Frequently Asked Questions

Updated for Academic Year 2022-2023

The following is a list of commonly received questions regarding parking general information.

1. How and where can I purchase my parking permit?

The UTRGV Parking Portal is available for students to purchase their permits or pay for citations online. To access the UTRGV Parking Portal, click here.

Parking permits can also be purchased in person at the following Parking & Transportation Office locations:

Brownsville Campus: BVAQP: Building A

Edinburg Campus: EASFC 135

After you purchase your parking permit (whether online or in-person), the charge should be posted to your student account the next day. You can pay for your parking permit online by logging into your student account or if you have excess financial aid, it will be applied towards the outstanding balance. There are no late fees or drops associated with posting of these types of charges.

Your parking permit is mailed to the address associated with your student account. You can display your purchase confirmation on your dashboard until the permit arrives.

If for some reason, you don't see the charge or don't receive your parking permit within two days, please contact us at parking@utrgv.edu.

*Note: There was a posting delay for permits purchased before August 25, 2022. If your account was impacted, you will be receiving an email notification.

2. Will I need to buy a parking permit this year?

Yes, parking permits will be required for this year. Permits can be purchased in-person, but we encourage you to buy online to avoid the wait and to reduce in-person interaction.

To purchase you're parking permit click here.

If you do not need a yearly parking permit, students have the option of purchasing semester permits, or evening permits at a reduced rate and both students and employees can use the pay stations for short-term parking.

3.Do I need to register my vehicle in order to park at the University?

Yes, you can register your vehicle at the time of purchasing your parking permit. You can register up to two vehicles, but you must display your parking permit at all times while on campus.

4. Will there be enforcement this year?

Yes, enforcement is in effect in all areas this year. Visit our website at www.utrgv.edu/parking to view our parking policies.

5.Do I need a permit to park at TSC?

UTRGV permits are valid in TSC lots, but pay attention to the lot signs to ensure that you are parking in the correct lot—students may not park in faculty/staff lots. Yes, if you intend to park in a TSC lot and do not have a UTRGV permit, please visit our office for a free temporary zone 2 permit.

6. Why do I have to pay to park?

Parking Services is self-funded--it does not receive funding from the state or tuition. Revenue generated from permit sales and citations funds parking lot improvements and construction, campus safety, security, police services, lighting and surveillance cameras in the parking areas, transit routes, and operations.

7. Why can't my parking permit be included as part of tuition?

By law (see <u>Texas Education Code</u>, <u>Sec. 54.503(b)</u>), parking fees cannot be included as part of tuition.

8. Why do parking permit rates increase?

There are no parking permit rate increases for FY23. There have not been any increases since 2018. UTRGV's Zone 1 permit rate of \$60 has not increased since UTRGV's inception in 2015.

9. What is the approval process for parking permit rate increases?

Recommendations to increase parking permit rates are voted upon by the Parking and Traffic Advisory Committee ("PTAC"). PTAC membership consists of representation from Student Government Association, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Facilities Management, Police Services and Parking Services. The purpose of this Committee is to a) review parking and traffic regulations, b) develop recommendations for regulation revisions, as necessary, and c) to develop an efficient parking and traffic system as it relates to differential parking zones, parking fees, penalties for violations of regulations, arrangements for bicycles, motorcycles, and pedestrian traffic.

There are no plans to increase permit rates.

There will be opportunities for community engagement before future permit rate increases, if any, are implemented in a future year.

10. What is the difference between Zone 1 and Zone 2 parking permits?

All students have the option to purchase Zone 1 or Zone 2 parking permits. This allows students to make their buying decision based on proximity and price. Semester permits are also available for students to purchase. Please see the Parking Rate Card for applicable rates.

At \$60 for a 12-month period (averages to \$5 per month), a Zone 1 parking permit is the most affordable option and allows students to park in remote parking lots. **VOLT** vehicles make trips from and to the

remote parking lots providing students with FREE rides to designated drop-off locations on the Brownsville and Edinburg campuses. Students can download the Ride Systems mobile application to see when the next bus will arrive. View the <u>Ride Systems app</u> for more information. If you don't mind walking, Zone 1 parking is about a 10-minute walk to the campus core on the Edinburg campus.

At \$100 for a 12-month period (averages to about \$8 per month), Zone 2 allows students to park in parking lots that are closer in proximity to academic buildings. Zone 2 permit holders can also park in Zone 1 areas at any time.

After 5 pm, students with a Zone 1, Zone 2 parking permit can park in Zones 1, 2 or 3 (employee parking).