

# Transportation

## Independent Riders



FACT SHEETS ARE A JOINT PROJECT OF IONA AND THE DC DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND COMMUNITY LIVING

**Independent riders can get on and off, and to and from a vehicle without help. They also don't need to be accompanied at their destination. If in a wheelchair, riders are able to stay in their chair and roll independently onto a vehicle.**

If you need assistance, have a large motorized wheelchair, or are going to an appointment that requires you have a ride or driver to accompany you, please see our resource sheet, [Transportation for Riders Needing Assistance](#).

### TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Free and low-cost transportation to medical appointments, social service offices, and some other destinations is available for some DC residents. For a fee, you can travel to a variety of destinations. Consider where you want to go, what you can afford, what travel assistance you might need, and your comfort level travelling with other riders when choosing an option.

### FREE AND LOW-COST TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

#### ► WMATA (METRO) BUS & RAIL

For more information, contact [WMATA](#) at 202-202-637-7000 | [wmata.com](#)

**Metro buses** typically costs \$2 to \$4 per one-way leg of a trip. Adults aged 65+ and people with disabilities can qualify for discounted bus fares of \$1. All buses have wheelchair lifts and can lower the door step to make it easier for you to climb aboard.

A **Metro Rail** (subway) ride costs a little more than the bus. Fares are based on distance traveled and time of day. All Metro Rail cars are wheelchair accessible.

#### ► SEABURY CONNECTOR CARD

For more information, contact [Seabury](#) at 202-715-7649 | [seaburyresources.org](#)

DC residents aged 60+ can purchase cash-loaded cards that can be used for taxi rides anywhere in the city. Because the cards are sold on a sliding-scale basis, your savings will vary depending on your income.

#### ► SENIOR MEDEXPRESS PROGRAM (FREE)

For more information and to enroll, contact [DC Office on Aging's customer service representatives](#) at 202-724-5626.

Free transportation for DC residents aged 60+, including wheelchair users, primarily to medical appointments and social services in DC. Senior MedExpress is operated by the Yellow Cab Company, and is grant-funded by the DC Office on Aging. To enroll, you must provide proof of age, DC residency, and medical necessity (if using for medical appointments). Once enrolled, you can call Yellow Cab directly at 202-420-7533 to schedule a ride. Rides may be scheduled 24/7.

#### ► VETS RIDE (FREE)

For more information, contact [the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs](#) at 202-724-5454 | [ova.dc.gov](#)

Low-income DC veterans can receive free transportation to and from medical appointments, educational programs, and employment services in the city.

**TURN OVER FOR MORE RESOURCES ►**

## **MODERATE TO HIGH-COST TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES**

### **► TAXIS AND WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXIS**

**Red Cab of DC**  
202-285-1632 | [redcabdc.com](http://redcabdc.com)

**Royal Taxi (offers wheelchair accessible cabs)**  
202-398-0500 | [dctaxionline.com](http://dctaxionline.com)

**Yellow Cab**  
202-544-1212 | [dcyellowcab.com](http://dcyellowcab.com)

**Yellow Paratransit (offers wheelchair accessible cabs) 202-544-1213**  
[dcyellowcab.com/yellow-paratransit](http://dcyellowcab.com/yellow-paratransit)

DC taxis charge mileage-based fares regulated by the government. The 2018 rate for cabs operating in DC is \$3.50 base + \$2.16 per mile. Taxis may charge extra fares for things like additional passengers, waiting for a passenger, and telephone dispatch. Some destinations, including airports, may impose fees which are passed on to the rider. DC prohibits cabs where wheelchair users can roll into the cab from charging more than regular cab fares.

### **► RIDESHARING WITH A SMARTPHONE**

**For more information, or to obtain ride sharing apps, visit**

**Lyft at [lyft.com](http://lyft.com)**

**Uber at [uber.com](http://uber.com)**

**Via at [ridewithvia.com](http://ridewithvia.com)**

Ridesharing companies such as Uber, Lyft, and Via partner with professional and nonprofessional drivers who use their own cars to provide transportation services. Fares are based on mileage. Extra fees may be charged during high-use times, inclement weather, for extra passengers, and if you request to be the only passenger. Lyft and Uber do not post their fares. But, both companies offer an estimate of a trip's fare via their Smartphone app or website. For Via, most short trips start at around \$2.95. Most ridesharing customers use Smartphones to request a ride and pay fares.

### **► RIDESHARING WITHOUT A SMARTPHONE**

For more information, contact  
Arrive at 1-866-626-9879 | [arriverides.com](http://arriverides.com)  
Go Go Grandparent at 1-855-464-6872  
[gogograndparent.com](http://gogograndparent.com)

Uber and Lyft riders without smartphones can request rides using intermediary companies like Arrive and Go Go Grandparent. For a fee, you can use any phone (land-line or cell) to arrange ridesharing through the intermediary company. Arrive charges a \$5 transaction fee per ride. Go Go Grandparent charges fees based on minutes of your phone call plus mileage of your trip.

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• Visit [iona.org](http://iona.org) or call  
• 202-895-9448  
• for other helpful fact sheets.

Adult Day Health Programs

Legal Aid

Memory Evaluations

Senior Service Network Lead  
Agencies

Transportation for Riders  
Needing Assistance

Veterans Aid & Attendance