

CTA and Pace's new fare system: How it will work for you

CTA's new fare system will begin to take effect in 2013 and phase in completely by 2015. The system allows riders to pay for transit by tapping cards or tickets against card readers. The system will also allow riders to use personal contactless credit or debit cards, which can be loaded with multiple types of fare passes. Pace riders will make similar switches from their fare cards. Here is how it will work:

HOW YOU PAY NOW



Cash
Pay \$2.25 for a single ride on a bus or at a rail kiosk



HOW YOU WILL PAY UNDER VENTRA



Cash will still be accepted on buses. Riders wanting to pay cash for a single-use rail ticket will buy a **single-use paper Ventra ticket**, which will cost \$3. The price includes two transfers. Cash can also be used to add value to **Ventra cards**.



One-day pass



One-day **Ventra ticket**, a **Ventra card** loaded with a one-day pass, or a **debit or credit card** loaded with a one-day pass.



Multiday passes, 3-, 7- or 30-day



Ventra card or a **debit or credit card**, loaded with multiday passes.



Multiday CTA/Pace ticket, 7-day or 30-day



Ventra card or a **debit or credit card**, loaded with multiday CTA/Pace passes.



Pay-per-use via reloadable transit card and the Chicago Card



Ventra card or a **debit or credit card**, paying per use with a reloadable balance.



30-day pass with a Chicago Card Plus



Ventra card or a **debit or credit card**, loaded with a 30-day pass.



Reduced-fare programs: Disabled or senior pass



RTA will issue new contactless permit cards with a photo ID. The replacement card will be mailed this summer or fall. These cards will be able to be used as either reloadable reduced-fare transit cards, or reduced-fare 30-day passes.



Student reduced-fare pass



A contactless permit card will be issued to the student once the student is approved for the card. These cards will function as reloadable reduced-fare transit cards, and could include a photo ID.



Circuit Breaker free rides permit or military service pass



RTA and CTA will issue new contactless permit cards with a photo ID. The replacement cards will be mailed this summer or fall.

ADDITIONAL FEES, WHERE TO BUY, HOW TO RELOAD

VENTRA TICKET



Where to purchase: Only available at rail station kiosks.

Additional fees: Single-use tickets on rail lines will cost \$3 per ride, which includes a

50-cent fee to cover the cost of producing the disposable paper ticket containing a contactless chip, and 25 cents for a transfer, regardless of whether the rider uses the transfer.

VENTRA CARD



Where to purchase: Retail locations, at rail stations, online or by phone. Balances can be monitored online or by phone.

How to add value: Use cash at vending machines, or link to a personal bank account or credit card account.

Additional fees: There will be a \$5 fee when a rider first buys a Ventra card, but it will be refunded as stored value if the rider registers the account within 90 days. There will also be a \$5-per-month "dormancy fee" charged to accounts if they are inactive for 18 months.