Parks Express transportation is an outreach program of the East Bay Regional Park District, providing low-cost transportation to East Bay Regional Parks. We serve low-income schools, groups serving children from low-income families, seniors, and people with disabilities in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

- **Bus Fee:** $110 per bus.
- **Additional Fees:** Additional vehicles accompanying the bus will pay parking fees (typically $5/car). Other fees may include park entrance, picnic site reservation, swimming, or fishing fees. You can request fee reductions through the appropriate Regional Park staff. (See “How to Apply,” #3.)

- **Only one scheduled bus trip in the January through December calendar year** is allowed per coordinator.

- **Bus Availability**
  - Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. September through June; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. July and August (Up to seven hours maximum.) No service on holidays.

### How to Apply

Apply early! We begin accepting applications in December for the following calendar year. Apply a minimum of six to eight weeks before your trip.

#### Steps to Take:

1. Complete the application in full (incomplete applications will be returned). Submit it to:
   - **Mail:** East Bay Regional Park District
     Parks Express
     P.O. Box 5381
     Oakland, CA 94605
   - **Fax:** (510) 639-4757

2. Contact an EBRPD Visitor Center if you wish to schedule a Naturalist Educational Program along with transportation.
   - Web site: www.ebparks.org
   - Naturalist Programs: 1-888-EBPARKS
   - TDD: 510-633-0460

3. If you wish to request fee reductions for additional costs incurred, such as park entrance fees for Black Diamond Mines or Ardenwood Historic Farm, swim fees, reserving a picnic site, etc. Send a letter to Jim O’Connor, Assistant General Manager, Operations. Address is below.
   - East Bay Regional Park District
   c/o Jim O’Connor
   P.O. Box 5381
   Oakland, CA 94605

4. You will receive a tentative reservation of your scheduled bus by mail. To confirm, your payment is required by the due date.

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All Information may be subject to change or revision.
You will receive a bus reservation letter in the mail. This reservation is tentative until we receive your payment by the due date as outlined in your letter. We accept checks, money orders, and Visa/MasterCard. The exact cash amount can be brought to our office with your notification letter. We cannot accept purchase orders. Unpaid trips will be cancelled.

Payment by Mail (Check, Money Order, Visa/MasterCard)
East Bay Regional Park District
c/o Parks Express
P.O. Box 5381
Oakland, CA 94605

Payment by Telephone (Visa or MasterCard)
510-544-2205

Payment Delivered in Person (Cash, Exact Amount)
East Bay Regional Park District Headquarters
2950 Peralta Oaks Court
Oakland, CA 94605

Vehicles

Vehicle Fee
All vehicles are charged the same fee – $110 per vehicle.

Yellow Bus
Minimum 40 passengers. On most buses the maximum can be up to 56 passengers grade 4 and older. Grades pre-K through 3 may be able to sit three across each bench for a maximum of 72 children accompanied by eight adults. The bus company will provide vehicles based on your stated passenger count.

Coach Bus
Minimum: 25 passengers
Maximum: 46 passengers
Available for senior or adult-only trips.

Lift Vans
Up to four wheelchairs, plus up to eight ambulatory passengers. (Limited availability)

Schools: At least 50% of the school’s students must be on the current Free and Reduced Lunch Program list, published on the California Department of Education’s Web site. You may visit their Web site, or ask us to check for you.

Non-profit Organizations and Government Agencies: 501(c)(3) status non-profit organizations and area municipalities that serve groups of Alameda or Contra Costa children from low-income families, seniors, or people with disabilities are eligible to apply. Include a signed statement on organization letterhead stating how your organization qualifies for the program. Non-profits: please include proof of 501(c)(3) status and your non-profit tax ID number. We may request additional information on your clients to determine eligibility.

Is this OK with my School District or Organization?
Some districts and organizations have restrictions or even exclusive contracts regarding the services that you use. Please verify with your administrators that your school or organization is allowed to use our contracted transportation carriers. We are usually able to subsidize buses or lift vans from your school district’s bus fleet at our usual cost to you. Call us to coordinate.