2023 – Terms and conditions of eligibility for a tertiary student discount ("Tertiary Concession Fare") on train and selected bus and ferry services



The purpose of the Auckland Transport ("AT") tertiary student discount ("Tertiary Concession Fare") is to provide a travel concession for eligible full time tertiary students to use selected AT public transport services while enrolled in and attending a tertiary education course at an AT Approved Tertiary Provider.

Who is eligible?

If you are enrolled in and attending a Qualifying Tertiary Education Course at an AT Approved Tertiary Provider as a Full-Time Student, you will be eligible for AT's Tertiary Concession Fare.

To access the Tertiary Concession Fare, you must have a registered AT HOP card and use this card for your travel on public transport. You must travel with one of the following to present to AT staff on request as proof that you are eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare: (1) your valid student ID card with the AT Tertiary ID Sticker affixed to it; or (2) a device with the AT Mobile App confirming your eligibility and a valid student ID card.

You will NOT be eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare if you:

- study only part-time;
- are enrolled in a course that is not a Qualifying Tertiary Education Course at an AT Approved Tertiary Provider;
- are studying by correspondence or via distance learning; or
- receive government funding for your transport.

What is a "Qualifying Tertiary Education Course"?

A Qualifying Tertiary Education Course is a course that is accredited by:

- the New Zealand Qualifications Authority ("NZQA") (except for the excluded programmes listed below); or
- the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

Excluded Programmes

If you attend the following programmes, you will not be eligible for Tertiary Concession Fare:

- Youth Guarantee;
- Foundation-Level Education;
- Capability building programmes funded by government; and

 all other similar government funded programmes (excluding fees-free education and training, the Targeted Training and Apprenticeships Fund ("TTAF"), Maori and Pasifika Trades Training Scholarships ("MPTT")).

What is an "AT Approved Tertiary Provider"?

To be an AT Approved Tertiary Provider, a Tertiary Education Organisation ("TEO") must meet all of the following criteria:

- be registered with the Ministry of Education and offer courses accredited by either the NZQA or the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee;
- · be located in the Auckland region; and
- have signed a Tertiary Participation Agreement with AT confirming that it has joined AT's Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme.

What is an App-Approved Provider?

An "App-Approved Provider" is an AT Approved Tertiary Provider that has been authorised by AT to confirm student eligibility for the Tertiary Concession Fare via the AT Mobile App. App-Approved Providers must sign a Memorandum of Understanding with AT to enable them to verify their students' eligibility for the Tertiary Concession Fare.

What is a "Full Time Student"?

The Tertiary Education Commission ("TEC") assigns an Equivalent Full Time Student ("EFTS") value to each course to determine whether it meets the full-time status criteria. StudyLink, a service of the Ministry of Social Development, uses EFTS to assess student loan and student allowance applications.

AT uses the TEC's EFTS value for your paper/s or course to determine your full-time student status. For tertiary education providers with a credit or points-based system, the credits or points assigned to a tertiary paper or course are converted to an EFTS value using StudyLink's EFTS calculation. Your full-time status is determined by the total EFTS value for the papers or courses you are enrolled in and attending. The duration of your



eligibility for the Tertiary Concession Fare will be either a year or a semester as determined by your full-time status (see further details below).

"Full-Time Student" for the purposes of determining eligibility for the Tertiary Concession Fare means one of the following:

- A student studying full time for a full year with a minimum of 0.8 EFTS points when enrolled in and attending a Qualifying Tertiary Education Course at an AT Approved Tertiary Provider for a minimum of 32 consecutive weeks or more in a full academic year: or
- A student studying full time but for only part of the year (i.e. for one semester) who has minimum 0.4 EFTS points when enrolled in and attending a Qualifying Tertiary Education Course at an AT Approved Tertiary Provider for a minimum of 16 consecutive weeks at one time within the academic year (i.e. not spread out over the course of the year); or
- A limited full-time student who meets StudyLink's limited full time student definition with an approval letter from StudyLink. StudyLink defines limited full-time status as a provision for students who are unable to undertake the workload of a full-time course.

The Tertiary Concession Fare does not apply to students enrolled in and attending summer school as the student will not meet the TEC's EFTS criteria for a full-time student.

How is the Tertiary Concession Fare applied?

If you are eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare, AT will apply this concession to your AT HOP card and the fare you pay for each journey on public transport services included in the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme will be reduced.

The Tertiary Concession Fare is currently 80% or less (depending on your journey) of the full AT HOP adult fare for travel on AT public transport services included in the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme. The Tertiary Concession Fare is not available when paying fares in cash.

Details of how to apply for the Tertiary Concession Fare are published on here:

https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/at-hop-card/card-concessions-discount-fares/tertiary-student-concession/.

