



e-Newsletter

CalVans, California Vanpool Authority Newsletter

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Who We Are

The California Vanpool Authority (CalVans) is a public transit agency providing public vanpools to those electing to commute to work in a non-profit manner; this includes agricultural workers and non-agricultural workers. The service provided by CalVans is recognized by local, state and federal agencies as a safe and cost effective method of getting to work in a shared ride vehicle.

How Can CalVans Help YOU?

If you would like to bring the benefits of CalVans to your operation, contact the California Vanpool Authority Toll-Free at

1-866-655-5444.

CalVans operates Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on major holidays.

The CalVans main office is located at:

**1340 North Drive
Hanford, Ca 93230**

CalVans also has satellite offices in Imperial, Kern, Monterey, Ventura, and San Joaquin County.

Counties Served by CalVans

San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Kern, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial.

Vans complete transitions to Imperial/Yuma region

Most vanpools have completed the transition to the Imperial/Yuma region. CalVans staff, working out of the El Cinto office, is insuring all drivers are cleared and approved to drive. They are also making sure any mechanical issues are addressed. Last year we had issues with drivers not keeping the trash picked up in the vans. Staff will be checking each van and may disconnect the driver if they do not keep the trash picked up. Reach out to our Imperial Staff if you have any concerns or issues. You can see our staff in the Employee Highlight section of our newsletter.

Remember the Department of Labor

Don't run afoul of the FDOL by not insuring that your driver has a valid FLCE. If you employ a driver that has a blue card with another company it is not valid with your company. They need to update the card to reflect they are working for your company.

When sending correspondence to the San Francisco DOL office, be sure and note on the package that you are seeking approval of someone driving a CalVans vehicle. They will then seek to complete the approval process within two weeks.

On January 8, 2019 The DOL is putting together and event, 2019 Yuma/Winterhaven H-2A Stakeholder Meeting. If you'd like more information click on the link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-yumawinterhaven-h-2a-stakeholder-meeting-tickets-52852345789>

Keep an eye on those driving CalVans vehicles

We have two issues that need your oversight. They are ensuring that the approved CalVans driver is not sharing his passcode with another driver and that they are not charging more than that being charged by our office. We occasional find both of these happening. When we do we remove the driver, impacting your operations.

New vans are arriving and old ones are being disposed of

The first of the 154 vans ordered in last April are arriving. It was hoped they would arrive this past summer when we were out of vans, but at least we will have them for next summer. Currently, there are 45 here with over hundred back still back at the factory awaiting rail space for shipment. The vans have a Hybrid conversion that allows the van to operate somewhat like an earlier model Prius. This should allow them to run cleaner and use less gasoline. The one down side is the Hybrid units take the space where the spare tire is stored. This means we will need to respond if someone has a flat tire.



It is not to early to start planning for next summer

A number of you have let me know when and where your employees will be needing vans next summer. Many of you have not. Last year we ran out of vans in June and had to turn down several requests for vans. To avoid that happening next summer you should let us know where and when you might need vans next Spring/Summer. You can adjust the number or start date as summer gets closer, but at least you will have your vans spoken for. All I need is the location, number of vans and the months you will need them.

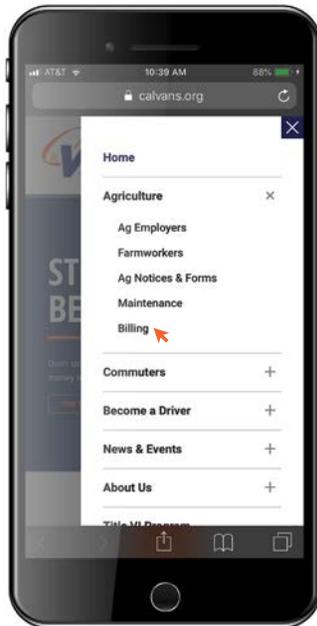
Online Services - Billing

Back in April we made changes to our website. We included a billing subpage under the Agricultural Page on our website. This allows employers, drivers, and passengers to view how many miles they travel per week and how much is being billed to them.

