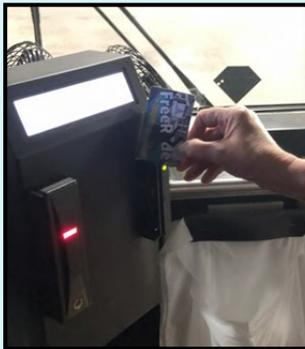
Program Background

The FreeRyde program came about out of a desire to help reduce transportation barriers for young people so they can enjoy Tompkins County's many recreational and educational venues. With the support of several local youth advocates, local school officials, and interest among TCAT's own staff, the FreeRyde program was approved by TCAT's Board of Directors on March 24th, 2022, and went into effect as of May 29th, 2022.

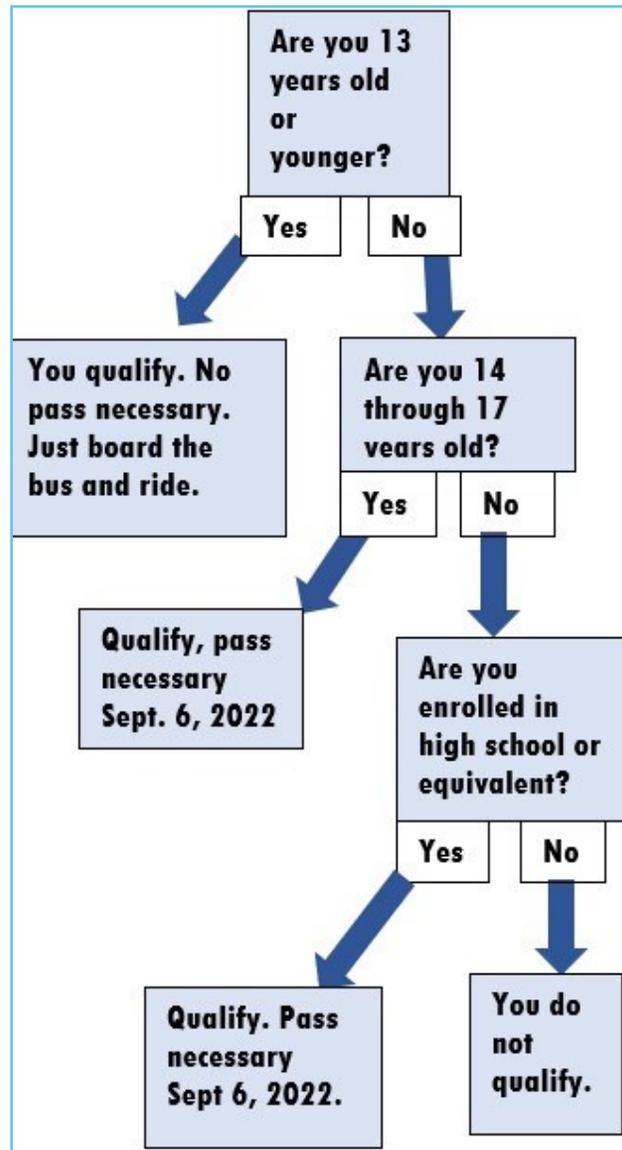
How does FreeRyde work?

It depends on your age. Those aged 13 and younger will be able to simply walk onto the bus without needing to swipe a farecard or put money in the farebox. As most older teenagers may be confused with adults and college students, special FreeRyde passes are necessary for those aged 14 and older to ride the bus.

The FreeRyde card functions just like a TCard - all are equipped with a magnetic stripe that must be swiped at the farebox upon boarding. (see right.)



Check your eligibility



A note to parents & guardians:

Rest assured! TCAT bus operators are commercially licensed professionals. They undergo several weeks of classroom and on-the-road training before going into service. Additionally, all bus operators are connected via radio with TCAT's central dispatch team.

How do I get a FreeRyde card?

Card distribution and tracking depends on your situation. For those enrolled in traditional public schools and charter schools, your school may help take care of card distribution and tracking. BOCES distributes FreeRyde cards to homeschooled students and participants in their programs (both in and out-of-county residents). Additionally, the Youth Employment Service at the Ithaca Youth Bureau and the Tompkins County Youth Services department are able to distribute passes to participants in their programs. For out-of-county youths and anyone with a special situation not outlined above, please contact us at 607-277-7433 or by email at tcat@tcatmail.com (Subject line: "youth pass" or "FreeRyde").

For more information on FreeRyde including its history, testimonials, and additional FAQs, please visit the FreeRyde page on our website, accessible via the QR Code to the right or under our **Fares/Rider Info>More Fares Information** section. Link: <https://tcatbus.com/freeryde>



Put your FreeRyde privileges to good use! Check out our TCAT to Trails guide and map which shows how TCAT can connect you to the many parks and trails in our county. The map and additional information on our TCAT to Trails page can be found on our



website, accessible via the QR Code to the left or under **Fares/Rider Info>Additional Resources** section. Link: <https://tcatbus.com/ride/tcattotrails/>