Approved by the Board of Trustees

May 22, 2025

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Board Meeting

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# APPROVE TRANSPORTATION FEES, CHICAGO, ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

**Action:** Approve Transportation Fee, Academic Year 2025-2026

**Funding:** Student transportation fee

The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends the addition of an optional U-Pass+ to provide access to Metra commuter train service for University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) students for Academic Year 2025-2026. The optional Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) U-Pass will also continue to be available. This recommendation includes the assessment of optional transportation fees for the selected services for the academic year.

UIC has an existing contract with the CTA for an opt-in CTA U-Pass, which allows unlimited rides on CTA buses and elevated trains to students who choose to pay a fee. Under the current contract, students pay $163 per semester if they choose to opt-in. The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), working with the CTA and Metra, is also offering a U-Pass+, a new option that students can select to gain access to unlimited rides on commuter trains serving the City of Chicago and suburbs. The cost of the U-Pass+, which includes ridership on the CTA and Metra, will be $379 per semester. A portion of both fees covers UIC administrative costs. The five-year contract for U-Pass+ will commence in Fall 2025, expiring in Summer 2030. Rates are subject to change annually.

Students at the College of Medicine pay a higher cost for the U-Pass ($169) and will pay a higher cost for the U-Pass+ ($392) due to their differing academic calendar. The U-Pass+ is being offered as a pilot program for Academic Year 2025-2026 to UIC and other Chicago-area universities. Students who select an optional transportation service may select either the U-Pass or U-Pass+.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs, and vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller concur with these recommendations.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.