



ADA Paratransit Eligibility Application

For Office Use Only Date Received: Received By:

WHAT IS PARATRANSIT?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law that guarantees people with disabilities full and equal access to the same services and accommodations available to people without disabilities. Under the ADA, public transportation that runs defined routes (fixed-route service) must be accessible to people with disabilities. When a passenger with a disability is not able to use the fixed-route system, the ADA mandates that transit systems provide complementary paratransit service.

For eligible riders that have a disability preventing them from making some or all their trips on fixed-route buses, MTD provides a shared ride, origin-to-destination service called paratransit. This service is available to any eligible passenger traveling within the MTD District boundaries or to locations up to three quarters (0.75) of a mile outside of these boundaries. Paratransit service must be reserved at least one day in advance. Each of the vehicles used for this service are equipped with a lift to assist mobility devices. Paratransit service operates during the same days and hours as fixed-route service.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility decisions for ADA Paratransit are based on the applicant's functional ability to access and use fixed-route bus services. Each application is assessed on a case-by-case basis and is **not** a decision affected by medical diagnosis.

ADA Paratransit service is a "safety net" for persons with functional limitations that *prevent* them from using fixed-route service. As described in 49 CFR 37.123(e) of the United States Department of Transportation ADA regulations, eligibility is limited to certain categories of individuals:

- Any person with a disability who is unable to board, ride, or alight from an accessible vehicle without the assistance of another person (except for the bus operator);
- Any person with a disability who can utilize an accessible vehicle, but the route is not accessible, or the lift does not meet ADA standards;
- Any person with a disability who has a specific impairment-related condition that prevents the person from traveling to or from a boarding/alighting location.

The following examples **do not** automatically establish eligibility:

- The bus system does not meet your personal schedule; trips by bus take too long; buses do not serve destinations to which you travel;
- Lack of familiarity or experience with the bus system;
- Certification of a disability from SSI, SSA, or the VA;
- Living in an area not served by regular fixed-route service;
- Fear of riding fixed-route service;
- Use of the bus system may be more difficult or less comfortable.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Upon receipt of a **completed** ADA Paratransit Eligibility Application, an evaluation period of up to twenty-one (21) calendar days begins. During this period, it is MTD's responsibility to utilize the information provided by the applicant and medical professionals to determine whether they meet the criteria established in 49 CFR 37.123 (e) and are eligible for paratransit services.

If an incomplete application is received, a member of MTD's staff will reach out to the applicant for additional information or clarification.

If a determination has not been made after twenty-one (21) calendar days of receipt of a **completed** ADA Paratransit Eligibility Application, the applicant shall be treated as fully eligible for paratransit services until a determination has been made or the application is denied.

After a determination has been made, written notification of the applicant's eligibility status will be mailed to the address listed on their application.

Please return this application to:

**Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District
1101 E University Avenue
Urbana, IL 61802**

DASH CARD

The DASH Card is available for seniors aged 65 and older and to riders with disabilities. This pass provides unlimited FREE access to MTD's accessible fixed-route service and access to the Half-Fare Cab program. The DASH Card is valid for three years and must be renewed upon expiration.

Seniors

Persons age 65 years of age and older may obtain a DASH Card by providing proof of age at Illinois Terminal. DASH Cards will be issued directly to eligible seniors upon verification of age.

Riders with Disabilities

Medicare Card holders and persons having difficulty using an MTD vehicle may qualify for a DASH Card as a rider with a disability. Applications for DASH Cards must be submitted at Illinois Terminal and must include a copy of a Medicare Card or certification from an MTD-authorized agency. Please contact ADA Customer Service at 217.384.8188 for a list of authorized agencies. DASH Cards will be mailed within ten days to the applicant upon approval and after a free photograph for the pass has been taken at Illinois Terminal.

Half Fare

Persons 65 years of age or older and Medicare Card holders who do not wish to obtain a DASH Card may ride fixed-route service for \$0.50, which is half fare, by showing valid proof of age or Medicare card.

APPEAL PROCESS

In the case that an applicant is not satisfied with the action taken on their application, they have the right to appeal that decision.

