

## Top Ten (10) Frequently Asked Questions

Updated for Academic Year 2023-2024

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

### 1. 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.

### 2. 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 [Ride Systems app](#) 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 4 pm, students with a Zone 1, Zone 2 parking permit can park in Zones 1, 2 or 3 (employee parking).

### 3. Are there enough parking spaces for those who purchase a parking permit?

We continuously analyze supply and demand for parking spaces, redistribute spaces across zones depending on use, and recommend additions.

The current parking industry standard ratio for permits to spaces is approximately 3:1. UTRGV's parking ratio is approximately 3:1.

### 4. Why hasn't UTRGV built parking garages?

UTRGV assesses supply and demand for parking on a continual basis. While it may become a necessity in the future, there are currently plenty of underutilized parking spaces (Zone 1 specifically). The cost for construction of a parking garage, at minimum, would be in the neighborhood of \$20,000 per space. (For purpose of comparison, a surface lot costs an estimated \$3,500 per space.) Funding such a structure would cause permit prices to increase substantially (remember, we would not receive state or tuition funding to pay for the garage) and would not result in the same quantity of spaces that could be achieved with surface parking. Many Texas public universities with parking garages sell parking permits in the range of \$400-\$600.

### 5. At what time can I park in Zone 3/Reserved spaces?

“Reserved” spaces, also known as “Zone 3”, can be used by Zone 1, Zone 2, evening, and resident permit holders on Monday through Friday after 4 PM, on Saturdays and Sundays, and on holidays unless otherwise marked. Note that a parking permit is required at all times when parked on campus.

#### **6. Where are the zones?**

A map of zones and their locations can be found on our [website](#).

#### **7. If I forget to transfer my permit from one car to another, can I still park on campus?**

A valid permit is required to park on campus at all times. For those times when you forget your permit you must obtain a temporary permit at the Parking and Transportation office. Current permit holders may obtain up to 5 free days per semester, thereafter, a dollar per day will apply. Refer to the Parking Rules and Regulations for more information about limitations.

#### **8. What happens if my permit is lost/stolen?**

You should immediately report the permit as lost/stolen and call the Parking and Transportation office. In some cases you may be asked to visit our office.

#### **9. How do I upgrade/downgrade my permit?**

Eligible permit changes (for example, going from a Zone 1 to a Zone 2) can be handled at our offices. You must bring the current permit and pay any difference in the fee and a \$5.00 permit restocking fee.

#### **10. What should I do if I am having problems with ordering a permit online?**

If you are having problems ordering your permit online, you can always come by our office or contact our staff for assistance at [parking@utrgv.edu](mailto:parking@utrgv.edu) or 956-665-2738 in Edinburg or 956-882-7051 in Brownsville.