

# Canton Public Schools Pay and Ride Program Frequently Asked Questions

### Q. Do Pay and Ride fees apply to my student?

A. Please see the chart below. If you are eligible for <u>Free and Reduced Lunch</u>, the pay and ride fee is waived.

WHICH STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION?		
PreK		Not eligible for Pay & Ride
Gr. K-6	Student lives two or more miles from school in which enrolled or needs to walk on or cross Rte. 138	Transportation provided; no fee
Gr. K-6	Student lives closer than two miles from school in which enrolled	May apply for Pay & Ride
Gr. 7-12	Distance between home and school not applicable	May apply for Pay & Ride
St. John's School	Student lives closer than two miles from school in which enrolled	May apply for Pay & Ride

### Q. My child attends St. Johns. I did not get an email. How do I sign up?

A. Please email <a href="mailto:transportation@cantonma.org">transportation@cantonma.org</a> to sign up. Late applications will be considered but not guaranteed due to space availability.

### Q. What are the Pay and Ride fees?

A. Please reference the letter <u>HERE</u>. The fees are prorated if signing up during the school year. You will receive an invoice notification from MySchoolBucks if you owe a fee.

## Q. I don't know if my student will need transportation. Can the fees be refunded if I change my mind or our situation changes?

A. YES. We will refund the full amount of your fees (minus any late fees) if you cancel your child's Pay and Ride before the 1st day of school. A prorated refund can be issued depending on cancelation date, after the first day of school. Bus passes are required to be turned in prior to refund and bus drivers will be notified of the student's cancellation.

# Q. I can't afford the transportation fee right now. Can I still sign my child up for a bus pass?

- A. Yes. Please sign up for the bus if your student will need it. We can help!
  - Please check out the <u>Free and Reduced Lunch Program</u>. If you qualify, the bus fee is waived. Please note a new form becomes available in July. Families need to apply each year to qualify! If you qualify, please indicate that on the electronic form.
  - 2. Even if you don't qualify for a fee waiver, please sign up for the bus if you need it! Please notify us of any hardships or need for payment plans. We understand and we are here to support all our Canton Families in any way we can!

### Q. How do I pay my student's Transportation Fees?

- A. Applicable fees will be invoiced by MySchoolBucks. Check your email. You may pay the MySchoolBucks invoice in the following ways:
  - 1. Applicable MySchoolBucks invoices are active. If you do not see an active invoice and feel you should, please email <a href="mailto:transportation@cantonma.org">transportation@cantonma.org</a>.
    - Login and pay fee: You may pay by credit card (3.95% fee) or by ACH e-check (\$0.25 fee). \*\*Please keep the confirmation for your records\*\*
  - Hand Delivered Check Payment \*\*Please note you can pay by check on MySchoolBucks for a \$0.25 fee (cheaper than a stamp!!)\*\*
    - i. Make checks payable to "TOWN OF CANTON"
    - ii. Clearly note on your check, student's names and the school they attend.
    - iii. Hand Deliver or mail checks to:

Canton Public Schools C/O Transportation 960 Washington Street Canton, MA 02021

#### Q. Why do I see a late fee on my Invoice?

A. All Transportation Applications are due by the end of the day on the due date listed on the <u>Transportation</u> page. There is a \$50 late fee for all applications that are received after that date. We need to know who will be riding the bus next year to establish routes. This is a time consuming process and we require your response as soon as possible.

### Q. My kindergarten students' bus stop is not at my door. Shouldn't it be?

A. Please see our <u>Student Handbook</u> regarding Transportation. All students can walk up to 0.5 miles from their home to their neighborhood stop. Kindergarteners are not guaranteed a stop at their home address. An adult must accompany their Kindergartener to the bus stop in the morning and be waiting at the stop in the afternoon. If a trusted adult is not present, your Kindergartener will be returned to their school for safety reasons.

#### Q. I do not believe my student's bus stop is safe. What do I do?

A. Email <a href="mailto:transportation@cantonma.org">transportation@cantonma.org</a> with your students name, school, stop area and reason you think it is unsafe. We do not consider any bus stop changes until October 1st. Our bus company, Connolly Bus, makes the bus routes and stop locations. They base their decisions on traffic flow, bus safety and your child's safety. They have been doing this for many years and we trust their expertise.