

FREEDOM RIDE



Program Overview

Freedom Ride Taxi Voucher/Debit Card Program provides accessible transportation outside of the existing ADA service area and hours and is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The service is available to individuals who have been ADA Paratransit certified and who have enrolled in the program through the Greater Hartford Transit District. Participant debit card payments are matched 100% (to the extent funding remains available) through the New Freedom Program. The program is available with **M7 Taxi**.

Eligibility and Application Process

Currently certified ADA riders are immediately eligible for the Freedom Ride Voucher Program, based on the conditions of your certification. For status clarification, to determine eligibility or to apply for a Freedom Ride voucher card, contact Greater Hartford Transit District at **860-247-5329 extension 3086**. ADA staff will provide applications for the Freedom Ride Program as part of the ADA Paratransit eligibility determination process. If eligible, you must have a voucher card for the service provider; the M7 Taxi voucher card is only valid with M7 Taxi. If eligible, you may use the voucher card with all taxis of the company, not only the wheelchair accessible taxis.

Service Area

To use the Freedom Ride Voucher Program, each trip must either BEGIN or END in a town located in the taxi company's service area:

M7 Taxi: Berlin, Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Hartford, Manchester, New Britain, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, and Windsor Locks.

Purchasing Voucher/Debit Card

Once approved for the Freedom Ride Program, request an application from the Greater Hartford Transit District (either by mail, phone, or in person) at One Union Place, First Floor North Offices, Hartford, CT 06103. Your initial payment must be at least \$25, and will be matched dollar for dollar by the program. A purchase of \$25 results in a \$50 debit/voucher card. The maximum purchase per month is \$50 for a \$100 voucher card value. You will receive a debit card encoded with the dollar amount available for use shortly after the initial payment is received. The voucher card may not be used to tip the driver. **Be sure you have sufficient funds on your card before making a trip.**

Attendants/Companions

Up to three (3) companions, including a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) may ride for free with an ADA certified rider. Service animals may ride. The eligible rider and companions must have the same origin and destination, and the voucher card may only be used by the ADA certified rider. Individuals must provide some form of identification when using their voucher card.

Lost Taxi Voucher/Debit Cards

Report lost voucher/debit cards immediately to the taxi company. A new voucher/debit card will be issued and any unused funds will be transferred to the new card.

RESERVATIONS may be made 24 hours per day, 7 days per week by calling the taxi company

CANCELLATIONS made within one hour of pickup time will not be charged

NO SHOWS that occur outside the licensed territory will be charged from place of origin to the closest town within the territory