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Phone it in: New parking service is just for students

Sacramento State's newly implemented PayByPhone mobile payment service means that students with smartphones no longer have to wait in line to buy machine-issued daily parking permits.

"It's the easiest way to get to class on time," says Gina Lombardo, director of transportation and parking administration for UTAPS (University Transportation & Parking Services.)

PayByPhone works on iPhone, Blackberry and Android devices. When students sign up online at www.paybyphone.com or by downloading the free phone app, they will supply their license plate and credit card numbers. Once on campus, they park in a student-only space, open the app, enter Sac State's PayByPhone location number – 5115 – and their desired parking duration, either two hours or all day.

Students without a smartphone can use the service by calling PayByPhone's toll-free number posted on the campus parking-permit machines.

"Say that a meeting is running late and you lose track of time, or you go to class and it runs over and you can't get away," says Lombardo. "You'll get a text five minutes before your permit expires, and you can add time from your phone and avoid a \$43 citation. It's the coolest thing."

Parking rates are identical to machine-issued permits: \$3 for two hours or \$6 for all day. PayByPhone administrator Verrus charges an additional 35-cent "convenience" fee for each transaction.

Members of the UTAPS "street team," dressed in "Keep Calm" T-shirts, will be posted near the parking machines to answer students' campus parking questions.

For media assistance, contact Sacramento State's Office of Public Affairs at (916) 278-6156.

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professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation's most populous state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.

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