



King County Metro Commuter Van Program

King County Metro is converting to a regional smart card called ORCA - One Regional Card for All - that will eventually replace current passes. Bus, ferry and rail riders can use one reloadable smart card to pay for trips on King County Metro, Community Transit, Everett Transit, Kitsap Transit, Pierce Transit, Sound Transit and Washington State Ferries.

Cardholders may purchase a monthly pass and or add value to an electronic-purse (e-purse) for their ORCA Card. To pay a fare, the cardholder taps the ORCA Card on the card reader on the bus, at the train or rail station, or at the ferry terminal. The card reader automatically calculates what product to use, and or deducts the correct fare from the e-purse, including transfers and applicable discounts.

King County Metro Commuter Vans are **NOT** equipped with card readers. In the future, vans may be equipped with portable fare card readers or new payment methods may be developed. Until then, fare payment and ridership reporting will be handled very similarly to how they are handled now. The following chart and Questions and Answers describe important aspects of how ORCA will and will not work for Vanpool and Vanshare customers, especially those currently using Commuter Bonus vouchers, Ship-to-Shore Puget Passes, FlexPasses, and Metro-Only Vanpool/Transit Passes.

King County Metro Commuter Van Fare Product Comparison

Current Fare Payment Options	ORCA Products	Can the ORCA Product Apply to KCM Van Fares?
Metro-Only Vanpool/ Transit Pass \$2.00/\$72 or \$2.50/\$90	Metro Monthly Vanpool Pass A or B \$2.00/\$72 or \$2.50/\$90	Yes. The Metro Monthly Vanpool Pass A and B replace the Metro-Only Vanpool/Transit passes. Customers must provide "proof of purchase" each month and all pass use rules apply.
Ship-to-Shore Puget Passes	Monthly Puget Passes Monthly Washington State Ferries Pass	No. The Ship-to-Shore/Puget Pass will be phased out. Customers needing a monthly product to cover ferry and transit rides will need to purchase two separate passes for their ORCA card. Neither the Puget Pass nor Washington State Ferries Pass can be used to pay a van fare.
FlexPasses	Business Passport 20 to 499 employees	Yes. 100% of the monthly vanpool and vanshare fare is covered. Riders eligible for a Business Passport subsidy must submit a photocopy of their ORCA Card on the ORCA King County Metro Commuter Van Passport Use Form and all pass use rules apply.
FlexPasses	Business Passport 500+ employees	Maybe. Employers choose whether to subsidize vanpool and vanshare fares and determine the amount of that subsidy. Riders eligible for a Business Passport subsidy must submit a photocopy of their ORCA Card on the ORCA King County Metro Commuter Van Passport Use Form and all pass use rules apply.
Commuter Bonus Vouchers	E-voucher	Not directly. An ORCA Cardholder may use an e-voucher to purchase a Metro Monthly Vanpool Pass A or B.
Cash/Personal Checks	E-purse	No. Value stored in the e-purse on an ORCA Card cannot be used directly for van fare payment. However, riders may continue to provide their group's bookkeeper with personal cash or check for their fare.

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Questions and Answers

- 1. I heard Commuter Bonus Vouchers are going away. What should I do?** Commuter Bonus Vouchers will be discontinued. We will accept Commuter Bonus Vouchers until the individual voucher's expiration date and we will accept other paper bearer instruments through programs such as CommuterCheck, TransitCheck, TranBen, and WageWorks. Check with your Employee Transportation Coordinator about your company's specific voucher program.
- 2. What is an Electronic Voucher (e-voucher)?** ORCA provides an electronic voucher option for businesses. E-vouchers allow businesses to provide a transportation subsidy to as many ORCA cardholders as it chooses, at the same or differing subsidy levels. The subsidy amount can be kept consistent or changed from month to month. The ORCA cardholder can then decide how to "spend" the subsidy by applying the value and buying a pass or by converting the subsidy to an e-purse and spending it as needed.
- 3. What is e-purse and how does it work?** E-purse stands for electronic purse. Riders can store up to \$300 in transportation value in an e-purse on their card. Since e-purse doesn't expire, the value remains on the card to be used whenever they ride a bus, train or ferry. When a rider taps their card on a card reader, the system deducts the fare amount from their e-purse.
- 4. Do I need an ORCA Card to participate in a vanpool or vanshare?** No, you can pay your fare with a check to your group's bookkeeper, use accepted paper vouchers, submit a photocopy of your ORCA Card if your employer enters into an agreement that includes vanpool subsidies (similar in to the current Flexpass Program), or provide proof-of-purchase of agency-specific passes.
- 5. Can an employer still subsidize vanpool and vanshare fares?** Yes. Most of the options currently available to employers to subsidize their employees remain available under ORCA, including transportation vouchers, subsidy agreements, and agency-specific options like the Metro Monthly Vanpool Pass.
- 6. If my employer gives me an ORCA Card, can I use it on a vanpool or vanshare?** It depends on the type of product the employer purchases. See Product Comparison chart above.
- 7. If I currently have a FlexPass, what are my vanpool options under ORCA?** You will continue to use your FlexPass until your employer renews their agreement or the last day on the Flexpass. If the agreement is renewed, you will receive an ORCA Card and the new program will be called Business Passport. For vanpool and vanshare users, you will continue to use the ORCA card as you use your FlexPass today. No vanpool product will be loaded on these cards, but they will remain acceptable as full or partial fare payment as determined by your employer's agreement.
- 8. If I receive or purchase a Metro Monthly Vanpool Pass A/B for my ORCA Card what do I need to provide as "proof of purchase"?** We'll need a photocopy of a receipt, order confirmation, or screen shot of the Pass Details from you're My ORCA Account. We need the following information: 8-digit ORCA card serial number, type of pass listed is the Monthly Metro Vanpool Pass, and the month and year the pass is valid.