

# Parking FAQs & Resources

## Forms and Guides

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **When did the new parking permit process start?**

The new parking permit process began on July 1, 2017.

### **Why is CSU instituting a paid parking permit system?**

Proceeds from parking permits will fund campus security upgrades, including additional police officers on campus.

### **Do I have to buy a parking permit?**

Only if you intend to park on either campus. If you walk, ride, or take a bus to campus, then you do not need a parking permit.

### **What if I drive more than one vehicle to campus?**

All vehicles that park on campus must be registered with Parking Services and linked to a valid permit. You may add up to 3 vehicles to a single permit, which is registered to a single driver. Please be advised that only one vehicle from each permit may park on either campus at one time. Visit the [Parking Web Portal](#) to add temporary or permanent replacement vehicles to your account.

**What if I get a new vehicle or have to borrow a vehicle?**All vehicles that park on campus must be registered with Parking Services and linked to a valid permit. Visit the [Parking Web Portal](#) to add temporary or permanent replacement vehicles to your account. You can also call us at (706) 507-8203, email us at [parking@columbusstate.edu](mailto:parking@columbusstate.edu), or stop by our office on the third floor of the Cunningham Conference Center to register additional vehicles.

**What if I park on campus without a parking permit?**You run the risk of receiving a ticket. Vehicles with an excessive number of unpaid tickets may be immobilized or towed, at the operator/owner's expense. Also, visitor parking spaces are patrolled to prevent students, faculty, and staff from parking in those spaces to avoid purchasing a permit.

**How much are parking permits?**Permits for students are \$45 per academic year. Permits for faculty, staff, Enterprise Development partners, and vendors' vehicles are \$90 per academic year. Part-time and temporary faculty and staff may qualify to have the parking permit charge waived. Reserved spaces are \$180 per academic year and are only available to those who previously had reserved parking spaces.

**Who is eligible for a reserved space?**Only Deans and Vice Presidents are currently eligible for reserved parking spaces.

**If I drive a motorcycle do I need a permit?**Yes, motorcycles are required to be registered to a valid parking permit.

**Where/How do I buy my permit? Can I buy it online?**At the Parking Services Office on the third floor of the Cunningham Conference Center. Our hours are Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm. Permits can also be purchased at any of our satellite opportunities or online through the [Parking Web Portal](#).

**What if someone is just visiting the campus for a few minutes? Do they need a permit?**Yes, all vehicles parked on campus must be registered with Parking Services. Please visit the "Visitor Parking" section from the left-hand side of this page for more information.

**I thought students already paid for parking at CSU.**The "Student Parking Deck Fee" listed as a mandatory fee on tuition statements, "Provides support for the maintenance, upkeep and debt retirement of the University's student parking deck" ([Office of](#)

**Student Accounts – Explanation of Mandatory Fees**). This fee was approved by SGA and implemented roughly 10 years ago. The paid parking permit program only applies to those who choose to bring a car to campus and is not included in the tuition. **Who can park in the parking deck on Main Campus?** The parking deck is for students only. Faculty, staff, vendors and auxiliary parking permit holders are subject to ticketing and fines for parking in the deck. **I volunteer on campus. Will I have to buy a parking permit?** No. Volunteers registered with HR can register for a parking permit at no charge. Please visit the Parking Services Office or have the department you volunteer with contact us. **I work mainly off-campus at one of our educational outreach centers. Do I need a parking permit?** Any vehicle that parks on either of CSU's campuses must be registered and have a current parking permit. We recommend that all faculty and staff register their vehicles and purchase a permit, even those at the outreach centers if you must park on campus. **What about visitors and conference attendees on campus or who register with programs such as those offered at the Cunningham Center or Continuing Education?** These two facilities have new parking policies in place for their visitors. For other large events on campus, please contact Parking Services. These areas are still classified as "on campus" and therefore, parking permits are still required for all faculty, staff, and students. **Can I purchase my parking permit downtown?** Parking Services does not have an office on our RiverPark campus at this time. However, permits can be purchased online through the [Parking Web Portal](#). Since all permits are now digital, there is not a permit to pick up from a physical location. **Can employees pay for the parking permit through payroll deduction?** Yes, please complete the [Employee Parking Permit Registration Form for Payroll Deductions](#). This form can also be found in MyCSU under the Forms tab. **How will visitors know they need a parking pass?** The signage was significantly upgraded on campus regarding parking. We recommend also reminding guests that parking permits are required when you invite them to campus. Feel free to advertise the Parking Services website in any emails, flyers, or other communications you issue regarding events on campus. **Will parking spots be assigned?** No. **When will parking be enforced?** The Parking Code is in effect at all times. As of January 1, 2019 students may park in green-lined faculty/staff spaces after 5:30 pm. A valid parking permit is still required, though, and this procedure is subject to change. **Where can I park?** The parking spaces around campus are color-coded as follows:

