

MBTA's New Fare Collection System

Overview of the Project & Policy Changes

What are the benefits of this new system to riders?

More streamlined

Use the same system for bus, light rail, Commuter Rail, and ferry

More efficient

Faster service on buses, Green Line, and Mattapan Trolleys

More flexible

Pay with your fare card, smartphone, or contactless credit card

More coverage

Increased access so you never find yourself without a way to pay

The MBTA is developing a new fare collection system to launch in 2020 that will make paying for transit easier and make service faster. The new system will incorporate new ways to pay, expand access to fare cards and passes, and allow for new approaches to fares. These improvements will modernize and streamline how our customers interact with the MBTA.

Policy changes associated with the new system

We will be updating our MBTA Privacy Policy

Our new fare collection system will create an increased amount of passenger and travel data. The MBTA will be updating its Privacy Policy to ensure the protection of this new data.

We will be expanding access to fare cards & sales locations

In the new fare collection system, you'll be able to purchase fare cards at all fare vending machines, and at some retail locations. The MBTA will be working to ensure that these points of sale are located so that all riders have access to them.

We will be changing how we conduct fare enforcement

We will be implementing all-door boarding on bus and surface light rail, so bus drivers won't be checking your fare anymore. Instead, we will be launching a fare enforcement team that will be inspecting whether fares were paid.

We may be updating our fare structure and developing new fare products

The technology advancements in our new fare collection system will allow for a broad range of fare structure changes and new fare products. These could include distance-based pricing, time-of-day pricing, weekly or daily fare caps, and changes to transfer rules.

Contact Us

For all questions and comments related to the plans for our new fare collection system, please contact:

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