

# U-PASS REFERENDUM FAST FACTS

The U-Pass is a universal bus pass program where all full-time UW students pay a fee at the beginning of each term and receive a bus pass that is valid for the Fall and Winter Term (September – April) at a highly subsidized rate.



## Usage

In Fall 2019, approximately 9000 U-Passes were loaded and activated at UWinnipeg. According to Winnipeg Transit's review of the program in 2017 and 2018, approximately **90% of students used their U-pass, with 53% of those students using it on a daily basis or more.**



## Sustainability

The U-Pass is cost-effective and sustainable. Even with the increased cost, it is **less than half the price of a post-secondary bus pass**, invests in Winnipeg Transit, cuts down on traffic congestion in Winnipeg, provides parking cost relief, and cuts carbon emissions.



## Cost

**2019/20 U-Pass fee:** \$136.25 per term  
\$272.50 from September-April

**Savings:** \$298.60 per year

**2020/21 U-Pass fee:** \$160.75 per term  
\$321.50 from September-April

**Savings:** \$331.70 per year!



## Student Initiative

This U-Pass is a student-led initiative. It was a political platform spearheaded by students at the UWSA in 2014, mirroring similar progressive U-Pass programs practiced in cities across Canada. UWinnipeg students voted and **passed in a referendum on October 29, 2014 with a majority vote of 81.7% in favour of establishing a U-Pass program.**

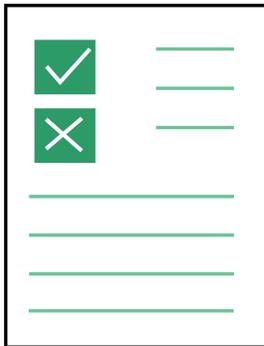
[theuwsa.ca/elections](http://theuwsa.ca/elections)  
[theuwsa.ca/u-pass](http://theuwsa.ca/u-pass)  
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**U-Pass Referendum  
Info Session  
12.30 | Feb 25 | The Hive**

# U-PASS REFERENDUM WHERE AND HOW TO VOTE

The U-Pass was a student-led initiative and we want it to remain that way. In the 2014 referendum, students voted to have the U-Pass with a cost increase in accordance with the rate of inflation. Since the cost is increasing by a higher rate than that, we are holding a referendum during the 2020 General Elections in order to get students' approval to continue providing the U-Pass program.



## REFERENDUM QUESTION

The City of Winnipeg has made a fee increase mandatory to continue offering the U-Pass. Are you in favour of a U-Pass fee increase of \$24.50 per term, amounting to a total U-Pass fee of \$160.75 per term (adjusted annually for inflation), to continue providing unlimited access to Winnipeg Transit services for students?

The options are:

- Yes, I am in favour of the U-Pass fee increase.
- No, I vote to end the U-Pass.

## What does a 'Yes' vote mean?

A 'Yes' vote means that the UWSA can continue to provide a U-Pass to students at the rate of \$160.75 per term. It means that you will continue to have access to a highly subsidized, sustainable mode of transport.

## What does a 'No' vote mean?

A 'no' vote would lead to the end of the U-Pass program. The alternative would be to purchase a post-secondary bus pass that costs **\$117.25 higher** per semester at \$278/term.



## How do I vote?

You can vote in the UWSA General Elections on March 2, 3 and 4 by a paper ballot. There are **permanent polling stations at Riddell Hall, Richardson Centre and Merchant's Corner from 9 AM – 6 PM**. There will also be a mobile polling station in Buhler Centre on March 3 and 4 and one in Wii Chiiwaakanak Centre on March 2.

[theuwsa.ca/elections](https://theuwsa.ca/elections)  
[theuwsa.ca/u-pass](https://theuwsa.ca/u-pass)  
[vpsa@theuwsa.ca](mailto:vpsa@theuwsa.ca)



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