



# Access Pilot Program



## **What is Access?**

Access is a pilot program running through July 31, 2025, that provides **a reduced fare on all Metra lines and zones** for individuals enrolled in the Illinois Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) who live within the Regional Transportation Authority's (RTA) six-county region (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties).

## **What is SNAP?**

SNAP is a federal nutrition program administered by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS). This program is for people experiencing lower incomes who need help buying food for themselves and their children through the Illinois Link card.

## **How do I apply for SNAP?**

Enroll online at [www.abe.illinois.gov/abe/access](http://www.abe.illinois.gov/abe/access) or provide a printed, completed application to your local IDHS office. Find which office serves your area through the website.

For more information, call 800-843-6154 (voice) or 866-324-5553 (TTY/Nextalk or 711 TTY Relay).

## **How long does my Metra Access permit last?**

This is a pilot program that runs through **July 31, 2025**. All permits expire on that date regardless of when you applied.

## What's next?

Once your SNAP eligibility has been approved, you will receive a SNAP eligibility letter from IDHS. You can then request an Access application by:

- Calling **312-913-3110**
- Visiting [GetAccess.org](https://GetAccess.org) by scanning the QR code on the other side of this brochure with your smart phone
- Downloading it from **[rtachicago.org/access](https://rtachicago.org/access)**
- Visiting your registration center for in-person assistance. Find a location at **[rtachicago.org/access](https://rtachicago.org/access)**

Once the RTA receives your application and all required documentation, you should receive your Access permit within **7-10 business days**.

Apply at [GetAccess.org](https://GetAccess.org) to process your application faster. The online portal works on most PCs, laptops, smart phones, and tablets.

## **What do I need to apply for the Access permit?**

- The completed Access application form
- SNAP eligibility letter
- A photo of yourself that is 2 inches square
- Government-issued ID with valid Illinois address within the 6-county RTA Region.  
**The address on your ID must match the address on the SNAP eligibility letter**

## **How do I use my Access permit?**

- Purchase your Metra Access reduced fare ticket at either a Metra ticket vending machine, on the Ventra app, or on board the train.
- Present both your ticket and your Access permit to the Metra conductor on the train. If you do not show your Access permit, you will be asked to purchase a full-fare ticket.

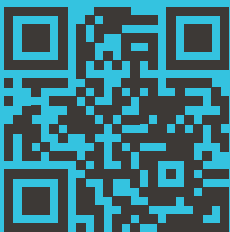
Reduced fare  
on Metra only

**Note: This is a pilot program  
that will end on July 31, 2025.**

To apply for the Access Pilot  
program, call **312-913-3110** or  
visit **GetAccess.org**

For travel information, call  
**312-836-7000**

Scan this to  
apply online



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