To request a hearing, write to:

**Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District
c/o Special Services Manager
1101 E. University Ave.
Urbana, Illinois 61802**

Appeal requests must be made within 60 days of receipt of written notification of paratransit eligibility status. Please include all information that is pertinent to your case. Appeal decisions will be made within 30 days of the request and will be made in writing.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

I am applying for: Paratransit Eligibility Paratransit Eligibility Renewal DASH Card

Gender Male Female Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Mailing Address (if different from home address) _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Telephone Number (Home) _____ **(Work)** _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Primary Language: English Spanish ASL Other _____

Do you require information in an alternative form?

Large Print Braille Email (provide address) _____

Other (Please explain) _____

Is anyone else authorized to schedule trips for you?

Name _____

CERTIFICATIONS

A. Applicant Signature

I certify that the information I give in this application is true and correct. I understand that falsification of information may result in denial of service. I understand all information related to my disability will be kept confidential and only the information required to provide service will be disclosed to those who perform this service or related services.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

B. Person completing form if other than applicant (please check one):

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and correct, based upon the information given to me by the applicant.

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and correct, based upon my knowledge of the applicant's health condition or disability.

Exceptions or Additions _____

Print Name _____ **Agency** _____

Signature _____

Date _____ **Daytime Phone Number** _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Gender Male Female Other _____

Name _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number (Daytime) _____ (Alternate) _____

Is this person authorized to schedule trips on your behalf? Yes No

Gender Male Female Other _____

Name _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number (Daytime) _____ (Alternate) _____

Is this person authorized to schedule trips on your behalf? Yes No

PRESENT MEANS OF TRAVEL

1. Have you recently (within the last 3 months) used MTD's accessible fixed-route service?

Yes No

If No, have you attempted to use to use MTD's accessible fixed-route service within the last 3 months?

Yes No

If Yes, please tell us about your experience _____

2. If you do not currently ride MTD's accessible fixed-route service, what might help you do so?

Route and schedule information Training on how to travel on the bus

Having bus stops closer to where I live and need to go Other (please explain) _____

3. How long have you lived in the Champaign-Urbana/Savoy community?

- Under 1 year 1 to 3 years More than 3 years

4. What are your 3 most frequent travel destinations and how do you reach them currently?

Destination	Travel Frequency	Mode of Travel

5. Where is the nearest bus stop to your residence? Please give a location or intersection (e.g.; Church and State) _____

6. Select any obstacles you experience when traveling to the nearest bus stop:

- Busy street(s) to cross Lack of curb cuts Road construction Excessive distance No sidewalks
- Poor sidewalk conditions Steep incline Steep decline Time of day
- Other (please explain) _____
- _____
- _____

7. Do you use any of the following mobility aids while traveling?

- Support cane Crutches Walker Oxygen Manual wheelchair Power wheelchair
- Scooter (3 wheel) Service animal White cane Other (please specify) _____
- _____

If more than one aid was checked, what is your primary mobility aid used when traveling?

8. Paratransit vehicles are equipped with a lift that is 30 inches wide, 48 inches long, and can accommodate up to 800 pounds. Do the combined measurements of you and your mobility device fit these parameters?

- Yes No

If yes, what are the dimensions and combined weight? _____

Note: If the combined weight of a passenger and mobility aid exceeds 800 pounds, they are allowed to board separately from their mobility device.

PRESENT MEANS OF TRAVEL (CONTINUED)

9. If you do not currently ride MTD's accessible fixed-route service, please select all reasons that apply:

- Not sure how to ride Bus stop is too far away There are no sidewalks where I live
- I am afraid to ride I do not want to ride The ground is too uneven/steep to get to the bus stop
- I need a wheelchair lift/ramp I am not able to recognize a destination or landmark
- I am able to use MTD's accessible fixed-route service under certain circumstances (please explain)_____
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DISABILITY AND FUNCTIONAL LIMITATION INFORMATION

1. What type of disability prevents you from using MTD's accessible fixed-route service?

- Physical Developmental Visual Hearing Cognitive Behavioral Other (please explain)
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2. How would you classify your health condition or disability?

