

Transportation: Getting Around

Learning to use transportation can be a sign of **independence** and **freedom**. Being able to get around will allow you the freedom to hang out with friends, participate in community activities, get to your job and go to medical appointments.

The first step is to get information about different transportation options, and then decide what is **best for you!**

- **Public Transportation:** For information on travel times, routes, and maps in Chicago and surrounding areas, call 836-7000 from any area code, or go to www.rtachicago.com
- **ADA Certification:** In order to use the ParaTransit or Travel Training Programs you must apply for an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Certification. Request an application for **ADA Certification** by calling 312-663-4357.
- **Para Transit Service:** This is a curb-to-curb transportation for people with disabilities 14 years of age and older.
- **Travel Training:** This program teaches persons with disabilities how to ride on public transportation. It provides training and practice that will enable you to feel **comfortable** and **confident** riding trains and buses.
- **Reduced Fare Permit Card:** You may be eligible for a reduced-fare permit card based on your age, or disability, or if you take the CTA to school. Call 312-913-3110, or go to www.rtachicago.com
- **Circuit Breaker Program:** This program enables people with disabilities to ride free on the RTA public transportation. You must first qualify and enroll in the Illinois Circuit Breaker program. Your disability and income will determine your eligibility. You must be at least 16 years old. To register for Circuit Breaker, call 800-252-8966, or go to <http://www.state.il.us/aging/1rx/cbrx/cbrx-main.htm>
- **Transportation Services by Public Aid:** You may be eligible to use First Transit based on your medical condition and other criteria. You can use this service **only** to get to **medical appointments**. Because of this limitation, it is important to learn how to get to all of your other activities by other means of transportation. To check your eligibility, call **First Transit** at 877-725-0569, or visit www.firsttransit.com

- **Driving:** Driving may be an option available for many individuals. If you are in high school, speak with the driving program at school to learn about this option. Driving Rehabilitation centers can provide evaluation, classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction for learning how to drive independently if needed.
- **Persons with Disabilities Parking Cards/Plates:** Applications are available at local Driver Service Facilities, online at www.cyberdriveillinois.com , or by contacting the Secretary of State at 800-252-2904. Your doctor must also complete the certification form to obtain the parking card or plates.

The information included in this document is for informational purposes only and is not intended to substitute in any way for medical education, training, treatment, advice, or diagnosis by a healthcare professional. A qualified healthcare professional should always be consulted before making any healthcare-related decision.