

Facts About Arcata Evening Bus Service

The cost of providing evening service on the Orange Route for an entire school year amounts to .03% of Cal Poly Humboldt's budget.

- **\$99,450:** Cost of running Orange Route evening service.
 - *Source: Humboldt Transit Authority August 2026 Board Agenda Packet*
- **\$326,600,000:** Cal Poly Humboldt's 2026-27 All Funds Expenditure Budget.
 - *Source: Cal Poly Humboldt Interactive Budget Dashboard*

15% of all students rely on transit to get to class. 72% of Arcata evening bus riders are students.

- **2,337:** Number of student rides on Arcata evening service during a school year.
 - *Source/Explanation: Extrapolation from Q1 2026 ridership data reported in Humboldt Transit Authority August 2026 Board Agenda Packet to account for the three quarters school is in session.*
- **941:** Number of Cal Poly Humboldt students who rely on transit to get to classes.
 - *Source/Explanation: Application of the 15% mode share reported in the 2025-26 Results of the Annual Cal Poly Humboldt Commuter Survey to the total student enrollment reported on the Cal Poly Humboldt website.*

Cal Poly Humboldt spends more than nine times as much to subsidize on-campus parking every year as it would cost to continue providing Arcata evening service.

- **\$903,000:** Minimum annual parking subsidy provided by the university.
 - *Source/Explanation: Comparison of parking-related revenue and expenditure items reported on the Cal Poly Humboldt 2026-27 Interactive Budget Dashboard. Note: Does not include amortized cost of construction, cost of repairs, land cost, or other non-operating costs.*
- **\$418:** Minimum annual subsidy per campus parking space.
 - *Source/Explanation: Total parking subsidy divided by total parking inventory reported in the 2018 Walker Parking Market Demand Study.*
- **1,107:** Number of parking spaces available for off-campus student commuters.
 - *Source/Explanation: General permit parking spaces and metered spots reported from parking inventory in 2018 Walker Parking Market Demand Study.*

The amount Cal Poly Humboldt recently spent to buy land for a new off-campus parking lot could have provided 54 years of evening bus service in Arcata.

- **\$5,400,000:** Cost of land purchased for the Foster Campus Connectivity Project.
 - Source: <https://lostcoastoutpost.com/2025/sep/12/new-parking-alert>.
- **\$860:** Cost of this parking lot land purchase per Cal Poly Humboldt student.
 - Source/Explanation: Cost of land purchase divided by the total student enrollment reported on the Cal Poly Humboldt website.
- **\$16:** Cost to provide Arcata evening bus service per Cal Poly Humboldt student.
 - Source/Explanation: Cost of evening bus service divided by the total student enrollment reported on the Cal Poly Humboldt website.

Compared to the bus rides students took last school year, an estimated 16% daytime and evening rides have already been eliminated based on funding cuts and route consolidation implemented at the beginning of the fall semester.

- **9,500:** Number of student rides taken last year on the eliminated Green & Gold Route.
 - Source: <https://lostcoastoutpost.com/2026/aug/5/funding-arcatas-evening-bus-service-limbo>.
- **1,169:** Approximate number of student rides taken last year Arcata evening bus service that has been eliminated due to conversion from Red and Gold routes to Orange Route.
 - Source/Explanation: Half of last year's student evening rides reported above, based on evening service declining from two routes to one.
- **67,287:** Number of student rides taken last year on Humboldt Transit Authority buses.
 - Source/Explanation: Jack Pass rides reported for FY 2025-26 by the Humboldt Transit Authority.

The Humboldt Transit Authority spends \$602,883 annually to subsidize student bus rides.

- **\$8.96:** Humboldt Transit Authority subsidy per student ride.
 - Source/Explanation: \$2/ride Jack Pass reimbursement rate subtracted from reported Humboldt Transit Authority systemwide cost per ride for FY 2025-26.
- **3%:** Proportion of Humboldt Transit Authority budget used to subsidize student rides.
 - Source/Explanation: Total annual subsidy for student rides divided by \$17.3 adopted FY 2026-27 budget.