

Paper Punch Cards – New Resolutions Effective Now

The Board of Skagit County Commissioners has recently passed two resolutions regarding the sale and use of paper punch cards.

- [Resolution R20240282 \(Suspending the sale of and limiting future use of paper punch cards\)](#)
- [Resolution R20250009 \(Amending and superseding R20240282\)](#)

Here's what you need to know:

- The ferry system stopped the sale of paper punch cards on December 30, 2024, according to Resolution R20240282, approved by the Board of Skagit County Commissioners on December 20, 2024.
- All **dated** paper punch cards (regardless of the printed expiration date on the punch card) cannot be used whatsoever after and beyond two (2) weeks following the date of the ferry's return from the 2025 drydock. The scheduled dry dock dates are March 15th through April 29th.
 - Punch card holders may elect to use vehicle punch cards for passenger fares during the scheduled 2025 drydock, in which case one (1) vehicle punch shall be credited as equal to one (1) passenger punch on the card until the completion of the 2025 drydock.
- The COVID emergency punch cards (issued without an expiration date) and the convenience cards (marked "no expiry") will be allowed for regular use by the holders until and through December 31st, 2025, and after such time no use of COVID emergency punch cards or convenience cards will be allowed whatsoever.

FAQs

Why did you stop selling the paper punch cards?

- The ferry is transitioning to a fully electronic ticketing system on March 19, 2025. Paper punch cards are being eliminated and replaced with QR codes. Additionally, the Board adopted the 2025 fare schedule effective February 26, 2025. The new fare schedule will include convenience passes, which will not be discounted, but offer slight savings on the vessel replacement surcharge price per trip.

Will you still offer a needs-based punch card?

- The 5-trip needs-based punch cards will be replaced with a 5-trip needs-based pass, which will be a QR code when the new e-ticketing system goes live on March 19, 2025.

How do I buy trips if I have run out of punch cards to use?

- Trips can be purchased at the current per-trip rate (click [here](#) for the 2023/2024 fare schedule) until the 2025 fare schedule takes effect on February 26, 2025.

What if I have punch cards I can't use before these dates? Does the county care if I sell or give my old punch cards to my friends or family?

- Skagit County hopes providing this information helps our riders figure out how to use their punch cards before they expire. We are not enforcing any policies regarding the transferability of paper punch cards.

My company depends on paper punch cards for the continuity of the services we provide, what can we do before the e-ticketing system goes live to make sure our drivers have tickets.

- We want to make sure you can still ride the ferry until then. Commercial customers are encouraged to contact ferry management at (360) 293-6433 during business hours to discuss options. Please ask for Rachel Rowe or Lee Fisher or email at pw@co.skagit.wa.us.
- Ticket sales are available at 1800 Continental Place, in Mount Vernon, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.