VAQUERO EXPRESS

RIDER RULES

01 FORM AN ORDERLY LINE TO BOARD BUS

If people are waiting ahead of you, do not cut in front of them.

02 BOARD BUSES IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY ARE PARKED

Our goal is to fill up the first bus parked at a stop completely before boarding the second bus, and so on. If you refuse to board the first bus when there are still seats available, you may not be allowed to board the second bus.

03 REFRAIN FROM STAYING ON THE BUSES FOR A LONGER TIME THAN YOU HAVE TO

Your trips should be direct. For example, if you are intending to go from Harlingen to Edinburg, do not board the bus that stops in Harlingen and is going to Brownsville and then remain on the bus in Brownsville. This causes fewer seats to be available to passengers in Brownsville who might then be left behind. Instead, board the bus coming from Brownsville to Edinburg; it will stop in Harlingen.

04 SEAT BELTS ARE RECOMMENDED

Seat belts are not required to be worn, but if a bus is equipped with them, we recommend you wear them.

05 REMAIN SEATED WHILE THE BUS IS IN MOTION ON MTS OR CONNECTOR ROUTES

No one is allowed to ride standing. You may stand on the intracampus bus routes in Brownsville and Edinburg if there are stanchions available on the bus for you to grab on to.

06 BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS

If you want to listen to something on your phone or computer, wear headphones and keep the noise levels at a minimum. Remember that others are trying to nap, study, or relax. The enclosed space makes your conversations louder and more bothersome.

07 USE DECENT LANGUAGE

Foul language, obscenities, bad words, or threats against bus drivers or others are not allowed. The police will be called if the driver or any other passengers feel threatened in any way.

08 SAVE MESSY/SMELLY FOODS FOR LATER

Remember that your tuna fish sandwich might taste delicious, but others might not like the smell. Eat and drink only from containers with spill-proof lids. If you should happen to spill something, please clean it up immediately.

09 DISPOSE OF TRASH PROPERLY

If you have trash, take it with you when you exit. If you make a mess, clean it up.

10 HONOR PRIORITY SEATING FOR SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

If a passenger in a wheelchair is being boarded, please refrain from sitting in the seats reserved for that purpose, as that area will be used to secure the wheelchair.

CONSEQUENCES

If you violate any of the rider rules, the bus driver will ask you to stop your behavior immediately. If you do not stop, he or she will ask you to exit the bus. If you refuse to exit, the police will be called. Students and faculty are also bound by certain standards of conduct found in the Handbook of Operating Procedures. We will report all violations of those standards to the Dean of Students or department heads.

If you commit three infractions within a period of one school year, you will not be allowed to use the bus for a period of two weeks after the third infraction. If, after returning, you commit another infraction, you will not be allowed to use the bus for a period of one month thereafter. If, after returning from that suspension, you commit another infraction, you will not be allowed to use the bus for the remainder of the school year.

It is the bus driver's responsibility to ensure that the riding environment is safe and secure and that passengers do not experience any disruption in their experience. If they feel a violation is serious enough to warrant intervention, police and the Shuttle Services Supervisor will be called to the scene. We reserve the right to call the police at any time and remove anyone from the bus who poses, in our judgment, a significant safety or security concern. Such determinations will be made through consultation of the driver and a supervisor.