

San Jose State University TS Employee 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 Related

- 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](#).

Commuter Benefits

- Allows eligible employees to defer up to \$270 per month tax free for transit pass purchase.
- Deducted from monthly payroll.
- Eligibility criteria and enrollment instructions can be found on the [Commuter Benefits page](#). Auxiliary staff are not eligible.
- Deductions for the VTA SmartPass are not eligible.

Diridon Station

- Main San Jose train station, serving Amtrak, Caltrain, ACE, VTA Light Rail, and buses.
- Transfer point for regional transportation.
- Connections to SJSU:
 - VTA buses [Rapid 500](#), [64A](#), [64B](#) to 5th and Santa Clara.
 - VTA bus [68](#) to 2nd and Paseo de San Antonio.
- Biking and scooters are also options to get from the Diridon Station to SJSU.
- Baywheels bikeshare has bikes at the Diridon Station. Employee discounts available, see bike section.

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).

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](#).
- Employees can purchase 20 ride and monthly passes at 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 ACE Pass.
- Two free daily parking passes a month through Parking Services by presenting a valid monthly transit 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 June 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](#).

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](#), [55](#), [64A](#), [64B](#), [66](#), [68](#), [72](#), [73](#), and [Green](#) and [Blue](#) Line LightRail serve SJSU.
- Employee SmartPass cost \$25 per semester and must be renewed each semester. There is a \$3 one-time fee for the clipper card.
- An important reminder to not virtualize the Clipper card as this will void all SmartPass benefits.
- For an overview of the SJSU SmartPass program visit [the SmartPass Overview page](#).
- 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.
- VTA has a network of [park and ride lots](#) throughout the route system. Employees can park for free at any of these park and ride lots and use the Smartpass to get to campus.
- Two free parking passes a month by presenting active status for employee SmartPass.

Santa Cruz METRO

- Connects Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley to San Jose.
- Visit [the TS webpage](#) for the new schedule.
- Transportation Solutions sells monthly and 15 ride Highway 17 Express passes at a 20% discount. These can be purchased at our office in the Student Union.
- 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. See maps and details on [the Cruz 511 page](#).
- Two free daily parking passes a month with valid 31-day pass through Parking Services with valid receipt.
- Clipper Cards not accepted.

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 car sharing 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.
- Discounted annual memberships are available for SJSU students.
 - To sign up, visit the [Zipcar website](#).

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](#).

Scooters

- Bird and Lime 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.
- 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.

Bike-Share

- Lyft operates Bay Wheels bike share; annual discounted memberships are available for SJSU affiliates.
- 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 pay with Clipper Card.

Parking Services

- A variety of semester parking permit options available. More information available 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.
- E permits are issued to employees only and allow use of both general parking and employee-only E parking. E permit holders may use R spaces after 3:30PM or on weekends ONLY.
- R permits are issued by the Office of the President only, and allow use of R spaces.
- O permits are issued by the Office of the Provost and Academic Vice President only, and allow use of O spaces.
- Pricing options and instructions for purchase can be found on [the Parking Services webpage](#).

Helping You Commute Sustainably!

