Use Subways and Buses for a Safe, Pleasant Commute

The first thing to consider in terms of having a safe student life is how you will commute to the university. Commuting by bicycle or motorcycle carries many risks. One serious accident could derail your entire college career.

Please consider using the subway or bus to commute!

The Gakuto Sendai City Bus/Subway Free Pass (a discounted pass for students) provides an economical option for using subways and buses. It is also extremely flexible, as you are allowed to get on/off at any stop on the eligible lines.

Please refer to this leaflet to look for a place to live where you can commute by subway or bus.

Gakuto Sendai City Bus/Subway Free Pass (per month)

City Bus: JPY 5,970

Subway
- Tozai Line: JPY 6,990
- Namboku Line: JPY 6,990
- Tozai/Namboku Lines: JPY 8,390

Subway + City Bus
- Tozai Line + City Bus: JPY 11,140
- Namboku Line + City Bus: JPY 11,140
- Tozai/Namboku Lines + City Bus: JPY 12,330

Note: The above fares are applicable from October 1, 2019.

Sendai City Transportation Bureau website: https://www.kotsu.city.sendai.jp/subway/index.html

Commuting by bicycle or motorcycle always carries certain risks. When road conditions are poor due to rain, snow, or ice, accidents are more likely to occur on hills, and even flat stretches of road. Please observe traffic laws to lessen the likelihood of accidents, and always drive carefully.

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### Examples of penalties for unsafe cycling

- **Cycling while wearing headphones/Cycling while using mobile devices**
  - Fine of up to JPY 50,000

- **Failure to obey stoplights/stop signs**
  - Up to 3 months imprisonment or
  - Fine of up to JPY 50,000

- **Failure to use bicycle light at night**
  - Fine of up to JPY 50,000

- **Riding one-handed (holding an umbrella etc.)**
  - Fine of up to JPY 50,000

*Repeat offenders will be required to attend a safety class.

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### Useful Subway / Bus Commuting Information

- **Sendai City Bus & Subway Navi**
  You can view Sendai City Subway/Bus routes, fares, and timetables at the website below: http://www.navi.kotsu.city.sendai.jp/

- **IC Card (icsca)**
  Instructions on how to use the icsca IC card to pay public transportation fares can be found here: https://www.kotsu.city.sendai.jp/icsca/index.html

- **Doko Bus Sendai**
  This Internet-based service provides information on nearby buses: http://www.dokobasu.kotsu.city.sendai.jp

- **Campus Shuttle Bus**
  - Aobayama Shuttle Bus
    This bus departs from Aobayama Station and stops at points around Aobayama Campus. http://www.bureau.tohoku.ac.jp/shisan/campusbus/aobayamashuttlebus.html
  - Tohoku University Campus Bus
    This bus runs between Katahira, Seiryo and Kawauchi/Aobayama campuses. http://www.bureau.tohoku.ac.jp/shisan/campusbus/campusbus.html

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Commuting to Campuses/Choosing a Residential Area
There are many supermarkets etc. in this area.

Area 1: Near Kawauchi Campus
- Convenient to Kawauchi Campus. Possible to commute on foot.
- Generally gentler terrain, but there are some hills in some places.
- There are many retail shops and restaurants in this area.

Area 2: Sendai City Center (UH Katahira)
- Kawauchi Station can be reached in 4 minutes using the Tozai Subway Line from JR Kita Sendai Station.
- Kita-Yobancho Station can be reached in 6 minutes from Kita-Sendai Station.
- Many deep hills. Beware of many hill roads in winter.

Area 3: Hachiman/Sanjo/Kunimi
- The Hachiman area is relatively flat. On the other hand, Kunimi is very hilly.
- There are many supermarkets and other shops along the major road (route 48).

Area 4: Kamisuji/Kashiwagi/Kimachidori
- Sendai Subway lines can be reached by the Namboku Subway Line and many buses. From there, Kawauchi Station can be reached in 6 minutes by transferring to the Tozai Subway Line.

Area 5: Yagiyama/Mukaiyama
- Near Aobayama Campus – Kawauchi Station can be reached in 4 minutes using the Tozai Subway Line from Yagiyama Zoological Park Station.
- Important to develop in the near future.

Area of Subway Coverage
- Subway lines can be used to reach Tohoku University’s campuses.
- Fewer neighborhoods in areas served by the new Tozai Subway Line.
- The area around Kawauchi Station is already well-developed residential neighborhoods.

Katahira Campus
- Institute of Development, Aging and Cancer, graduate schools, etc.
- Research Institute of Electrical Communication, Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials, professional graduate schools, other graduate schools, etc.

Kawauchi Campus
- Faculty of Arts and Letters, Faculty of Education, School of Law, Faculty of Economics, graduate schools, extracurricular facilities, etc.

Aobayama New Campus
- School of Agriculture, Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, etc.

Seiyo Campus
- School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, University Hospital, Institute of Development, Aging and Cancer, graduate schools, etc.

(Area of Reference) Commuting to Kawauchi Campus by Subway
- Using the Namboku Line: 26 min. from the northernmost station (Tomizawa Station), 23 min. from the southernmost station (Tomisato Station).
- Using the Tozai Line: 6 min. from the westernmost station (Yagiyama Zoological Park Station), 20 min. from the easternmost station (Arai Station).

For details, please see the Tohoku University website: http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/eng/property/

(For Reference) Commuting to Katahira Campus by Subway
- Using the Namboku Line:
  - 26 min. from the northernmost station (Shimuchan Station)
  - 23 min. from the southernmost station (Tomisato Station)
- Using the Tozai Line:
  - 6 min. from the westernmost station (Yagiyama Zoological Park Station)
  - 20 min. from the easternmost station (Arai Station)

You can view subway/bus routes, fares, and timetables on the Sendai City Transportation Bureau website: http://www.city.sendai.jp/transportation/