

## **What Is The Americans With Disabilities Act Of 1990?**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal law which provides comprehensive civil rights entitlement for individuals with disabilities. The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, public services, transportation, public accommodations and telecommunications.

In the transportation section of the ADA, the law requires that fixed-route transportation systems (buses) must be accessible to persons with disabilities. However, the law provides for complementary paratransit service if the buses are not accessible or if your disability or condition prevents you from using fixed-route public transportation.

## **What Is Complementary Paratransit Service?**

Complementary Paratransit is a curb-to-curb transportation system, like a dial-a-ride or taxi service, which operates at the same time and the same places as fixed-route buses.

## **What Constitutes A Disability?**

The ADA defines a disability as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual. Major life activities include caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working.

## **The ADA Eligibility Certification Program Is A Project Of The Ventura County Transportation Commission In Association With:**

Gold Coast Transit

Simi Valley Transit

Thousand Oaks Transit

Camarillo Area Transit

City of Moorpark

City of Ojai



## **Are You Eligible for ADA Transportation?**

**Para Pedir Una Copia En Español,  
Llame Al 1-888-667-7001**



### **Ventura County Transportation Commission**

*ADA Certification Office*

4036 Adolfo Road

Camarillo, CA 93010

**1-888-667-7001**

Ventura County  
ADA Eligibility  
Certification Program  
For Complementary  
Paratransit Service

## **Who Can Use Complementary Paratransit Service?**

To become eligible for complementary paratransit service, an individual must be unable to use fixed-route bus service because:

- They are unable to board, ride, or disembark an accessible vehicle;
- They are able to use an accessible vehicle, but an accessible vehicle is not available;
- Their disability or condition prevents travel to or from a bus stop.

Individuals will be required to fill out an application and describe their disability or condition that prevents them from using fixed-route bus service. The disability or condition must meet ADA criteria for certification. If certified, they will be issued an identification card indicating ADA eligibility. If certification is denied, an appeals process is available.

## **Am I Eligible For Complementary Paratransit Service If I Have A Temporary Disability?**

Individual may be eligible for ADA paratransit service on the basis of either a permanent or a temporary disability. For individuals with temporary disabilities, eligibility will expire at the end of the disability.

## **If I Currently Have A Handicapped Parking Placard From The Department Of Motor Vehicles, Do I Qualify Under The ADA?**

Not necessarily. The criteria for the parking placard is much broader than ADA requirements. ADA requires certification that a person has a disability which prevents that person from using fixed-route bus service.

## **Am I Eligible For ADA Paratransit Service In Other Counties?**

When you travel outside Ventura County, your ADA identification card will entitle you to use any other system's ADA Paratransit Service. You will be considered a visitor and may use the service for only 21 days. If you plan to be in another city for more than 21 days, you may be required to apply for certification in that city.

## **When And Where Does ADA Complementary Service Operate?**

Each transit provider in the county has different schedules and hours of service. To find out about the paratransit service in your area, call the ADA Certification Office, at 1-888-667-7001.

## **Is There Any Limit On How Often You Ride Or Where You Go?**

No, there is no limit on the number of trips provided to an ADA paratransit eligible individual. You may ride anywhere within the ADA service area.

## **How Much Will It Cost?**

The charge for paratransit service cannot exceed twice the amount that an individual paying full fare would be charged for a trip of similar length. For example, if a one-way trip on a bus costs \$ .75, the paratransit fare would be \$1.50 for one way.

## **Can A Friend Or Personal Care Attendant Travel With Me?**

Service will be provided to a personal care attendant and to one additional guest. However, the personal care attendant must be registered as such during the certification process. Additional individuals will be provided service on a space-available basis if it will not result in denying service to ADA paratransit eligible individuals. Accompanying individuals must have the same origin and destination as the eligible individual. The fare for a guest will be the same as for the ADA eligible customer. There is no charge for a required personal care attendant.

## **How Do I Request A Ride?**

Once you have been certified as being eligible for ADA paratransit service, you will be given a telephone number to call to request transportation. Reservations may be made one day to 14 days in advance of the requested travel time.

## **How Do I Apply?**

The Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), on behalf of the Ventura County fixed route operators, has developed a coordinated countywide eligibility process to provide certification to those individuals who qualify for ADA paratransit services. If you think you are eligible or would like further information about the American with Disabilities Act, contact the ADA Certification Office, at 1-888-667-7001.