

San Jose State University TS Student Commute Guidance

There have been a lot of changes to transportation services and policies since the pandemic. This brochure is meant to provide you an overview of your commute options to SJSU. For more information, you can visit the [Transportation Solutions](#) website, or visit our office in the Student Union, Room 1800.

COVID-19

- Masks are no longer required when riding public transit but are still highly recommended.
- Physical distancing not required.
- Minimize contact with surfaces, sanitize after contact.
- Avoid contact with people who appear ill.
- Travel during less crowded times when possible.
- Stay home when sick.
- Use touchless fare options like the Clipper Card when possible.
- See latest [CDC recommendations](#) and the [Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan](#).

Diridon Station

- Main San Jose train station, serving Amtrak, Caltrain, Altamont Corridor Express (ACE), Highway 17 Express, VTA Light Rail, and buses.
- Transfer point for regional transportation.
- Connections to SJSU:
 - VTA buses [Rapid 500](#), [64A](#), [64B](#) drop off at 5th and Santa Clara St.
 - VTA bus [68](#) drop off at 2nd and Paseo de San Antonio.
- Biking and scooters are also options to get from the Diridon Station to SJSU.
- Baywheels Bikeshare has stations at the Diridon Station.

Amtrak

- Intercity train service operating between Auburn, Sacramento, Oakland, and San Jose Diridon Station.
- Tickets can be [booked on Amtrak's website](#) or at your nearest Amtrak station.
- Free rides on VTA with the SJSU SmartPass (for transfers).
- [Capitol Corridor Student Discount](#): Students age 13-25 are eligible to receive a 15%- 25% discount on train tickets.

Altamont Corridor Express (ACE)

- Connects key cities between Stockton and San Jose.
- Runs 4 trains to San Jose in the morning, 4 trains to Stockton in the evening. View the schedule on the [ACE website](#).
- Students can purchase 20 ride and monthly passes for 50% off from AS General Services (Student Union, Room 1800).
- Check [the ACE info page](#) for stations and prices, and [the ACE webpage](#) for parking information for each station.
- Pick up/Drop off at Diridon Station, refer to the Diridon Station section for transfer options.
- Free VTA transfers when presenting the ACE Pass.

Caltrain

- Connects San Francisco and San Mateo County to San Jose.
- Pick up/Drop off at Diridon Station, refer to the Diridon Station section for transfer options.
- Free rides on VTA with SJSU SmartPass (for transfers).
- 2 zone or more Caltrain monthly passes allow free VTA transfers.
- No SJSU discounts available. Single ride discounts available through Clipper START program.
- Clipper START program available to eligible low income residents, see eligibility criteria on [the Clipper START website](#).
- Caltrain is now offering a 20% off [Caltrain Monthly Pass](#) Promotion. This promotion is valid until December 31, 2023.
- Can load E-cash or transit passes to Clipper Card for Caltrain, the SmartPass is not valid on Caltrain
- Caltrain parking information can be found on [Caltrain's parking page](#).

Santa Cruz METRO

- Connects Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley to San Jose.
- Visit [the SC Metro webpage](#) for the schedule.
- Pick up/Drop off at Diridon Station, refer to the Diridon Station section for transfer options.
- Students can purchase monthly and 15 ride Highway 17 Express passes at a 20% discount. These can be purchased at from AS Services in the Student Union, Room 1800.
- Monthly Highway 17 Passes provide free Santa Cruz Metro and VTA rides.
- Park and ride lots at Pasatiempo, Scotts Valley, and Summit Road serve Highway 17. Students can park for free. See maps and details on [the Cruz 511 page](#).

Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)

- Serves Santa Clara County.
- The SJSU SmartPass provides free non-Express VTA rides (local, rapid buses, and light rail are covered).
- Buses [Rapid 500](#), [Rapid 522](#), [Rapid 523](#), [Rapid 568](#), [22](#), [23](#), [64A](#), [64B](#), [66](#), [68](#), [72](#), [73](#), and [Green Line](#) and [Blue Line](#) Light Rail directly serve SJSU (no transfer required).
- Differences between Express buses and Rapid buses:
 - Express buses are freeway buses that run very limited stops and are more expensive than regular buses. Express buses have numbers between 100 and 199.
 - Express buses are not free with the SJSU SmartPass.
 - They cost \$2.50 with a SmartPass and \$5 without. Visit the [Clipper website](#) to learn how to load cash value onto your Clipper Card to pay for services not covered by the SJSU SmartPass.
 - Rapid buses are buses that stop less often than regular buses, completing the route faster. They cost the same fare as regular buses, and they are free with the SJSU SmartPass. Rapid buses have numbers between 500 and 599.
- Students must meet one of the following criteria to be eligible for the VTA SmartPass
 - Be enrolled in either in person or hybrid classes
 - Have a mailing address within Santa Clara County.
 - Live in on-campus housing.
- The SmartPass is free for regularly enrolled students. There is a \$3 one-time fee for the clipper card.
- Open U students must pay the AS fee, obtain an SJSU TowerCard, and pay the \$3 one time Clipper card fee.
- An important reminder to not virtualize the Clipper card as this will void all SmartPass benefits.
- SmartPasses must be tagged within 60 days to avoid deactivation. If your SmartPass is experiencing issues please complete the [Clipper issue form](#).
- If you do not live near a direct VTA route, VTA has a network of [park and ride lots](#) throughout the route system. Students can park for free and take the bus or light rail to campus for free with the SmartPass.

