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Omnitrans to Offer Free Rides to K – 12 Students

(San Bernardino, CA) Beginning August 1, Omnitrans will offer kindergarten – 12th graders in its service area free rides on its fixed route service as part of a sixmonth Free Fares to School program, designed to enhance regional equity and welcome students back after a pandemic year.

"We know that there is a measurable link between access to transportation, student attendance and graduation," said CEO/General Manager Erin Rogers.

"Omnitrans wants to help build the next generation of success and ridership in our community by providing a safe, convenient transportation option for students."

Local students will simply show their student ID cards – which will be fitted with a program sticker – when boarding the bus to ride free on all fixed routes, including sbX rapid transit service and Freeway Express routes. OmniRide Chino Hills microtransit customers will receive a 50% discount on its demand response service. Although the program is called "Free Fares to School," students will be able to ride free anytime, enabling them to take part in extracurricular and community activities.

The Free Fares to School program will continue through February 2022; if successful, the agency will seek approval and funding for a permanent program.

Omnitrans serves 15 cities and unincorporated county regions in the San Bernardino Valley. For more information on Omnitrans routes and services, please visit www.omnitrans.org.

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