Pay To Ride -- Frequently Asked Questions

For students who do not meet eligibility requirements for free transportation, the Town of Franklin affords parents an opportunity to pay for transportation. It is the ultimate responsibility of the parent to ensure that their child gets to school.

How do you calculate the distance between my home and the school?

The Franklin Public Schools uses a transportation mapping software called Routefinder Plus that calculates the distance from your home to the school.

What is the fee?

The fee for the 2023-2024 school year is \$360.00 per student with a family cap of \$1,080.00. This rate is subject to change.

How can I sign up?

Students in grades K-12 who needs to ride the bus to/from any of the Franklin Public Schools or the Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter School MUST be registered, even if they receive free transportation due to distance or a Free/Reduced meal eligibility waiver. FPS families should login to the Aspen Parent Portal to register for the bus. BFCCPS families should use this google form. Students riding a van to a specialized program do **NOT** need to register.

How can I pay?

Please access Unibank's website to <u>PAY ONLINE</u>. You can pay in full when you register, or you can make payments. There will be no walk-ins or paper registrations accepted - No cash, checks or money orders will be accepted.

I can't afford to pay. Can you waive the fee?

Families with financial hardships are encouraged to complete an application for free/reduced price meals and allow the foodservice department to share that information with us. Families eligible for free or reduced priced meals are not required to pay for transportation, however, you MUST still register your student through the ASPEN PORTAL (FPS) OR GOOGLE FORM (CHARTER STUDENTS)

I only need one way transportation; can I pay half the fee?

The policy of the Franklin Public schools does not allow for fees to be prorated for partial years or for one-way transport. Each year we commit to a certain number of buses and a limited number of seats are available.

What is the enrollment deadline?

Registration and if applicable, first payment must be made by June 13, 2023 in order to guarantee a seat.

I signed up and paid by the deadline, but now my circumstances have changed and I don't need transportation. Can I have a refund?

Refunds are only issued on a case by case basis for requests made **prior to** the start of the school year. Once the school year starts, no refunds are issued. Please allow 3-6 weeks for processing.

I only need transportation in the spring because my high school student plays a sport in the fall and winter. Can you prorate the fee?

The policy of the Franklin Public schools does not allow for fees to be prorated for partial years or for one-way transport. Each year we commit to a certain number of buses and a limited number of seats are available

My child received a bus pass, but lost it. How can I get a replacement?

There is a \$5 fee for replacement bus passes. Please complete the bus pass replacement form found on the Transportation website. You may make payment online at Unibank's website using the link for "Fees Lost/Damaged Items".