

Getting around Boston

Public Transportation

The "T": The public transportation system in Boston is so extensive that you DO NOT need a car to get around the city! You can get anywhere in the city limits, as well as many suburbs by public transportation. Actually, many people who initially bring their cars wish they had not since having a car is such a hassle! The entire public transportation system is known as the MBTA (Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority) which includes the T (subway), T buses, commuter rail and commuter boats. Online schedules at <http://www.mbta.com/>.

- The subway fare is \$2.50, and bus fare is \$2.00 when paid in cash or using the paper Charlie Ticket. If you use a CharlieCard, the subway fare is \$2.00, and the bus costs 1.50. You can get an "empty" CharlieCard from an MBTA Customer Service Agent at certain T stations, or online.
- You can also buy a monthly pass called a Link Pass for \$70 per month that covers both subway and bus fares. Monthly passes are available at the Shaw's at 1065 Commonwealth Ave. (Packard's Corner/ Brighton Ave. T-stop on the B line) or at the Government Center T-stop. If you only use the buses, there is a bus monthly pass for \$48.
- Semester Passes (11% savings) are available for sale at the GSU ticket office. If you are a current student, more information on the MBTA semester pass is available at <http://www.bu.edu/studentlink>. Visit <http://www.mbta.com> for the details of Public Transportation.

The BUShuttle

"The BUS" (free!) has a route that includes Commonwealth Avenue, starting at Harry Agganis Way, through Charles River Campus and to the Medical Campus. The schedule is available at <http://www.bu.edu/thebus> or by calling 617-353-7287 or from the Campus Information Center in the GSU (George Sherman Union 775 Commonwealth Avenue). The schedule is generally every 30 minutes and can be faster than the T. The BUS does not run on weekends or holidays

Biking

Biking is probably the best way to get around Boston, especially when the weather is nice. There are many bicycles stolen every year from campus, so you MUST lock your bike! Generally, securing your bike to a bike rack or metal pole with a U Lock will do the trick, but watch out if you have particularly nice and steal-able tires, seats, lights, etc.

- Register your bike with the BU Police Department on Harry Agganis Way (next to Nickerson Field) if you want their assistance in locating your bike if it is stolen.
- If you don't own your own bike, there is now a bike-share program in Boston called Hubway. Rides under 30 minutes are free, and the company has several pricing plans. Unfortunately, the system is shut down during the winter. Visit <http://www.thehubway.com/> for more details.

Zip Car

A convenient service if you only need to use a car infrequently. You can sign up online and rent cars by the hour at reasonable rates. Zip Cars are available in most neighborhoods in Boston and Cambridge. The terms of service can be very strict, be sure you know and follow the rules. BU students receive discounted rates, so make sure to sign up through the BU specific website. Visit www.zipcar.com/bu to take advantage of your discount.



(Adapted from the SAGE/GSO Graduate Survival Guide
Go to <http://www.bu.edu/gso/helpful-links/survival-guide/> for more)