



USU Board Statement in support of fair transport fares for all students

The USU Board supports the Travel Concession Card campaign led by SUPRA and SRC and supported by other universities in NSW to enable part-time domestic and international students to gain access to concession Opal cards.

We would like to acknowledge that this campaign has persisted for over two decades, starting with the Cross-Campus Concession Coalition in 2004 and is a testament to the tireless dedication of the individuals and organizations who have advocated for inclusion and equity in the NSW Travel Concession Program.

In a climate marked by a high cost-of-living, escalating rental costs, and the challenges of long-term unpaid placements, it has become increasingly clear that travel concessions for all students are not just a matter of convenience, but a lifeline of support for those facing financial hardship. The need for equitable access to transport concessions cannot be overstated, and it is our belief that this vital initiative will provide much-needed relief to our students who are grappling with the burdens of high living costs, whether domestic or international.

As a Board committed to the welfare of our membership, we stand in solidarity with the Travel Concession Card campaign and its mission to create a more equitable and inclusive environment for all students across NSW.

The campaign has created an E-Petition to call on the NSW Legislative Assembly to make transport concessions universally available to all students, and we encourage our members to consider signing it in support of the cause.

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/Pages/ePetition-details.aspx?q=tabuKTP7hWgVFy0qTdhC7w>