*Green* - Faculty/Staff Parking.

*White* - Open parking for all currently registered vehicles unless designated otherwise. This excludes the Main Campus Parking Garage; the main campus garage is exclusively for registered student vehicles.

*Blue* - Accessibility Parking. Individuals without special accessibility placards or plates are subject to citation and impoundment.

*Visitors* - Visitor parking. Faculty, staff, students and third-party employees and vendors may not park in designated visitor spaces at any time.

*Electric Vehicle Charging Spaces* - These publically available spaces are reserved for electric vehicles (EV) only. EVs must be in an active session connected to the charger to use the spaces. There is a 4-hour time limit for EV spaces. Any non-electric vehicles or EVs not in active sessions are subject to citations. EV spaces are located in the center section of the first floor of the parking deck, Lot 14 in front of University Hall, and at the Cunningham Conference Center. **What do other universities charge for parking?** Here is a sample of what some other USG institutions charge for a parking permit on their campuses:

- **College: students (up to) / employees (up to)**

- Georgia Tech: \$795 / \$795
- Georgia State: \$430 / \$660
- UGA: \$240 / \$720
- Kennesaw State: \$26 / \$1,056
- Georgia Southern: \$160 / \$100
- Georgia College & State: \$150 / \$100
- Augusta: \$35 / \$120
- Valdosta State: \$75 / \$75
- Gordon State: \$20 / \$20

**I have another question. What do I do?** Please contact Parking Services at [706-507-8203](tel:706-507-8203) or via email at [parking@columbusstate.edu](mailto:parking@columbusstate.edu).

## Transportation Options FAQs

**Are there other ways to get to class rather than driving?**

Absolutely. You can use the CSU Shuttle or METRA (the Columbus public transportation system). You can also carpool, bike, or walk. See the questions below for more details.

**Can I use the CSU Shuttle to get to campus?**

Yes, the Shuttle runs between RiverPark Campus and Main Campus about every 20 minutes for most of the day. You can also pick it up at Lakebottom Park (near Columbus High School). All CSU faculty, staff, and students can ride the CSU Shuttle free of charge. For a detailed schedule, please see the [Bus Schedule page](#).

**Can I use public transportation to get to campus?**

Yes, METRA Routes 5 and 6 serve Main Campus. Routes 2, 4, and 8 serve downtown Columbus within walking distance of the RiverPark Campus. Student fares are \$1 with a student ID. Multi-day passes are also available ([details on METRA's website](#)).

**Is it possible to walk or bike to campus?**

Yes, the Fall Line Trace is a multi-use path that runs 11 miles from downtown Columbus through many residential areas to Psalmond Road in east Columbus. It has an entrance to the main campus.

NOTE FOR BICYCLISTS: The first two (2) miles between the 14th Street Bridge and Fall Line Trace entrance off 10th Avenue requires street riding.

**Where can I park my bicycle and will it be safe?** Every major building on Main Campus and the RiverPark Campus has bicycle racks nearby, some of which are sheltered. While Columbus is a safe area, it is always advisable to use a sturdy lock. U-locks and chains are generally more effective than cable locks. **Can I put my bicycle on the bus or shuttle?** Yes, all METRA buses and some of the CSU Shuttles have bike racks. This allows you the flexibility of a multi-modal commute, using a bike for part of your trip and a bus or shuttle for another part.