

The School Opal card

The School Opal card gives eligible students free or discounted travel between home and school on approved metro, train, bus, ferry and light rail services during term.

Who can apply?

To be eligible for a School Opal card, students may need to live a minimum distance from their school:

Years K–2 (Infants)

There is no minimum distance.

Years 3–6 (Primary)

More than 1.6km straight line distance or at least 2.3km walking.

Years 7–12 (Secondary)

More than 2.0km straight line distance or at least 2.9km walking.



Students who live too close to be eligible for free travel may still qualify for a School Term Bus Pass. This pass offers travel on buses between home and school at a discounted rate for the whole of the school term. For more information about who can apply, visit transportnsw.info/school-students

Who needs to apply

A new application is only required if the student has not had a School Opal card before.

If the student already has a School Opal card and is changing schools, campuses or home address, their Opal card will need to be updated for the new school year before mid-December at transportnsw.info/ssts-update

How to apply

Applications for next year open at the start of Term 4 this year.

Step 1

Once the new school has confirmed the student's enrolment, complete the application at transportnsw.info/school-students

Step 2

The school endorses the application.

Step 3

Once Transport for NSW has approved the application, a School Opal card will be sent to the address provided on the application.



A parent or guardian must apply for students 15 years and under. Students 16 years and over can apply for themselves.



Which card to use

The School Opal card is only for travel to and from school. So it's a good idea to get a Child/Youth Opal card for travel after hours, on weekends or during school holidays.

Child/Youth Opal card benefits

- Concession fares across the Opal network.
- 30% fare discount on metro/train, bus and light rail services when travelling on Fridays, weekends, public holidays and outside of the peak times.
- \$1 transfer discount for every transfer between modes (metro/train, ferry, bus or light rail) as part of one journey within 60 minutes from the last tap off.
- Set auto top up and link it to a credit or debit card so there's always enough value on the card to travel.

Find out more at transportnsw.info/opal or pick one up from an Opal retailer. To find a retailer in your area visit transportnsw.info/opal-retailers



Secondary students aged 16 and over can travel with a Child/Youth Opal card when carrying a Transport Concession Entitlement Card. To apply contact your school or institution.

More information

For more information about school travel assistance, including details about travel restrictions and unsuccessful applications, visit transportnsw.info/school-students

Privacy

For information on how we handle personal information please refer to the Opal Privacy Policy at transportnsw.info/opal-privacy-policy and the School Pass Terms at transportnsw.info/school-pass-terms

