

Persons with Disabilities Rural Shared-Ride Transportation Program (PwD) Fact Sheet

What is it?

The Persons with Disabilities Rural Shared Ride Transportation Program creates affordable, accessible transportation on shared-ride vehicles. PennDOT provides grants to local transportation operators to provide door-to-door advanced reservation transportation in specific counties. Passengers pay at least 15% of the regular shared-ride fare.

Who doesn't have it?

People with disabilities in **16** eligible counties: **Warren, Forest, Clarion, Butler, Armstrong, Indiana, Westmoreland, Cambria, Somerset, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Montour, Wayne and Delaware**

Why not?

PwD shared-ride started as a pilot program in 8 counties in 2001. Over the last 7 years additional funding has been provided that enabled the program to gradually expand to cover 75% of the state. However, additional funding is needed to make the program available in the remaining 25%. (see back for map of counties).

What is the real issue?

Equity: There should not be *have and have not*s when it comes to people with disabilities getting to work, school, church, grocery stores, doctor offices and many other destinations necessary to live independently.

How is the program improving the lives of people with disabilities?

- 76% of passengers are able to live in their own home because of available transportation
- 46% are able to get and keep jobs

How does the Commonwealth benefit?

- More people are working and paying taxes
- More people are purchasing goods and services, and participating in their communities

What needs to happen for statewide coverage?

An additional investment of \$2.25 million (bringing the total line item for the PwD program in the PennDOT budget to \$7.55 million), so that PwD can be available to people in all 65 eligible counties.

The Transportation Commission recommended the program be expanded statewide.

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