

Dear Sir/Madam

Free Travel on Local Bus Services throughout England for Over 60's and Disabled

Thank you for your enquiry regarding the above. If you wish to apply for a bus pass, please complete the enclosed application form. The pass will entitle the holder to free travel in Essex from 9.00 am to 12.00 midnight on weekdays and all day at weekends and bank holidays.

The pass will also entitle the holder to free off-peak travel on local bus services throughout England, off-peak is from 9.30 am to 11.00 pm on weekdays and all day at weekends and bank holidays.

Application Form

<p><u>Section A</u> To be completed by all applicants</p>	<p>Complete your name, address, telephone number and email address if you have one. Enter your date of birth, and sign the certificates and declarations section at the bottom of the page. Please enclose proof of residency: (one of the following) rent book, council tax demand, pension statement, utility bill, bank/building society statement. (do not send originals)</p>
<p><u>Section B</u> To be completed by applicants who are eligible and aged over 60 years (please see leaflet to confirm the date you are eligible)</p>	<p>Please sign and date the declaration and enter your National Insurance Number. Please enclose proof of age: (one of the following) birth certificate, valid driving licence, passport, pension book or marriage certificate. (do not send originals)</p>
<p><u>Section C</u> To be completed by applicants who are disabled</p>	<p>If you are disabled and your criteria meets with one of the descriptions listed 1–7 on the application form, please sign and date in the area provided, then tick against the description which best describes your disability. Please enclose a copy of your proof of disability.</p>

Please enclose one passport style photograph with your application. Please write your name on the back of the photograph.

Return the completed form, passport photograph and documents to Rochford District Council, Council Offices, 7 South Street, Rochford, Essex SS4 1BW. If you have any queries, please contact the Transportation Section on the above telephone number.

Please allow 14 days for delivery of your new pass, which is produced and dispatched by an independent company.

Yours faithfully



J Crawford
Transportation Manager

National Concessionary Bus Travel

Frequently asked questions

What is the National Concessionary Bus Pass?

The Government announced, from April 2008, eligible pass holders will be able to board any local bus in England and be entitled to free off-peak travel.

What is meant by off-peak?

Statutory minimum off peak travel is between the hours of 9.30 am and 11.00 pm weekdays and all day on weekends and bank holidays. In Essex you are entitled to free travel between 9.00 am and 12.00 midnight weekdays and all day on weekends and bank holidays. Some Authorities may allow travel outside the off peak times, although it is advisable to check with the Bus Operator or the Local Authority before travelling

Who is entitled to a National Concessionary Bus Pass?

People who are aged 60 before the 6 April 2010 and eligible disabled people, resident in England. From the 6 April 2010 the age of eligibility will be pension age and for men, pensionable age of women born on the same day. (Please refer to leaflet to confirm the date you are eligible for a free bus pass).

Do I need to provide a photograph?

Only if it is your first application for a bus pass in this Authority, or if the photograph on your current bus pass no longer represents a true likeness.

Is there a charge for the new National pass?

No, there is no charge for the issue of the bus pass, however, if lost or damaged a fee will be charged for a replacement.

Can I use the new National bus pass on the trains, tubes or National Coaches?

No, it is restricted to local bus services only.

If I visit an area that offers additional services, will I be entitled to them?

If you visit an area that offers additional services, you will not normally be entitled to them. As a general rule, Local Authorities will only provide additional services for their own residents.

I visit London occasionally. Will I be able to enjoy the same benefits as a Freedom Pass holder if I travel there?

No, because those benefits are paid for by the London Authorities. You will however, be able to enjoy the statutory national concession of free off-peak bus travel when visiting London.

Will I be able to enjoy free travel everywhere within the UK?

No, the concession will only apply within England.

I'm finding all the differences in the schemes confusing, what do I really need to know?

The new national bus pass entitles you to free bus travel on local services in Essex from 9.00 am to 12.00 midnight. Anywhere else in England you are entitled to free off-peak travel on local bus services from 9.30 am to 11.00 pm.

Further information can be obtained from the Council website at www.rochford.gov.uk and from the Department of Transport website at

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/buses/concessionary/>

Transportation Department at Rochford District Council – Telephone: 01702 318189

Email: transportation@rochford.gov.uk