



Ticket to Ride

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Ticket to Ride offers field trip transportation and educational program funding for schools across New York State. By supporting bus and tour fees, the program makes it possible for schools to take advantage of first-rate educational experiences to designated museums and historic sites throughout the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

The program is designed to:

1. Reinforce classroom learning about the Erie Canal with hands-on experiences at authentic canal sites.
2. Provide greater access to New York's rich historic and cultural sites for rural and urban students from varying environments and demographic backgrounds.
3. Improve critical thinking skills and recall of information by offering place-based, hands-on, and experiential learning opportunities to expand and enhance classroom teaching.
4. Inspire students to consider what their generation might accomplish with the kind of vision, hard work, and spirit of innovation that were hallmarks of canal building in New York.
 - Each tour site presents a unique local story, enhancing the statewide story of the Erie Canal and connecting to NYS Education Standards for history/social studies, science, math, technology, and arts. For example, your students may:
 - Gain first-hand knowledge about how boats and cargo were weighed (Erie Canal Museum, Syracuse);
 - See the remains of one of the largest aqueducts from the 1800s (Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site, Fort Hunter); Climb alongside the famous Flight of Five Locks (Erie Canal Discovery Center, Lockport).

The Erie Canal Learning Hub, including Ticket to Ride, is a joint initiative of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and the New York State Canal Corporation, with additional support from the National Park Foundation, the National Park Service, and Rochester Area Community Foundation.



PROGRAM DETAILS

What schools are eligible?

Any school located within New York State is eligible to participate once per school year, subject to available funding. ***The program is open to all grades K-12.*** Schools may schedule field trips for an entire grade level which should be submitted in a single reservation, even for multi-day trips.

Requests from homeschool groups will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Is the program competitive?

No. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis until available funds are exhausted. *Erie Canalway reserves the right to limit the amount of support provided, if any, to a school or district based on distance traveled.*

Is registration required?

Yes. Schools must schedule the trip with the selected tour provider then submit a funding request with Erie Canalway at least two weeks prior to your anticipated tour dates. A registration form is available [online](#). *Teachers are encouraged to submit a registration as soon as possible after confirming a field trip date with the tour provider. Funding is confirmed based on the order in which completed Registration forms are received.*

Who makes arrangements with the host tour site?

The school makes field trip arrangements directly with the tour provider. Erie Canalway does not facilitate any tour booking. Schools must confirm tour dates with the provider prior to applying for Ticket to Ride funding.

Where do we go? What sites host tours?

Erie Canalway Ticket to Ride includes only the approved sites listed on pages 4-6. These sites include as part of their program: a trained curator, educator, or historian; formal docent program; approved tour script reflecting New York State Education standards; as well as demonstrated experience providing school tours.

Who pays the tour fee?

- Erie Canalway will pay up to **\$7 per student** directly to the tour provider once the field trip is complete. Some providers charge more for their programs, and the school will be responsible for paying fees above this amount.
- At the completion of a field trip, the tour provider will submit an invoice to Erie Canalway. Invoices must contain the name and address of the tour site, name of participating school, tour date, number of students, and total amount of tour fee.
- Teachers, chaperones, bus drivers, and other adults are not eligible for payment of tour fees through Ticket to Ride.

Who pays the bus fees?

- Erie Canalway pays for transportation including mileage and bus driver costs as a reimbursement following the completion of the tour.
- Schedule your bus through your district's established process. The costs of District owned and rented "yellow" school buses are eligible for the reimbursement.
- The school **must include an estimate for bus services as part of the funding request.**
- Following the field trip, the school must **submit a final invoice** for payment. Include school name and address for payment, tour site, date of tour, and total amount due. Final invoices **must be received by July 31st**. After this date, payments will be based on the estimated costs provided at the time of registration and no adjustments will be made.

Accessibility

We are committed to ensuring field trips are as accessible as possible. If your class requires any special services or accommodation (i.e. ASL interpretation) Erie Canalway will help coordinate with the tour provider to ensure that all students are able to fully participate in the field trip experience.

CONTACT

For program information, registration and to submit invoices:

