



WAVE IS HERE!

As of last month, RIPTA no longer accepts paper fare products on board (*except for paper Monthly Passes, which will be accepted on board through the end of June*).

Passengers must pay their fare with one of the following:

- Cash (Exact Change Only)
- Wave smart card
- Wave mobile app
- Printable Wave QR Code
- [Photo ID Bus Pass](#)
- Paper Monthly Pass (*through June 2022*)
- [U-Pass ID](#)



Wave is RIPTA's smart fare collection system currently used on fixed-route and Flex vehicles. It's a convenient way for passengers to ride RIPTA with either a smart card or their smart phone. [Click here](#) for more information.

Still have an old paper fare product?

Passengers can trade in their old paper fare products through the Wave Exchange program. [Click here](#) for details.

RIPTA WINS APA-RI AWARD

Every year, the American Planning Association Rhode Island (APA-RI) chapter honors all the great planning work accomplished throughout the state. This year, APA-RI honored RIPTA, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation and the Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning with the **Award for Excellent Transportation Plan: [Transit Forward RI 2040](#)**.



The state's first-ever transit master plan, known as Transit Forward RI 2040, is a bold and ambitious plan which recognizes the relationship between the strength of our transit network and Rhode Island's economic health and quality of life. The transit service improvements and capital investments recommended over the next

twenty years are designed to enhance mobility, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, encourage active transportation, support economic development, and make Rhode Island a better place to live, work, and play.

RIPTA has already started implementing these improvements, including most recently, for the first time ever, adding Sunday service to Route 14 between Newport, CCRI Warwick, Jefferson Boulevard and Providence. [Click here](#) to view the most recent transit improvements including increased frequency and span of service.

COMMON GOOD AWARD

RIPTA won not one, but TWO awards last month. *Rhode Island Monthly* awarded RIPTA the 2022 Common Good Award, which honors five Rhode Island businesses that encouraged their employees to participate in philanthropic efforts in their communities.

RIPTA was recognized for our willingness to assist [Meals on Wheels](#) with midday lunch deliveries and check-ins to their clients at the height of the pandemic.

Rhode Island paratransit drivers seamlessly took on their new role and delivered more than 17,000 meals to these vulnerable Rhode Islanders through Meals on Wheels. "They were nothing short of delivery heroes," shared a Meals on Wheels staff member.



This award is a testament to our willingness to be a steadfast community partner now and in the future.

The Common Good Award article was featured in the January edition of Rhode Island Monthly.



RIPTA SEEKS PARTNERS TO PURCHASE ACCESSIBLE TAXI CABS

Rhode Island taxi companies are invited to join RIPTA for virtual information sessions about an opportunity to partner on the purchase of wheelchair accessible

vehicles.

Contact Joelle Kanter at (401) 784-9500 x1283 or jkanter@ripta.com to ask questions and request the meeting link. Please share this information widely with any taxi operators that may be interested!

DON'T CHASE THE BUS

The safety of our passengers and employees is one of our top priorities, which is why we want to remind you of some safety tips.

1. Never chase a bus. RIPTA encourages you to arrive at your bus stop 5 minutes before the scheduled departure time. If you're late to your bus stop, wait for the next bus. Running after a bus can pose serious safety risks to you and those on board. Bus drivers cannot and will not stop after they start driving away from a bus stop.

2. Do not cross in front of the bus. After you leave the bus, wait until it has completely departed before crossing. Letting the driver leave first helps them



stay on schedule and keeps you safe.

3. Do not step off the curb as the bus approaches. Stepping into the street is dangerous for you and the driver. The driver will pull up to the curb so that you can safely board.

[Click here](#) to watch our Be Safe safety video featuring local Hip Hop lyricist and creator Jon Hope.



IT'S BEEN A GREAT RIDE

After 43 years of service, one of our loyal RIPTA employees is retiring. Tom Denny spent the first 18 years of his career as a fixed-route driver and the next 25 years as a Training Instructor, teaching trainees how to safely operate RIPTA's fleet. This amazing individual and trainer is grateful for his time here at RIPTA – and we're grateful to have employed him! Between fixed-route, paratransit and utility employees, this North Providence resident has trained over 1,000 people.

"What I will miss the most is the many friendships I have made with coworkers and the many people who I trained," said Tom. "It's been a great ride."

Throughout his career at RIPTA, he consistently inspired many and imparted priceless wisdom.

Some of his career highlights include assisting the RI Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals with a plan to reconfigure on-campus bus stop locations in order to improve pedestrian safety, as well as training URI student drivers on how to safely operate vehicles on campus under their Disability Services for Students' University of RI RamVan program.

Not only did he train drivers, he educated the public as well. Tom was commended by the Office on Highway Safety for educating 350 children at the Newport County YMCA "Safety Day" program. He also assisted in travel training students with disabilities from Pilgrim High School on how to safely use and enjoy riding the bus.

Tom, RIPTA is grateful for your contributions and we hope you enjoy your retirement to the fullest.

Are you interested in a career at RIPTA? Visit [RIPTA.com/careers](https://www.ripta.com/careers) for details.

GET IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT!

RIPTA is hiring!

Do you want career growth with an established organization where you can retire with a pension and benefits?

Attend the RIPTA Career Fair on Monday, February 21, 2022 from 12pm to 3pm at 705 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI.

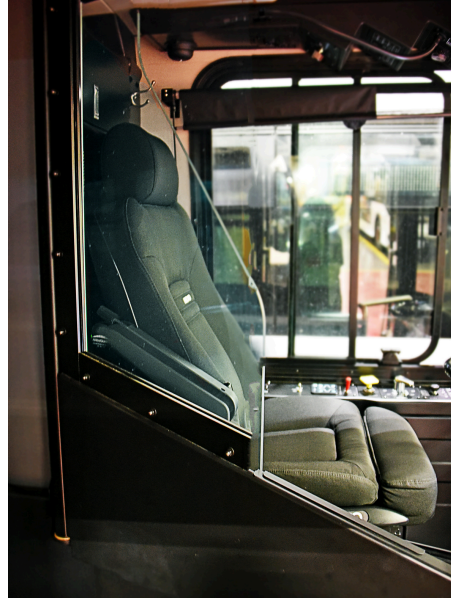
We're currently hiring for the following positions:

- Network Security Specialist
- Mechanic
- Utility Worker
- Paratransit Operator
- Paratransit CDL Trainee

RIPTA Offers:

- Competitive Wages
- Pension Plan
- Health Benefits
- 457 Deferred Comp
- Dental Coverage
- Optional Life Insurance
- Vision Coverage
- Paid Vacation and Personal Time
- Flexible Spending Account
- Paid Sick Time
- Uniform Allowance

Visit [RIPTA.com/careers](https://www.ripta.com/careers) for more information.



REGULAR SERVICE ON PRESIDENTS DAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2022

Just a reminder that RIPTA is running a regular schedule on Presidents Day, Monday, February 21, 2022. [Click here](#) to view a list of legal holidays that RIPTA will observe in 2022.



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