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STUDENT FREE BUS PASS OR FREE BUS TRANSFER UPDATE - POLICY - NO 13

DATE: 21ST February 2022

As it is the start of a new year and there has been some changes related to drivers and school bus routes, I wish to clarify what is required according to State Growth policy.

- Different Bus Passes are available for **eligible students** (for example **Bus Pass for Free Travel** and **Bus Pass for Free Transfer**) and this may be a point for confusion for students or parents. If a student travels on multiple fare charging school bus services, the student will pay a fare on the first trip then travel free on the other/s to complete the journey.
- In the afternoon, the student shows a **Bus Pass for Free Transfer** to travel free on the first trip and pays a fare with the same Operator on the last trip. This ensures the customer only needs to use one smartcard/10-pass ticket.
- Students who travel on a fare charging service to Launceston College in the morning, then travel with Tasmania Coachlines to St Patrick's College, **must either show a Bus Pass for Free Travel or Bus Pass for Free Transfer or be charged the student fare.** In the afternoon, students from St Patricks College travelling to Launceston College will be required to show a **Bus Pass for Free Travel or Bud Pass for Free Transfer or be charged the student fare.**

Students are using multiple fare charging services operated by the same Operator, for example two **Tasmania Coachlines services** to travel from home to school, the Operator must have **an internal system** in place to identify students who have paid the student fare on the first trip and will travel free on the other trips to complete their journey. Operators may use a **token system**

The **Bus Pass for Free Transfer** is a longstanding policy in regards to student travel. If you believe students who travel on your services are unaware or have not previously been informed of the student fare requirements, please communicate the Buss Pass application process to students/parents as soon as possible using the following link

https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/public_transport/student_travel/student_bus_pass_for_free_trav_el/apply_for_a_pass_for_the_first_time_

A grace period on charging fares in order for eligible students to apply for the Free Transfer Pass will be in place.

James Yu

Director Tasmania Coachlines