



MBTA: NEW CHARLIECARDS AND FARES FOR 2007

The MBTA is introducing the new CharlieCard which will replace the CharlieTicket for SOME commuters.

Please refer to the information below, and the accompanying flyer, which explains who will be using a CharlieCard and who will continue using a CharlieTicket.

WHAT IS A CHARLIECARD?

- A CharlieCard is a durable, plastic “smart card” with an embedded chip that will serve as the new monthly MBTA pass if you purchase either a **Monthly Local Bus Pass** or the new **Monthly LinkPass**.
 - As of January 1st, all Monthly Subway, Combo and Combo Plus passes will be consolidated into one pass called the **Monthly LinkPass**.
 - See special “LinkPass” section below for details.
- Monthly Commuter Rail and Commuter Boat Passes will convert to CharlieCards later in 2007; until then these monthly passes will continue to be on CharlieTickets.
- Each person has their own CharlieCard which has an electronic identification number that will be your number only.
- With the new CharlieCard the MBTA can replace it if it is lost or stolen.
- If you lose your CharlieCard, it can be disabled and you can be reissued a new CharlieCard with a new electronic identification number in your name.
 - If you order your monthly pass through your employer, you must notify your representative if you lose your CharlieCard.
 - If you purchase a monthly pass on your own, you must register your CharlieCard with the MBTA in order to receive reimbursement if it is lost or stolen.
- Please do NOT punch a hole in your CharlieCard.

WHO GETS A CHARLIECARD NOW?

- Commuters who normally receive a Monthly MBTA Bus, Subway, Combo/Combo Plus or Senior/TAP Pass through their employer will automatically receive the new CharlieCard.
 - Again, the Monthly Subway, Combo and Combo Plus passes will be called the Monthly Link Pass.
 - Each month when your employer places the company’s MBTA Order, your card will automatically be updated with the new month’s pass.
- Commuters who personally buy a Monthly MBTA Bus or Subway pass can now get a CharlieCard on their own at special locations (see accompanying flyer).
 - Each month just purchase your new month’s pass at any fare machine and load it onto your CharlieCard.
 - OR add any dollar amount at any time and re-load the card as needed.
- Cash-paying riders should pick up a CharlieCard at specified locations in order to save time and after 1/1/07, save money!
- **Commuter Rail and Commuter Boat Passes** will continue to be on **CharlieTickets** until later in 2007 when they convert to CharlieCards. These passes will continue to be issued and used in the same manner they are currently used.

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HOW DOES A CHARLIECARD WORK?

- Instead of “inserting” your CharlieTicket you will “tap” your CharlieCard at the fare gate or fare box; The fare machine reads the CharlieCard and gives you access into or out of the MBTA station.
- When you get your **CharlieCard**, you will use the same CharlieCard month after month for as long as you continue to purchase monthly MBTA services.
- **Commuter Rail and Commuter Boat Passes** will continue to be on **CharlieTickets** until later in 2007. These passes will continue to be used in the same manner they are currently used.
- If you do not currently get a monthly pass but occasionally ride the MBTA Bus or Subway, you can - and should - get a CharlieCard (they are free).
 - Load any dollar amount onto the card and keep refilling it when you run out.
 - Using a CharlieCard allows you to pay a lower fare on Bus and Subway lines than paying cash on board or using a stored value CharlieTicket.

WHAT ABOUT THOSE CHARLIE TICKETS?

- The MBTA will continue to issue the CharlieTicket to all purchasers of Monthly Inner and Outer Express Bus passes, Monthly Commuter Rail Passes, Monthly Commuter Boat Passes, and Monthly Inner Harbor Ferry Passes.
- The CharlieTicket for these services is expected to change to a CharlieCard in mid to late-2007.
- CharlieTickets will still be available for purchase at MBTA Stations for riders to store trips on them; however fares on a CharlieTicket will be higher than fares on a CharlieCard.
 - Tip: Get a CharlieCard and load any amount on it to get the lowest fare.
 - If you still have CharlieTickets with stored value on them, continue to use as usual until the value runs out.

NEW MBTA “LINKPASS”

- Effective January 1, 2007, anyone purchasing a Monthly Subway, Combo or Combo Plus pass, will receive the new monthly “LinkPass”.
- The **Monthly LinkPass** provides unlimited access and travel on ALL Local Bus and Subway routes.
- The monthly “LinkPass” will be in the form of the new CharlieCard.
- The cost per month is \$59.
 - This is an *increase* for Monthly Subway Pass holders
 - This is a *decrease* for Monthly Combo and Combo Plus Pass holders.

Questions? Comments?

Please feel free to contact the Seaport TMA at SeaportTMA@fmr.com or 617-385-5510.
*** Check us out online at www.seaporttma.org ***