

Free online train tickets for students

Yesterday (September 10), Horia Șerban ONIȚA, President of ANOSR, met with representatives of CFR Călători in order to establish the necessary steps to operationalize the possibility for students to obtain free tickets and subscriptions online for rail transport. After 3 years of lobbying for this, ANOSR signed with CFR Călători a protocol which highlights the assumption that from October 1, 2020 the online purchase of tickets and season tickets will become a reality.

From 2017 until now, no connectivity has been ensured between the Single Registration Register (RMU) and the database of the Ministry of Transport, as provided by the legislation in effect. Thus, CFR Călători assumed the promotion through the Ministry of Transport of a proposal for the modification of the Government Decision no. 42 of 2017, so that tickets can be purchased online without the use of the Single Registration Register.

If the draft is approved, the options considered at implementation level are:

- a) the students will go to a counter and will receive a unique code that they will be able to use throughout the academic year following the creation of a personal account on the CFR Călători platform;
- b) students will be able to scan the targeted travel card and the higher education institution confirms the quality of student based on a procedure.

ANOSR requested that for students who are enrolled in the first year of study, especially in the case of exclusive online education, to recognize the right to free travel based on the student certificate issued by the university or based on the scanned travel card sent by the university to the student .

The specific technical aspects regarding the implementation of the procedure are still the subject of a discussion, but we hope that the protocol signed yesterday with the general director of CFR Călători, with the participation of the Secretary of State with responsibilities in the field from the Ministry of Transport will guarantee the finality of this topic.

"For more than three years, ANOSR has constantly asked the competent authorities to fulfill their obligations under the legislation and to ensure the free online purchase of tickets for students in Romania.

We hope that the protocol concluded with CFR Călători will represent the guarantee of the efforts that must be made, so that, from October 1, the free online purchase of tickets will be a reality. ANOSR also requested CFR Călători to allow the use of student certificates for 1st year students, who did not receive the transport card in physical format, in the context of online education. " Horia Șerban ONIȚA, President of ANOSR

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