



Business Choice King County Metro

ORCA Business Choice provides total flexibility for employers and employees. This program offers multiple products on a single ORCA card. The card can contain products including monthly passes, e-purse or e-voucher. It can also be used to supplement the ORCA Passport program.

Elements include:

- Monthly transit passes at retail prices for bus, train, ferry or Metro vanpool.
 - ~ Access to **all** regular bus services on Community Transit, Everett Transit, Kitsap Transit, Metro Transit, Pierce Transit, and Sound Transit
 - ~ Access to regular Sound Transit Link light rail service
 - ~ Access to Sounder commuter rail
 - ~ Access to Washington State Ferries
- E-purse option – Employees use stored value to pay for travel on a per-trip basis or convert to monthly pass
- E-voucher option – Employees convert to E-purse or monthly pass and if unused, E-vouchers are eligible for a credit to the employer
(See E-purse and E-voucher details on back)

Benefits to *employers* include ability to:

- Purchase ORCA cards and load or reload value monthly, or as needed, via the website
- Distribute cards infrequently as they have a 3-4 year life
- Conveniently manage employee cards online by serial # or group
- Load multiple ORCA products (like E-purse or E-voucher) on a single ORCA card
- Provide cards only to those employees using transportation services
- Provide a subsidy and/or Pre-Tax benefit to employees
- Change products from month to month or maintain a stable order
- Conveniently pre-pay on-line via credit card or by mailing a company check
- Block lost or stolen cards and transfer products or move value from blocked cards to new cards
- Obtain initial supply of ORCA cards at no charge

Cost of Frequently Used Monthly Commuter Passes*

Although transit passes range in per trip value from \$0.50 to \$4.75, two of the most frequently used transit passes for commuting in King County are the \$2.00 per trip pass (monthly cost of \$72) and the \$2.75 per trip pass (monthly cost of \$108).

*April 2010 prices



Benefits to *employees* include ability to:

- Load bus, train, ferry and Metro vanpool passes, and per-trip fares on one card.
- Conveniently convert the E-voucher to E-purse and pay for travel on a per-trip basis or convert to a monthly pass
- Add value to cover the cost difference between the employer sponsored subsidy and the total cost of the desired product or fare
- Ability to register your card. If lost or stolen, the card can then be blocked and the value issued to you on another card.

About E-purse:

- A means of storing value on an ORCA card as a stand-alone amount or in combination with a monthly pass
- Can be used to provide a pre-tax benefit to employees
- Allows the employer to restore an amount on a replacement card if a registered card is lost or stolen
- Employees use the value stored to pay for travel on a per-trip basis or apply the value toward a monthly pass
- Employees can add personal funds to the E-purse on their employer-provided card, however the card belongs to the employer

About E-voucher:

- Works similar to E-purse, but is only available to employers
- Funds are credited back to the employer after 30 days if vouchers are unredeemed
- Employees decide how to 'spend' their E-voucher by either applying the value toward a monthly pass or converting it to an E-purse for use on a per-trip basis

For answers to your questions or to get started with Business Choice, please contact [King County Metro Employer Commute Services](#), 206-263-3444, employer.services@kingcounty.gov