

What will the interview include?

Travel by Bus and Subway

Contact Us

Your interview may include:

- your evaluation of your abilities
- verification of your disability
- assessment of your physical and cognitive ability to ride public transportation

Balance, strength, coordination, range of motion, or general orientation may be assessed. Part of the assessment may be conducted outdoors, so please dress appropriately.

Information provided by a health care or disability service will also be considered. You may bring this information to the interview or your Mobility Coordinator will get it for you, if necessary.

If your eligibility determination is not made within 21 days of completion of the application process, you will be able to use THE RIDE until a determination is made. If you disagree with the decision, you have the right to appeal.



The MBTA's bus and subway network offers a variety of accessibility features to help people travel independently.

All buses have:

- ♦ Capability to kneel or lower the bus
- ♦ Ramps or lifts
- ♦ Priority seating for seniors or riders with disabilities
- ♦ Securement areas for riders using wheeled mobility devices
- ♦ Audio Visual stop announcements

Subways have:

- ♦ Elevators, escalators, and ramps at many stations
- ♦ Mobile bridge plates that span the gap between train and platform
- ♦ Tactile warning strips at the platform edge



The RIDE Eligibility Center

617-337-2727

or use Relay Operator

1000 Massachusetts Avenue
Suite 201, 2nd Floor
Boston MA 02118

Office Hours

Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Appointment Hours

Mon - Fri 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Evening by Request

This brochure is available in alternate formats or languages upon request.

TRAVEL INSTRUCTION

**Travel Instruction is a free program that offers training to seniors and persons with disabilities to gain more independence by becoming riders of the MBTA bus and train system. We offer multiple training types. Call our travel trainers to determine which training is right for you!
Contact 617-222-5237 or
howtotravel@mbta.com**



THE RIDE
Eligibility
Information



THE RIDE is the MBTA's paratransit service for people with disabilities who are unable to independently use general public transportation. It is an origin-to-destination, accessible shared ride service for people who are eligible under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

For eligibility, contact:
THE RIDE Eligibility Center
617-337-2727
www.mbta.com/theride

What should you expect?

To apply or recertify for THE RIDE eligibility, you will need to appear in-person for a confidential interview with a Mobility Coordinator. Your specific transit use skills, abilities and/or limitations will be identified and discussed. Your Mobility Coordinator will help you every step of the way.

TELL US MORE ABOUT YOURSELF

Under the previous eligibility system, decisions were based largely on written information. Now you have an opportunity to better explain your personal situation. The assessment process is not a medical determination of whether or not you have a disability; it is a determination about what your transport options can include.

Disability alone does not determine ADA eligibility; the decision is based upon a customer's ability to use the MBTA's general public transportation.

Why In-Person Interviews

- ◆ Applicants will be able to more fully explain their circumstances. Family, friends, caregivers can participate in the interview
- ◆ Free transportation on THE RIDE, arranged by the Eligibility Center, will be provided to and from the interview for the applicant and one other person
- ◆ Determinations will be made quickly, often within 2 - 3 business days of the interview
- ◆ Incomplete applications will not need to be returned to the applicant
- ◆ Interviews can be scheduled without having to fill out an application
- ◆ No medical certification signed by a doctor will be required at the time of the interview, but may be provided if the applicant chooses
- ◆ If medical verification is needed, Mobility Coordinators will contact health care providers on behalf of the applicant
- ◆ Applicants will work with specially trained coordinators to guide them through the eligibility process
- ◆ In-person interviews provide a more complete understanding of an applicant's needs and abilities than short paper-based answers
- ◆ ***Immediate Service for Medical Necessity*** provides 30 days of full service to individuals when requested by healthcare providers, hospitals, or treatment centers to deal with a medical emergency



What to bring to your interview

You can help avoid delays in the eligibility process by having this information with you at your interview:

Phone numbers (home, cell, work, emergency)

Street and mailing addresses

Health care provider contact information (name, phone, fax)

Mobility devices that you use, including power and manual wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, canes, etc.

Visual Acuity or Field of Vision Statement from your vision care provider, if your vision is impaired

Diagnosis and statement from your mental health care provider, if you have a psychiatric condition

Optional List of medicines you are currently using; statement from your health care provider regarding your disability

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