

ORCA Business Passport New Customer Incentive and Choose Your Way Bellevue Passport Rebate

Providing an ORCA Business Passport transit pass is an excellent way to support sustainable commutes for your employees. Choose Your Way Bellevue (CYWB) is currently offering rebates, while supplies last, to Bellevue employers that start new ORCA Passport programs. When combined with King County Metro's ORCA New Customer Incentive, the price is unbeatable!

What is ORCA Business Passport?

ORCA Business Passport is a subsidized, comprehensive annual transportation pass program for employers with a minimum of five employees. With an ORCA Business Passport card, employees can take unlimited trips across four counties and seven transit agencies.

Employee Benefits

- **Unlimited free rides** aboard all major transit agencies in the Puget Sound region. This includes buses, light rail, monorail, streetcar, commuter train, water taxi, and fast ferries.
- Fully subsidized **Vanpool and Vanshare**.
- Home Free Guarantee – each passholder is eligible for **eight free trips home** (via cab, Uber, Lyft) from work in case of an emergency.
- Seamless, sustainable travel for both daily commutes and personal trips.

Employer Benefits

- Program costs can be charged annually, with **no monthly admin duties** required.
- Employee **cost-sharing** available (to cover up to 50% of the unlimited pass cost).
- **Reduce payroll taxes** with pre-tax employee contributions and qualify for the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Tax Credit when subsidizing transit passes.
- Incentivizes employees to **choose sustainable commute modes** which reduces traffic congestion, frees up parking, and aids in meeting commute trip reduction goals.
- Recruit and **retain top talent** by offering unparalleled flexibility, freedom, and value to your employees.

How much does it cost?

Program costs are calculated annually based on employee count and worksite locations. To understand your estimated cost, visit King County Metro's [zone cost estimator](#). **These costs are updated every six months.** As of March 2025:

- Worksites within downtown Bellevue have an estimated cost of \$167.16. Worksites within King County Suburbs have an estimated cost of \$291.71 per employee. The costs are averaged amongst all passport holders within a zone. If a zone is home to worksites where a lot of employees use a lot of transit, that zone's business passport pricing will be higher.



What discounts are available to first-time customers?

Both KCM and CYWB offer discounts on the first few years of an ORCA Passport contract:

Year	ORCA New Customer Incentive	CYWB Passport Rebate
1	35% incentive (up to \$7,000)	\$50 per pass annually (up to 100 passes)
2	25% incentive (up to \$5,000)	\$100 per pass annually (up to 100 passes)
3	15% incentive (up to \$3,000)	-

Here's an estimated annual cost breakdown for a worksite with ten employees in Downtown Bellevue:

Year	Typical ORCA Passport Cost*	New Customer Incentive	CYWB Passport Rebate	Total Cost After Deductions
1	\$1701.60	(\$595.56)	(\$500)	\$606.04
2	\$2022.40	(\$505.60)	(\$1000)	\$516.80
3	\$2022.40	(\$303.36)	-	\$1719.04

*The average first year cost of the ORCA Business Passport is \$167.16 plus a \$3 card fee per employee. For renewing customers, the average cost is \$202.24. **These are estimates as of March 2025. KCM updates their pricing every six months. Visit the [zone cost estimator](#) to learn more.**

- Utilizing both the ORCA New Customer Incentive and Choose Your Way Bellevue's Passport Rebate would allow the average ten-person worksite in Downtown Bellevue a total savings of **\$2,904.52** over their first three years using the program. That's more than the program's total cost of **\$2841.88!**
- For an individual to purchase an equivalent monthly pass, it would cost an average of \$1,200 annually vs. the passport program's annual cost of \$167 - \$291 per individual. The ORCA Passport is **six times less** than the retail price before applying any of the above discounts.

Restrictions

- ORCA Business Passport **must** be provided for all benefits-eligible employees.
- The New Customer Incentive is redeemable for at least five passes and up to 100 passes. (If you have four employees, you must purchase five passes. If you have 150 employees, the discount will only apply to the first 100 passes.)
- The New Customer Incentive discount is capped at \$7,000 the first year, \$5,000 the second year, and \$3,000 the third year.
- Each employer can receive a maximum of 100 Passport Rebates and is available only while supplies last.

With transit expansions on the horizon and traffic congestion on the rise, now is the perfect time to invest in commute benefits that support your employees and improve retention. Choose Your Way Bellevue offers free consultations to all employers in Bellevue. Whether you're looking to select the best ORCA Business program for your team, enhance your company's commuter benefits, or just need guidance on where to start, our team is here to assist. Get started today by contacting us at info@cywb.org today or [clicking here](#) to schedule your free consultation.

Choose Your Way Bellevue

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