



## Get Moving!

### A Fact Sheet for youth, by youth!

Mobility is the key to freedom.

If you want to learn more about getting around in the community, **READ ON!**

#### Normal Fears When Traveling in/around the Community

- Getting lost or not allowing yourself enough time to get there.
- Putting yourself in possible danger.

#### Solving Your Fears

- Do your research. Know where you're going and how long it's going to take to get there.
- If you are going to be alone, try to have a cell phone.
- Be aware of your surroundings.

Everybody knows that having your driver's license, your own car, and money for gas is an easy way of getting around, but what if you don't have those things? How will you get to work? Go shopping? Vote? Meet a friend?

### Alternate Types of Transportation to Consider

**Bikes** - Traveling with a "bike buddy" can be fun.

- It is safer and you are also more visible to traffic.
- The ride will go faster.
- You can help each other if a problem comes up.

**Public Transportation** - Is available throughout the state, such as public buses, taxis, ferries, and trains. For more information visit [www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/transit/index-more.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/transit/index-more.htm)

- Some work places even offer free bus passes.

**Specialized Transit** - Is designed for those that may have difficulty using public transportation and need more individualized transportation services.

- A great resource for accessible transportation providers throughout Wisconsin, as well as other states across the country, is the Aging and Disability Resource Center in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.
- For more information: [www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/Aging\\_and\\_DisabilityResourceCenter/index.htm](http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/Aging_and_DisabilityResourceCenter/index.htm)

**Car pooling** - Car pooling is when you share a ride with someone who has a car. Many work places have a central place where people can find each other who want to car pool. Or, ask around. Your co-workers may be looking for a car pool too! Here are car pooling tips:

- Decide where and when you will be picked up
- Decide on what is allowed; food, radio, etc.
- Decide on cost for rides
- Decide on how long they should wait if someone is late
- Have a backup plan in case your ride doesn't show up, especially if you are in a new position.

## Getting your driver's license

The process of getting your license differs from state to state, but there are specific steps involved that are constant everywhere.

- In most states, you can apply for a license at the Department of Motor Vehicles at age 15 or 16. You'll need to bring picture ID, as well as your Social Security number and proof of insurance, next you must sit a written test. It's usually most convenient to study for this before you head to the DMV to apply for the license. You must also take a vision test, which involves checking your peripheral vision, depth perception and color vision. In most states, your sight must be correctable to at least 20/40 vision.
- After passing these tests, you will be issued a learner's license that allows you to drive if you are accompanied by an adult with a permanent license.
- If you are a minor, you must take a driver's education course before you can proceed to the next step, which is the road test. During this test, your ability to drive safely according to the road rules is tested. Depending on your age, you must hold a learner's license for three to six months before you can take the road test.
- To obtain your license, you'll have to provide a thumbprint and pay a fee that varies by state. Physical characteristics such as height, weight and eye color are recorded on your license, too.
- Finally, you'll receive a temporary license that allows you to drive legally while your permanent license is being issued.

## 2 Reasons to try to avoid driving when possible

- Cost - Transportation is the second largest expense for most households. When people walk, bike, or take the transit system they save money. In Wisconsin, public transit riders save almost \$7 per trip over driving.
- Environment - Car exhaust causes air pollution.

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