Blind Access CharlieCard Customers:

Your new card entitles you (and a sighted guide) to ride for free on all MBTA fixed-route services (bus, subway, commuter rail and commuter ferry). Simply tap your card at the black target on the face of the fare box/fare gate. At the audio signal, proceed onboard or through the gate.

Dear MBTA Senior/TAP/Blind Access Customer:

Congratulations on obtaining your new Senior/TAP/Blind Access CharlieCard.

Your Senior/TAP/Blind Access CharlieCard is:

1. Versatile! Your new card can be used for travel on all MBTA services. Senior/TAP cardholders pay 50% off local bus, subway, commuter rail/commuter ferry and express bus fares. Using it gets you free transfers within 2 hours of last service. Blind Access cardholders travel free.

2. Convenient! Add a pass, cash or both to your Senior/TAP CharlieCard anytime you’re at a T station. No more searching for loose change.

3. Simple! Just tap your card on the black target on our fare vending machines, fare gates and fare boxes to get going.

4. Permanent! Now that you’ve got your card, keep it and use it over and over again. It will last for years.

For more information on schedules, fares and reduced-fare programs, or if you lose your card, please contact the MBTA CharlieCard Store at 617-222-3200, TTY 617-222-5854 or visit MBTA.com.

Apply for your Senior/TAP or Blind Access CharlieCard at:

CharlieCard Store
Downtown Crossing Station
(Underground Concourse)
7 Chauncy Street
Boston, MA 02111

Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For more information or for an alternate format of this document, please call 617-222-3200, TTY 617-222-5415 or visit mbta.com.

Taking care of your Card:

All Senior/TAP/Blind Access CharlieCards come with an embedded microchip. To keep yours working properly, handle it with care. To prevent damage to the card:

1. DO NOT PUNCH any holes in your card. It will damage the computer chip embedded in the card.
2. Do not bend or twist your card.
3. Never insert the card into any equipment.
4. Your Senior/TAP/Blind Access CharlieCard will expire on the date printed on the card.
5. Reduced-fare CharlieCards are not transferable and are subject to applicable reduced-fare regulations and conditions of use. Any violation of the rules will result in immediate confiscation.

Please visit mbta.com to review the MBTA’s privacy policy and for additional information.
How to add value or a monthly pass to your Senior/TAP CharlieCard:

At any station fare vending machine, add value or purchase a monthly Senior/TAP LinkPass ($30.00).

1. Fare vending machines are located in all MBTA stations and major bus hubs, or at local retailers displaying the “Charlie” logo.

2. Place your card on the black target with the small green light.

3. Press either “Add Value” or “Purchase Passes.”

4. Follow the payment instructions on the screen.

5. Place your card again on the target to complete the transaction.

6. Proceed to the reduced fare gate or fare box and place your card on the black target to enter.

7. To check the remaining balance/information on your card at the fare vending machine, simply place it on the black target and select the “Card/Ticket Information” button. Your balance will appear on the screen.

8. At the fare box or fare gate, your remaining balance will be displayed after each transaction.

How to use your Senior/TAP CharlieCard:

1. For customers with stored value on their card, the reduced fare amount (Local Bus – 85¢, Subway – $1.10) will be deducted by placing the card on the black target located on either the fare box (buses and trolleys) or any fare gate.

2. At a bus or Green Line trolley fare box, tap your card on the black target and board. Your fare will be automatically deducted.

3. At a subway fare gate, simply tap your card on the black target. The gate will open instantly, and your fare will be deducted.

4. If you need a bus or subway transfer, it will be automatically stored on your card. No more paper transfers!

5. Customers with a monthly Senior/TAP LinkPass have access to all subway and local bus services for the calendar month purchased.

How to add value at the fare box:

1. Press the white button.

2. Place your card on the black target with the small green light.

3. Insert money.

4. Press white button to accept.

5. Place your card on the black target again.