

ZPass: Frequently Asked Questions FAQs

Q. What is the ZPass Program?

The ZPass Program is a student identification system designed specifically for school bus transportation. The ZPass System uses RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) to provide your district with information on when, where and what time students get on and off district buses, helping to assure their safety.

Q. How does the ZPass work?

Students will receive ZPass cards that they must carry to ride the bus. An electronic reader installed on the bus will identify each student upon entering or leaving the bus. The time, date, and location of each student is logged and transmitted to a secure, confidential database. This information is then used to determine busload counts and is readily available in case of an emergency or lost student situation.

Q. What are the benefits of the program?

The program will provide a reliable way to identify student bus riders. In addition to the safety component, ZPass will provide real time data that will improve communication to parents and school sites, yield accurate data on student ridership, and enable the Transportation Department to be more efficient as they develop bus routes and bus stops.

Q. How will [District] ensure that student information remains confidential?

The ZPass system records only the student name, student ID number and ZPass ID number. No personal information about the student is included. Zonar's web based application Ground Traffic Control stores all user-defined data on Zonar's secured servers. The ZPass application and data is only accessible using the World Wide Web encrypted protocol "HTTPS" (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol - Secure) and only after proper authentication (User Login and Password).

Q. Who is eligible to receive a ZPass?

All students will receive a ZPass card for transportation purposes.

Q. Can my student still ride the bus to the home of a friend or relative?

ZPass cards will work on any district vehicle that is equipped with the ZPass scanner. Please refer to district policy for more information.

Q. Will students without ZPass cards be allowed to ride the bus for field trips and other school activities?

A. Yes. All students are eligible to ride buses for field trips and activities related to school athletics, music and educational purposes. ZPass cards will work on any district vehicle that is equipped with the ZPass scanner. Please refer to district policy for more information.

Q. If my child forgets his/her ZPass; can he/she still ride the bus?

Yes, your student will be allowed to ride the bus. If your student does not have the ZPass when boarding the bus, he/she should notify the driver at that time.

Q. What if my child loses his/her ZPass?

Your student should report the lost card to the bus driver or you can notify your district to prevent the unauthorized use of the card. The lost card will become inactive, and a new card will be issued in a timely manner.

Q. Will there be any cost for replacement cards?

The first lost card will be replaced at no charge, but additional replacements may result in a charge.

Q. How and when will students who are new to the district or transferring from another school receive their ZPass cards?

Once students are officially enrolled, a card will be issued to the student in a timely manner.