CalVans website is mobile friendly, to check the billing on your phone, you'll need to click on your phones preferred search engine, go to the address bar and enter the CalVans website, www.calvans.org Follow the steps below to check your billing. We encourage everyone to take advantage of these new updates.



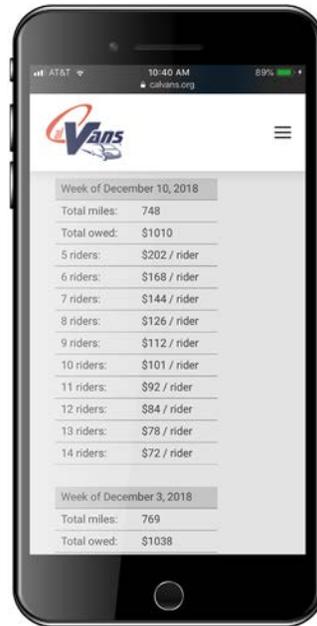
Click on the three lines on the top right corner.



Click on the Agriculture, select Billing.



Search by vehicle number.



The billing for the past five weeks will appear.

Passing Class B Physicals is becoming more difficult

Guidelines for conducting Class B physicals have been revised to help identify individuals who might have sleep apnea. It is believed these individuals may be more prone to falling asleep while driving. Individuals who state they have difficulty sleeping a night or have a BMI greater than 33 may be required see their doctor and take a sleep apnea test. This involves wearing an apparatus overnight to determine if an individual has a sleep apnea problem. This may present a problem for some of your prospective drivers as they may not have a regular doctor that they can see. Not all clinics are using this criterion, but they all will eventually. Below I have shown the height and weight that amount to a BMI of 33. Anyone over the weight shown for the corresponding height may have to do the study.

BMI		33
Height (inches)	Height (feet)	Weight
58	4'10"	158
59	4'11"	163
60	5'0"	168
61	5'1"	174
62	5'2"	180
63	5'3"	186
64	5'4"	192
65	5'5"	198
66	5'6"	204
67	5'7"	211
68	5'8"	216
69	5'9"	223
70	5'10"	229
71	5'11"	236
72	6'0"	242
73	6'1"	250
74	6'2"	256
75	6'3"	264
76	6'4"	271



EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT



HILDARIOS

hilda.rios@co.kings.ca.us
559.572.8273

I've been lucky to be able to be part of a wonderful program that is CalVans for approximately 3 years. I enjoy each and every day working with the agricultural community. As a Transit Assistant, I answer calls, forward driver's information for clearance, assign drivers to vans, collect weekly payments, and other forms that are needed in order to process drivers. It's a challenging but rewarding position.

ADAN PEDROZA

adan.pedroza@co.kings.ca.us
530.383.1545



I've been working with CalVans more than four years. I'm a very ambitious and driven person. I thrive when I am challenge and constantly set goals for myself, so I have something to strive towards to. I'm not comfortable with settling, and I'm always looking for an opportunity to better myself and achieve greatness. It is a great honor to be part of the CalVans family and serve the community.

LOUIS PELAYO

louis.pelayo@co.kings.ca.us
760.879.8483



I've been happily employed with CalVans for approximately 3 years as a Transit Aide. This is one of the few jobs I've had that I can honestly say I look forward to going in on a daily basis. I enjoy working on cars as a hobby so this position allows me to learn new skills and keep old ones in practice. For about 4-5 months out of the year I enjoy the cool fresh weather of Monterey County. The rest of the year I reside and work in the area of Yuma, AZ/El Centro, Ca. In either location, I get much satisfaction in insuring our customers are in safe reliable vehicles and that we are readily available to assist if the need arises.

ROBERTO MEZA-BRAVO

roberto.meza-braco@co.kings.ca.us
209.485.2466



I joined CalVans in 2018, since I started here I've been constantly learning. I am grateful for the opportunity to have great mentors, people who enjoy their job and want to serve the community for safe and reliable transportation. Thanks to the training I've received I am able to help where needed and meet the demands of our customers.