Transit App- Real Time Departures

- Download the [Transit App](#) to simplify trip planning and get real time arrival/departures for Bay Area buses and trains.

BART

- Connects Bay Area cities.
- Ends at Berryessa Station.
- VTA [Rapid 500](#) provides service from Berryessa Station to SJSU.
- The SmartPass is not valid on BART, you must load cash or a transit pass for BART to your Clipper card.
- SJSU SmartPass can be used on Rapid 500.
- No SJSU discounts available. Single ride discounts available through Clipper START program.
- Clipper START program available to eligible low income residents, see eligibility criteria on [the Clipper START webpage](#).
- BART parking information can be found on [the BART Parking page](#).

Carsharing

- Get access to a car when you need it through Zipcar's carsharing service.
- Zipcars are conveniently located on campus and within Walking distance of campus. You pay an annual membership fee plus an hourly rental fee.
- Zipcars on campus can be rented out for as low as \$8.50 an hour. Hourly rates vary by vehicle type and city. Gas, mileage, and insurance is included.
- You can view which locations have cars available and can reserve one through the mobile app. For information on how it works and cars on campus visit the [TS Exclusive Offers page](#).
- Discounted annual memberships are available for SJSU students.

Carpool

- Carpool permits are available for purchase through the Parking Services website.
- Dedicated Carpool Spaces located in parking garages.
- See locations of carpool spaces on [the Parking Services page](#).

Helping You Commute Sustainably!

Scooters

- Bird, Lime, and Veo provide electric scooter rentals in San Jose.
- San Jose City Ordinance requires a valid driver's license or instructional permit to operate an electric scooter.
- Electric scooters may not be ridden on sidewalks.
- Electric scooters may not be ridden on campus.
- Parking zones for scooter shares exist on edges of campus.
- Do not park scooters blocking doors and sidewalks.

Biking

- Transportation Solutions operates 6 locked bicycle enclosures throughout campus. Visit [the Bike Enclosure page](#) to learn how to get access.
- Students commuting to campus for in person classes may be eligible to receive a reimbursement for eligible bike expenses. Visit our [bicycle reimbursement webpage](#) for more information.
- City of San Jose building protected bike lanes around SJSU, see [this bike lane map page](#) for maps and details.
- Bicycle riding is allowed on campus, but you must dismount in crowds and where dismount signs exist (in front of Student Union).
- E-bikes may not be ridden on campus.
- Shower facilities exist in the Sport Club, Kinesiology Department, and Gym.

Bike-Share

- Lyft operates Bay Wheels bike share; annual discounted memberships are available for SJSU affiliates.
- Eligible Housing students receive 6 free 30 minute bikeshare rides per month through our [Lyft pilot program](#).
- There are three on campus Bay Wheels Stations. 4th and San Fernando, 7th and San Fernando, 10th and San Fernando (10th Street Parking Garage). One at South Campus, and various stations throughout the neighborhoods around campus and at major transit locations.
 - See [the exclusive offers page](#) for sign up instructions.
- Shower facilities exist in the Sport Club, Kinesiology Department, and Gym.
- Can pay with Lyft App.
- Can link your Clipper Card for payments. Note: The SmartPass does not provide free rides on Bikeshare. For more information on linking your accounts visit [Clipper's website](#).

Parking Services

- A variety of semester parking permit options available:
 - 1 and 2 day/week permits available for part time students.
 - Week, month, semester, and academic year permits available.
 - More information can be found on [the Parking Permits page](#).
- The Park and Ride Lot is located at 10th Street and Alma, at the CEFCU Stadium 8 blocks from campus.
 - Parking Services operates a South Campus Courtesy Shuttle Service between Duncan Hall and the South Campus Garage. For schedules and more information, visit [the South Campus Shuttle webpage](#).
- On campus parking garages at South 4th Street, South 7th Street, and North 10th Street.
- Motorcycle permits are only valid at South 7th Street Garage.
- Pricing options and instructions for purchase can be found on [the Parking Services webpage](#).

BayPass Pilot Program

- Two-year pilot program run by Metropolitan Transportation Commission and BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit).
- Allow enrolled students free travel access to all [24 Bay Area Transit Operators](#) that accept Clipper Card.
- Quarter of the SJSU student population was randomly selected in August 2022 to participate in the program.
- For more information on the BayPass visit [BayPass Pilot Program Page](#).



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