

# Use of Swiss public transport by refugees from Ukraine

As at 01/06/2022

## Free use of public transport ends on 31st May

Between 21<sup>st</sup> March and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022, Ukrainians displaced by the war who had applied for or been granted "S" protection status were able to use public transport free of charge on GA routes in Switzerland. In the first phase of the war in Ukraine, this simple, equitable, Switzerland-wide solution supported the work of the cantons and made it easier for refugees to travel to local government offices to complete the necessary administrative procedures.

The federal government and the cantons have now put in place procedures for registering and supporting Ukrainian refugees. For this reason, the Alliance SwissPass, the industry organisation for public transport in Switzerland, in consultation with the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), decided not to extend this temporary concession and to revert to the previous arrangements from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022. You can find out more here.

## Local government offices can still provide free tickets

Federal asylum centres and cantonal social welfare offices can still issue free travel passes to eligible refugees from Ukraine who need to visit local government offices. Please apply to the social welfare office in your canton or municipality.

### Travel into Switzerland and transit travel will still be free

For the time being, the arrangements that enable persons who have fled Ukraine to use public transport free of charge to travel to their destination in Switzerland or for transit through Switzerland remain in place.

### **Private travel**

For all other journeys by public transport that do not involve a visit to a local government office, regular tickets must be purchased from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022. The regulations of the participating transport companies and associations apply. Those who make regular use of public transport may benefit from buying a <u>Half-Fare</u> or <u>regional travel card</u>. For advice on travel cards, contact any station ticket office or the SBB Contact Centre on 0848 446 688.

#### **Further information**

For further information, please contact the social welfare office of your canton or municipality, or the SBB Contact Center.