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EDUCATIONAL TOUR PROVIDER	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Arkell Museum at Canajoharie (518) 673-2314 malexander@arkellmuseum.org www.arkellmuseum.org/schoolprograms	Canajoharie	Explore the impact of the Erie Canal on industry and the arts in the Mohawk Valley. Students will see the museum's impressive collection of paintings, which include works by Winslow Homer, George Inness, Mary Cassatt, and more than a dozen paintings of the Mohawk River and Erie Canal.
Buffalo Maritime Center (716) 881-0111 chelsea@buffalomaritimecenter.org buffalomaritimecenter.org	Buffalo	The Buffalo Maritime Center invites students to the community-built Erie Canal Boat <i>Seneca Chief</i> . Students will step aboard the boat to learn how the Erie Canal and the vessels that traveled on the waterway impacted the way of life in NYS. Exploration and hands-on activities facilitate learning of traditional boatbuilding, canal boat operations, passengers, cargo, ideas and movements, and the impacts on the Haudenosaunee. School tours are available in September, October, May, and June. Field Trip Interest Form
Liz and Dave Beebe Camillus Erie Canal Park (680) 800-5298 CamillusSchools@gmail.com www.eriecanalcamillus.org/	Camillus	Experience the Enlarged Erie Canal by boat, walk the towpath, stop at the overlook of Clinton's Ditch, explore how locks work, and visit the 1850s Sims Store and museum. Tours last approximately 2.5 hours and then have a picnic in the covered pavilion. School tours are available in May and June.
Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum (315) 687-3801 coordinator@clcbm.org http://www.chittenangoland.org/	Chittenango	Located on the old Erie Canal, 90-foot-long cargo boats were built and repaired on this site during the 19th and 20th centuries. Activities may include participating in an archeological dig for canal artifacts, exploring boat building techniques, and watching traditional blacksmithing in action.
Erie Canal Discovery Center (716) 434-7433 annmarie@niagarahistory.org https://niagarahistory.org/visit-the-erie-canal-discovery-center/	Lockport	The Center showcases the history of the Erie Canal and the famous "Flight of Five" Lockport Locks with a tour and activity. Students will learn about challenges that had to be overcome to build the locks and compare the canal of the 1800s with today's canal by visiting the Lockport Flight. A boat ride is not included. <i>(Note: Registrations made through the Niagara History Center)</i>
Erie Canal Museum (315) 471-0593 fieldtrips@eriecanalmuseum.org www.eriecanalmuseum.org	Syracuse	Explore the nation's only remaining Weighlock building, where canal boats were weighed, while discovering how the Erie Canal transformed the state and the nation. Students can board a full-sized canal boat replica and follow the historic route of the canal through Downtown Syracuse learning about historic canal side architecture and events like the Jerry Rescue.
Historic Palmyra (315) 597-6981 historicpalmyra@gmail.com www.historicpalmyrany.com/	Palmyra	Historic Palmyra – 5 Museums, 1 Destination! Step into the past with five unique museums showcasing Palmyra's history: Palmyra Historical Museum: Visit 23 themed rooms in a historic 1826 hotel that reveal Palmyra's captivating history. Erie Canal Depot: Learn about canal heritage, explore original mule stalls, and tour the Captain's Cabin. Palmyra Print Shop: Discover historic printing presses that contributed to the spread of the printed word. Wm. Phelps General Store & Family Residence: Experience a time capsule from 1868 to 1940, complete with untouched merchandise and a family home tour.

miSci (518) 382-7890 x 228 reservations@misci.org www.misci.org/Educators-and-groups	Schenectady	Discover the Erie Canal through a hands-on, inquiry-based learning experience that explores the science, technology, and history of innovation in Upstate New York. Students will understand the physics behind the workings of the Canal, including friction, buoyancy, and Pascal's Law. Using the engineering process, participants build a lock model based on the Erie Canal's lock system.
Oneida Community Mansion House (315)-363-0745 tguiler@oneidacommunity.org https://www.oneidacommunity.org/	Oneida	Visit the home of the most radical and successful utopian community in American history! Established because of the social, religious, and utopian ideas that traveled across the Erie Canal in the 19th century, the Oneida Community thrived for nearly 30 years. The Oneida Community shared all possessions in common and practiced new conceptions of family, gender, and women's rights, while producing industrial goods to sustain their community. Students will be immersed in the Mansion House through a guided tour and can participate in several programs for grades 4-12 using museum collections and primary sources. Programs include "Would You Join the Oneida Community?" "Innovation and Invention," "Imagine Your Ideal Community," and "Primary Source Detective." All programs can be customized.
Rochester by Water: <i>Sam Patch</i> and <i>Riverie</i> Boat Tours (585)662-5748 info@rochesterbywater.org www.rochesterbywater.org	Rochester/ Pittsford	Rochester by Water has two vessels that offer on-the-water educational experiences: <i>Sam Patch</i> , a replica packet boat located on the Erie Canal in Pittsford, and <i>Riverie</i> , located on the Genesee River at Corn Hill Landing in downtown Rochester. Through this program, educators can bring their classroom for a cruise aboard Sam Patch. The cruise includes a History of the Erie Canal including passage through a working canal lock (ideal for 4 th grade).
Rochester Museum and Science Center (585) 271-4552 x376 aredman@rmsc.org https://rmsc.org/educators/search	Rochester	Explore a wide range of historical and STEM-based experiences that connect Rochester's past and present. Operate a replica Erie Canal lock, watch centuries fly by in the Old Rochester 1838 augmented reality experience, and build a contraption to assist in laying the canal's foundations. Discover how the Erie Canal helped freedom seekers on the Underground Railroad, learn about how the indigenous Haudenosaunee people of Rochester used area waterways, and get inspired by learning about local heroines who started businesses, fought for equal rights, and inspired change along the Canal path.
Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site (518) 829-7516 SchoharieCrossing@park.ny.gov https://parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/schohariecrossing/details.aspx	Fort Hunter	Students will see the evolution of the Erie Canal from 1800s to today, including locks, prism, towpath and the remains of the Schoharie Aqueduct. We talk about engineering challenges of building a "water bridge" to take canal boats over the Schoharie Creek. Program includes the use of primary documents and inquiry discussion to understand the canal story.

Seneca Falls Museum & Tourism Center (315) 568-1510 director@senecamuseum.com https://sfheritagetourism.com/	Seneca Falls	The museum showcases the history of Seneca Falls, Seneca County, and the Finger Lakes region, illustrating how the Seneca River and the Cayuga-Seneca Canal powered the rise of industry and fostered the spread of social reform movements.
Underground Railroad Education Center (518) 621-7793 urhpcr@localnet.com https://undergroundrailroadhistory.org/	Albany	Near what used to be Lock 1 on the Erie Canal, visit the place where Freedom Seekers stopped, the Vigilance Committee met, and Underground Railroad activists lived and conducted their activities. Experience their efforts to abolish slavery in New York and in the nation. Dress in period attire, sit on historic furniture, read, and discuss historic documents, investigate period artifacts. Learn about the contemporary connections of this first civil rights movement with us today.