



Military Service Pass Information

Effective August 4, 2008

Earlier this year, CTA began offering free rides for active duty military personnel in uniform. Now other eligible military personnel can ride for free on CTA buses and trains with a CTA Military Service Pass (MSP).

Who is eligible for MSP?

- Chicago area active duty military personnel and actively drilling members of the National Guard and Reserves who possess an Armed Forces ID card.
- Chicago area disabled veterans who have a qualified service-connected disability and can provide proof of that:
 1. They are in receipt of United States Department of Veterans' Affairs (USDVA) disability compensation of 10% or greater; or
 2. They are receiving military disability retirement pay in lieu of USDVA compensation at a rate of 10% or greater.

What is required to confirm eligibility?

- For active duty military personnel, an Armed Forces ID card.
- For disabled veterans, an official letter from the USDVA indicating eligibility for a qualifying service-connected disability payment as outline above, along with a valid state ID card.

What if I am on active duty and in uniform?

You can ride for free and do not need to use your MSP. However, if you are on active duty but not in uniform, you must have an MSP in order to ride for free.

I am retired from the military. Am I eligible for an MSP?

No. Only active duty military personnel and disabled veterans who have qualifying service-connected disability (as outlined above) are eligible for the MSP. However, if you are 65 years of age or older, you are eligible for the RTA Seniors Ride Free Program. Contact the RTA at 312-836-7000 for details.

How do I obtain my MSP?

Visit one of the service centers on the select days listed below.

- Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Room 5-570
Chicago, IL 60601
1st Monday and Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- General Jones Armory
5200 S. Cottage Grove
Room N100
Chicago, IL 60615
1st Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Hines VA Hospital
5th and Roosevelt
Maywood, IL 60141
4th Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Jesse Brown VA Hospital
820 S. Damen
Room 2446
Chicago, IL 60612
4th Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 4 pm.
- Evanston Veterans Center
565 Howard
Evanston, IL 60602
2nd Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Oak Park Veterans Center
155 S Oak Park
Oak Park, IL 60302
3rd Thursday, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Military Service Pass is not valid on Pace or Metra.

