# Important information about school bus travel for 2016

School transport is not free. However, you may be eligible for transport assistance under the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS). APPLY NOW if you intend to use a Surfside Buslines bus to get to or from school.

## Frequently asked questions

### Can I get a bus pass?

There are a number of general criteria that apply to STAS. Where a student is eligible for STAS, there are two types of bus assistance available, distance based and Safety-Net travel. Visit <a href="https://www.translink.com.au/schooltransport">www.translink.com.au/schooltransport</a> for eligibility details and to print the relevant application form.

#### Where do I send the form to?

Applications for 2016 can be submitted now to Surfside Buslines PO Box 3036 Robina QLD 4230 Or

Email: gcschools@tagroup.net.au

#### Who needs to apply?

If this is the first time you are applying for assistance to travel or you are moving schools, changed address, repeating a grade or are moving from primary school to secondary school you need to apply now.

#### **Existing bus pass holders**

If your details will not be changing from 2015 to 2016 you do not have to reapply.

Students who hold a 2015 bus pass will be able to travel with that pass until 19 February 2016. This allows some time for the 2016 passes to be made.

If you lose your 2015 bus pass you will have to apply to Surfside Buslines for a replacement.

#### How do I get my bus pass?

Surfside will process applications over the Christmas school holidays so your pass will be sent to your school for you to collect.

# What if my pass hasn't arrived by 19 Feb 2016?

Without written confirmation from TMR stating your application has been approved you will need to pay the full cost of travel. These fares are not refundable.

#### What if I am not eligible for STAS?

The Queensland Government offers children and students a 50% concession fare by purchasing a <u>TransLink gocard</u>. Passengers aged 5-14 years are eligible for a child concession fare.

Full time students 15 years or older are eligible for a Student Concession *go*card. To receive a concession fare, students must always carry an approved Queensland student photo identification card or wear an official Queensland school uniform.

#### **Timetables**

Use the TransLink journey planner to plan your travel to and from school. There are helpful tips on how to plan and how to catch a bus.

Alternatively telephone 13 12 30.

Check out the new <u>MyTransLink app</u>. All bus, train, ferry and tram information is in the palm of your hand with customisable features so you will always get the updates that matter to you.

#### **Further information**

For more information on the School Transport Assistance Scheme, the Code of Conduct for School Children Travelling on Buses and Timetables visit: www.translink.com.au