

STATE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE  
PERSONNEL AND PAYROLL SERVICES DIVISION  
P.O. BOX 942850  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94250-5878

DATE: January 7, 2026

CALATERS GLOBAL LETTER #26-001

TO: All Agencies Participating in the California Automated Travel Expense Reimbursement System

FROM: Lisa Dean, Division Chief  
Personnel and Payroll Services Division

**RE: INCREASED TRANSIT / VANPOOL COMMUTE PROGRAM INCENTIVES**

On December 16, 2025, the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) [announced](#) increased monthly transit/vanpool incentive rates, effective January 1, 2026, for eligible employees, including employees headquartered out of state, in Bargaining Units (BUs) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and all Excluded employees.

The California Automated Travel Expense Reimbursement System (CalATERS) Global is configured to accept Transit, Vanpool Passenger, and Vanpool Driver expenses up to the \$340 limit without tax consequences. However, CalATERS recommends that the Department Accounting Office staff audit transit/vanpool expense reimbursements carefully to ensure that combined monthly occurrences of claimed Transit/Vanpool expenses by an employee in one of the groups is limited to \$340.

Department Accounting Offices with questions about the commute program expense amounts can contact the CalATERS Help Desk at [calaters@sco.ca.gov](mailto:calaters@sco.ca.gov).

**All PPSD Contact Information:**

- [PPSD Contacts and Additional Information](#)

**Web Resources:**

- [For HR Personnel](#)
- [For State Employees](#)

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