



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metra adjusts service for holiday travel

Will also offer special holiday passes, free trips for kids during season

CHICAGO (Dec. 16, 2019) – Metra will modify train schedules on several days, offer special holiday passes, and expand its Family Fares program in the coming weeks to better serve the needs of customers during the holiday season.

On Monday, Dec. 23, Tuesday, Dec. 24, Monday, Dec. 30 and Tuesday, Dec. 31, all lines except the Heritage Corridor will adjust schedules to add early afternoon departures from Metra’s downtown stations to accommodate workers and shoppers leaving downtown early. Some normal rush-hour trains will be canceled on those days.

In addition to the schedule changes for Tuesday, Dec. 31, Metra, for the first time in its history, will offer free rides on all trains arriving at or departing from Metra’s downtown stations after 6 p.m. On some of its lines, Metra will hold the last train of the evening for a later departure time to accommodate customers attending New Year’s Eve festivities downtown. (The last trains will depart between 1:10 a.m. and 1:25 a.m., depending on the line.) Alcohol is prohibited on all trains after 7 p.m. on Dec. 31.

Metra will also make special holiday passes available for unlimited travel Dec. 24-25 and Jan. 1. The Dec. 24-25 pass will cost \$10 for unlimited rides and a \$5 unlimited ride pass will be available for travel Jan. 1. The regular \$10 weekend pass will also be available for Dec. 21-22 and Dec. 28-29.

Metra hasn’t left out families for its holiday season deals and will expand its Family Fares program on weekdays from Dec. 23 to Jan. 3 for the holiday break, meaning Family Fares will be in effect from Dec. 21 through Jan. 5. Family Fares, which are always available for weekend travel, allow up to three kids 11 and under to ride free with each adult.

Customers are reminded that a Sunday/holiday schedule will be in effect on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. There will be no service on the North Central Service, SouthWest Service and Heritage Corridor lines on those days.

Customers are urged to check the revised schedules for each day at metrarail.com. The Ventra App also will display the correct revised schedule for each day.

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About Metra

Metra is one of the largest and most complex commuter rail systems in North America, serving Cook, DuPage, Will, Lake, Kane and McHenry counties in northeastern Illinois. The agency provides service to and from downtown Chicago with 242 stations over 11 routes totaling nearly 500 route miles and approximately 1,200 miles of track. Metra operates nearly 700 trains and provides nearly 281,000 passenger trips each weekday.