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New Fares!  
New Fareboxes!

Southeastern Regional Transit Authority  
700 Pleasant St.   
New Bedford, MA 02740  
508-997-6767  
info@SRTAbus.com

Si desea que esta traducido al Español, llame a Maritza Rivera **508-997-6767.**

Se você preferir esto traduzido em Português, ligue Jen Chaves **508-824-1367.**

Effective January 7, 2013.

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Demand Response Buses will NOT be Affected

The new fareboxes affect only SRTA’s fixed route buses. Demand response buses will not be affected.

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What’s New?

No Zones.

One free transfer good for 90 minutes.

New pass options.

Introducing the Charlie Card! A new stored value card available for use on MBTA and SRTA buses (not commuter rail).

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SRTA No Longer has Zones!

Now for $1.50 you can ride almost anywhere that SRTA goes!

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Transfers

You must ask the driver for a free transfer when you board the bus.

Transfers are good for 90 minutes from the time they are printed.

Transfers are available for outbound trips only.

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New Pass Options

SRTA now offers unlimited ride passes.

1-Day Pass for $4.00

Week Pass for $14.00

31-Day Pass for $40.00

Passes are activated the first time you use them. Also, the 31-Day pass is good for 31 days from its first use and is not limited to a calendar month.

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Also on January 7, 2013, SRTA buses will have new fareboxes that will read Charlie Cards.

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Riders will now have the following options to pay for their bus ride:  
Charlie Card  
Cash  
Paper Ticket

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There is a map on the slide of the regional transit authorities that accept Charlie Cards. The RTA’s that accept Charlie Cards are : Montachusett Regional Transit Authority, Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority, Lowell Regional Transit Authority, Metrowest Regional Transit Authority, Worcester Regional Transit Authority, Brockton Area Transit Authority, Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority, and Southeastern Regional Transit Authority. In the future, buses at Berkshire Regional Transit Authority, Cape Ann Transportation Authority, and the Martha’s Vineyard Regional Transit Authority will have the capabilities to accept Charlie Cards also.

Charlie Cards with stored cash value can be used anywhere in Massachusetts that Charlie Cards are accepted, including SRTA and MBTA subways and buses.

Charlie Cards loaded with passes can only be used on the system in which they were bought.

Please note that Charlie Cards cannot be used on MBTA commuter rail trains or ferries.

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What is a Charlie Card?

A Charlie Card is a plastic card, like a debit card, that allows you to store cash as well as bus passes on it.

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Benefits of Using a Charlie Card

Discounted fare.

No longer a need for exact change.

No need to carry cash to ride the bus.

You can add value online.

Registered account users have the added benefits of auto-reload and loss protection.

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Where can I get a Charlie Card?

Charlie Cards are available from the Ticket Vending Machines in both the New Bedford and Fall River bus terminals.

Senior and TAP Charlie Cards are only available from the SRTA Administrative office located in New Bedford.

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Transportation Access Pass (TAP) and Senior Charlie Cards

The reduced fare Charlie Card for disabled persons (Transportation Access Pass, or TAP) has a small “T” on the lower right hand side of the card.

The reduced fare Senior Charlie Card for persons 60+ years old has a small “S” on the lower right hand side of the card.

Both include a photo ID and are available at the SRTA administrative office at 700 Pleasant St., Suite 320 in New Bedford.

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Load up your Charlie Card!

Load your Charlie Card with value using cash, credit or debit cards at the Ticket Vending Machines located at the bus terminals.

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Add value online!

Load value on your Charlie Card using the MBTA link provided on the SRTAbus.com website.

\*Value added to your Charlie Card online will not be available for use for 48 hours.\*

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Charlie Card Discount

Riders who use a Charlie Card receive the additional benefit of a discounted fare when they load cash value at the Ticket Vending Machine.

Cash fare: $1.50, regular; $0.75 reduced

Charlie Card: $1.40, regular; $0.70 reduced

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Once you add value to your card, you’re ready to ride!

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It’s now time to board the bus!

Hold the Card against the orange Charlie Card target in the lower right hand corner of the farebox for at least one second when boarding.

If you have a pass loaded on your Card, the farebox will use that first.

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Paying your fare with cash

Riders can still pay cash with the new fareboxes.

Cash fares are $1.50 for regular fare and $0.75 for reduced fare.

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Cash

Fareboxes accept $1, $5, $10, and $20 dollar bills as well as $1 coins, quarters, dimes, and nickels.

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Does the farebox give change?

In the event that you insert more than $1.00 over the cost of your fare you will be issued a change ticket to be used towards a future ride.

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Using a Paper Pass

The first time you use a paper pass on the bus you simply insert the pass into the slot marked “Tickets” on the upper right hand side of the farebox to activate the pass and board the bus.

Each time you board after activating your pass you can swipe the pass along the top of the farebox to board the bus.

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Where do I buy passes?

1-Day and week passes can be purchased on the bus or at the Ticket Vending Machines.

31-Day passes can only be purchased at the Ticket Vending Machines at the New Bedford and Fall River bus terminals.

Please Note:

31-Day passes CANNOT be purchased on the bus.

31-Day passes CAN ONLY be loaded onto a Charlie Card.  
  
Paper passes are nonrefundable, non-transferrable, and SRTA is not responsible for lost or stolen passes.

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A Step by Step Guide to Using SRTA’s New Fareboxes

Lets take a look at how the farebox works and what you need to know to board the bus quickly and easily.

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The display screen is located in the upper portion of the farebox and will give you information on your Charlie Card as well as what fare is due.

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The bill slot and coin slot are located together at the lower left of the farebox. Please be sure that bills are free of wrinkles so that the farebox can read the bill correctly.

[Slide 27]

The ticket slot is located on the right side of the farebox above the orange card target. This slot is used to activate passes and print transfers, change tickets, and paper passes.

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The orange card target is located on the lower right hand side of the farebox. You must press your card against the target for at least one second to have your fare deducted. One beep means the correct fare has been deducted. Three beeps mean there was a problem reading your card or you don’t have enough value on the card to pay the fare.

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The ticket swipe area is located at the top of the farebox just above the display screen. After your pass has been activated using the ticket slot you can use the ticket swipe area to board the bus for the life of your pass.

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For More Information

Visit www.SRTAbus.com.

Call 508-997-6767.

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