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Submission: There should be no discrimination amongst Seniors on who should have a Gold Opal Card. The current conditions for a Gold Opal Card should be maintained, that is, available to anyone that has reached the age of 60 and is not working more than 20 hours a week.

The supply of a Gold Opal Card should not be means tested or be based on whether a person is a pensioner or self-funded retiree.

Many NSW seniors rely on public transport to get to medical appointments, to do their weekly shopping, maintain their links with friends and family and to attend meetings and social functions. Any cut back on these activities by Seniors may create the prospect of social isolation, which can affect their mental health and wellbeing.

A fare increase to \$3.60 is probably warranted since costs rise. However, this should be commensurate with increases in Pensions and it should be kept in mind that not all Seniors, such as those on fixed incomes or self-funded retirees get a regular increase in their income.

Any increase in the daily cap for seniors would make public transport costs prohibitive.

The Gold Opal Card being available to all seniors and without a cap keeps travel affordable and plays a vital role in improving the lives of older people.