

CALIFORNIA OUTDOORS FOR ALL

California State Parks FREE Pass Programs



Under Governor Gavin Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom, California has created innovative access programs for children and families to explore California's State Park System, promoting a healthier, more equitable California for all. This effort helps advance the Newsom Administration's "Outdoors for All" initiative to enable all Californians, regardless of zip code or income, to access parks and open spaces.



Free Fourth Grade Pass

WHO: California fourth graders in public school

WHERE: 54 participating state parks

WHEN: Up to 13 months, from Aug. 1 when they're starting fourth grade to Aug. 31 of the following year

INFO: parks.ca.gov/4thGrade

California State Library Parks Pass

WHO: California library card holders

WHERE: More than 200 participating state parks

HOW: Check out a pass at your local public or tribal library

INFO: CheckOutCAStateParks.com

Golden Bear Pass

WHO: CalWORKs recipients, SSI recipients, Tribal TANF recipients and individuals 62 years or older whose income fall under a certain threshold

WHERE: More than 200 participating state parks

WHEN: Valid until Dec. 31 of the year it was issued

INFO: cdss.ca.gov/goldenbearpass

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS PASSES

For more information on these passes, visit parks.ca.gov/Passes

PASS NAME	PRICE	VALIDITY	DESCRIPTION
Free Fourth Grade Pass	FREE	Up to 13 months	Provides free entry for fourth graders who attend California public schools and their families at 54 participating state parks.
California State Library Parks Pass	FREE	# of days allowed by library	Can be checked out at any California public library and select tribal libraries. Provides free vehicle day use entry to over 200 participating state parks.
Golden Bear Pass	FREE	Calendar year	Provides free day-use vehicle access for disadvantaged families to over 200 participating state parks.
Disabled Discount Pass	\$3.50	Lifetime	For persons with permanent disabilities, entitles 50% discount for vehicle day-use, family camping and boat-use fees at State Parks-operated units.
Distinguished Veteran Pass	FREE	Lifetime	For qualified veterans, entitles free use of all basic facilities (including day use, camping and boating) at State Parks-operated units.
Senior Golden Bear Pass	\$20	Calendar year, nonpeak season	For persons 62 years or older, entitles holder and spouse/registered domestic partner vehicle day-use entry to most State Parks-operated units during nonpeak season.
California Explorer Vehicle Day Use Annual Pass	\$195	12 months	Covers vehicle day-use fee at most locations, including Southern California beaches.
Golden Poppy Vehicle Day Use Annual Pass	\$125	12 months	Covers vehicle day-use fee at most Northern California beaches, destination parks and reservoirs.
Historian Passport Annual Pass	\$50	12 months	Provides unlimited entry for up to four persons to many state historic parks that charge per-person admission fee or a vehicle day-use fee.
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Day Use Annual Pass	\$50	12 months	Valid for passenger vehicles with a capacity of nine persons or less at all state vehicular recreation areas (i.e., designated off-highway vehicle trails and/or open areas).
SNO-PARK Season/Day Permits	\$40/season \$15/day	Nov. 1 to May 30	Provides access to 18 SNO-PARK sites that have snow-cleared parking lots with sanitation facilities and access to snow play area and cross-country ski and snowmobile trails.
Tahoe Regional Vehicle Day Use Annual Pass	\$75	12 months	Covers vehicle day-use fee at Lake Tahoe-area state parks.
Boat Use Annual Pass	\$100	12 months	Covers additional fees required for motorized vessels, sailboats over 8 feet or personal watercraft. Valid only in addition to another pass.
Oversized Vehicle Pass	\$75	12 months	Covers additional fees associated with oversized vehicles (25 feet in length or over) or trailers. Valid only in addition to another pass.