Public transport services included in the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme

The train, ferry and bus public transport services included

in the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme are listed here https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/at-hop-card/card-concessions-discount-fares/tertiary-student-concession/.

Considerable effort is made to ensure the Tertiary Concession Fare is applied as widely as possible. The Tertiary Concession Fare is available on all services operated under a contract between AT and a transport operator but not on services that are not operated under a contract with AT (see Other Specific Tertiary Discounts below).

AT and its operators reserve the right to add or remove any route or service from the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme at any time without notice. If in doubt, students should contact the relevant public transport operator to check whether they apply AT's Tertiary Concession Fare.

Operator Specific Tertiary Discounts

Some operators provide services that are not contracted by AT but offer other discounts to tertiary education students. To find out more, see:

Fullers Ferries: www.fullers.co.nz
Sealink Ferries: www.sealink.co.nz

Tertiary Shuttles

Some tertiary education providers with more than one campus operate a shuttle service for students to travel between campuses. These shuttle services are independent to and not included in the Tertiary Concessionary Fare Scheme. Ask your tertiary education provider whether a shuttle bus service is available.

Over what period will I receive the Tertiary Concession Fare?

If you are a Full Time Student and you are eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare, the concession will apply from the first day of your course (usually 1 March) to the sooner of (1) 31 March of the following year or (2) the expiry date of your AT Tertiary ID Sticker or (3) the expiry date of your student ID card. You will need to apply for and reactivate the Tertiary Concession Fare on your registered AT HOP card upon expiry of your AT Tertiary ID Sticker or expiry of your Student ID card. Note: if your student ID card expires before your AT Tertiary ID Sticker, you will cease to be eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare from the expiry date of your student ID sticker.

If you have the AT Mobile App and you are a Full Time



Student who is eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare, the Tertiary Concession Fare will remain activated on your AT HOP card for up to 3 years (subject to you remaining eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare during that time).

If you elect to use the AT Mobile App, you must apply for the Tertiary Concession Fare following the steps above and then consent to AT contacting your AT Approved Tertiary Provider each year (and at any other time at AT's discretion) to confirm that you remain eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare. Your eligibility for the Tertiary Concession Fare will be displayed within the AT Mobile App.

Examples of how AT will determine the period in which you will receive the Tertiary Concession Fare:

If you have an AT Tertiary ID Sticker and do not use the AT Mobile App:

Example 1: If you are enrolled in and attending a tertiary education course that starts part way through the academic year and continues beyond 31 August (which is the date on which the half-year AT Tertiary ID Sticker expires) of the same year, you may be issued with a full year AT Tertiary ID Sticker only if you are enrolled in and attending a full time course for a minimum of 16 consecutive weeks.

Example 2: if your first semester EFTS value is 0.4 points and you are enrolled in and attending a course for a minimum of 16 consecutive weeks but, in your second semester, your EFTS value is only 0.3 points, you will be deemed to be full time for the first semester but only parttime for the second semester. You will be issued with an AT Tertiary ID Sticker for only the first semester.

Example 3: If you are enrolled in and attending a course that runs for less than 16 consecutive weeks but has an EFTS value of 0.4 or more, you will not be deemed eligible for the Tertiary Concession Fare and will not receive an AT Tertiary ID Sticker.

If you use the AT Mobile App

Example 1: if you are attending an App-Approved

Provider and you have opted to use the AT Mobile App and have your eligibility confirmed this way, the Tertiary Fare Concession will be available for the duration of the first semester once it is applied to your registered AT HOP card. If your enrolment for the second semester does not meet the 0.4 EFTS requirement, the App-Approved Provider will notify AT when your eligibility changes.

You will be notified that you are no longer eligible for the Tertiary Concession Scheme and the concession on your registered AT HOP card will expire 2 weeks after notification unless your enrolment status changes and your EFTS value meets or exceeds the 0.4 EFTS requirement.

All Full-Time Students must produce a fees receipt/certificate issued by their AT Approved Tertiary Provider confirming their eligibility as a Full Time Student when applying for an AT Tertiary ID sticker.

Important notes:

The Tertiary Concession Fare will not be applied and you will be charged the full adult fare if you:

- pay for a fare in cash;
- do not have the Tertiary Concession Fare activated on your registered AT HOP card at an AT Customer Services Centre;
- are unable to present on request a valid student ID card with a valid AT Tertiary ID Sticker affixed to it: or
- are unable to present on request your AT Mobile App with the "Eligible" status displayed on the concession page.

AT may revise these terms and conditions

AT may revise these terms and conditions at any time and without notice to you. Changes to these terms and conditions will take effect immediately on being published on AT's website.

AT may review and change the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme

In accordance with Auckland's Regional Public Transport Plan, AT is required to review its concessionary fare schemes (including the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme) on a regular basis. The outcomes of a review may result in changes to the Tertiary Concession Fare Scheme.