- Short Term/Temporary (up to 1 Year) Medium/Long Term (up to 3 Years) Permanent

3. Please select ALL disabilities that significantly affect your ability to access MTD's accessible fixed-route service: Alzheimer's Disease Amputation (specify)_____

- Anxiety/Panic Attacks Arthritis Asthma Autism Spectrum Cancer (specify)_____
- Cataracts Cerebral Palsy Congestive Heart Failure Chronic Obstructive/Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Cystic Fibrosis Dementia Diabetes (severe) Emphysema Epilepsy (severe) Heart Attack
- Traumatic Head Injury Kidney Disease/Dialysis Legally Blind Macular Degeneration
- Intellectual Disability Multiple Sclerosis Muscular Dystrophy Paraplegia Parkinson's Disease
- Peripheral Vascular Disease Quadriplegia Retinopathy Schizophrenia/Schizoaffective Disorder
- Stroke/Cerebral Trauma Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Thrombosis (Chronic) Blindness
- Other (please specify)_____
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-

DISABILITY AND FUNCTIONAL LIMITATION INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Please describe how the disabilities that have been selected above significantly affect your ability to access MTD's accessible fixed-route service. We ask that you be as thorough and specific as possible.

4. Does your health condition or disability change from day-to-day in ways that would affect your ability to use MTD's accessible fixed-route service?

Yes No

If Yes, please explain _____

5. Are you currently receiving any type of treatment or therapy related to your health condition or disability?

Yes No

If Yes, what is the expected duration? ____ Days ____ Months ____ Years Permanent

6. Are there any other aspects of your health condition or disability that we should know about?

Yes No

If Yes, please explain _____

PROFESSIONAL VERIFICATION

This section of the application includes two sections: a release to be signed by the applicant and a section to be completed by a licensed professional in order to provide additional information about the applicant's ability to access fixed-route transit. The application will not be considered complete without both sections included.

To be completed by applicant:

By signing below, I agree to the following;

- I am applying for ADA paratransit service provided by the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD). This service is limited to persons with disabilities that *prevent* them from utilizing accessible fixed-route services.

- I authorize the release of the information described below for the sole purpose of allowing MTD to make a determination of my paratransit eligibility status.

Applicant Name (print) _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

This section is to be completed by a Physician, Licensed Social Worker, or Rehabilitation Specialist:

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires that public transportation providers offer complementary transportation to those who are unable to access fixed-route services. Paratransit service is not available to all persons with disabilities, but rather is a safety net available to those who are unable to independently access, board, ride and alight from a fixed-route vehicle.

All MTD vehicles are equipped with accessibility features that allow passengers utilizing wheelchairs or other mobility aids to board and ride. As the applicant's care provider, you are uniquely qualified to provide verification of this person's ability to access fixed-route services. Please complete the questions below to assist us in determining the applicant's ability to utilize MTD's accessible fixed-route services.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Applicant's Name (please print) _____

2. Are you currently treating this applicant? Yes No

If No, what was the last date you saw this applicant? (MM/DD/YY) _____

3. Is the applicant's condition temporary? Yes No

If Yes, what is the expected duration? (MM/DD/YY) _____

4. How many blocks can the applicant travel without another person, but with the use of a mobility aid (if necessary)? Less than one Two blocks Up to four blocks (1/4 mile) Up to 8 blocks (1/2 mile)
 More than 8 blocks Other (please explain) _____

GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

5. Can the applicant climb a 12-inch step? Yes No

Note: When kneeled (lowered), the step onto an MTD bus is 8.5 inches.

6. Can the applicant wait for up to 30 minutes without support or with only the support of a mobility aid?

Yes No

If No, please explain _____

7. Does the applicant require the assistance of a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) to travel with them?

Never Sometimes Always (applicant is unable to travel unassisted)

Note: Obtaining a PCA is the responsibility of the applicant. PCAs travel free with the passenger on MTD vehicles.

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

If vision limits the applicant's ability to independently travel, please answer the following:

1. Is the applicant's vision Stable Degenerative Other

If Other, please explain _____

2. Is the applicant able to recognize familiar places such as landmarks or destinations? Yes No

3. Is the applicant legally blind? Yes No

COGNITIVE DISABILITY

If a cognitive disability affects the applicant's ability to independently travel, please answer the following:

Is the applicant able to:

Provide their address, phone number? Yes No

Recognize destinations/landmarks? Yes No

