

1 October SuperGold Card enhancements.

From 1 October, there will be free off-peak public transport and additional assistance for hearing aids.

Transport

Regional councils are implementing free off peak travel. The following regions will roll out free off peak travel to SuperGold Card holders from 1 October.

The following regional bodies intend to offer free off-peak travel to card holders from 1 October:

- Auckland Regional Transport Authority (ARTA)
- Environment Waikato
- Environment Bay of Plenty
- Hawkes Bay Regional Council
- Gisborne District Council
- Horizons Regional Council (Manawatu/Wanganui)
- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Nelson City Council
- Environment Canterbury
- Otago Regional Council
- Environment Southland

Northland Regional Council, Taranaki District Council and Marlborough District Council intend rolling out the scheme in November. The West Coast Regional Council may offer concessions in the future. Currently the region does not have scheduled public transport services that fit readily with implementation of this scheme.

SuperGold Card holders who show their cards will be able to travel for free on public transport from 9am to 3pm and from 6.30pm to the end of service on weekdays. For the Auckland Region, ARTA will be offering free off peak travel from 9am onwards.

Cardholders will be able to travel free on weekends and public holidays. During peak hours, SuperGold Card holders will have to pay for public transport.

SuperGold Card holders are encouraged to contact their regional councils to discuss the services in their areas.

Read the Frequently Asked Questions on the transport concessions below.

Hearing aids

The subsidy for new hearing aids will increase from \$198 to \$500 (GST inclusive) per hearing aid from today for SuperGold Card holders 65 and over. This increased subsidy will be available to cardholders who have their hearing aids fitted on or after 1 October 2008.

You will need to show your SuperGold Card to your Audiologist to be able to get the increased subsidy. The subsidy is available once every five years. For further information you can contact Enable New Zealand on 0800 171 981 or click on the pamphlet and factsheet links provided below.

These announcements build on almost 5000 outlets where SuperGold Card holders can use their cards to receive discounts and concessions.