www.carersmanchester.org.uk

August 2021

Accessible Transport

Are you an unwaged carer living in Manchester? Here is a summary of some of the support available to help you and the person you care for get around.

Public Transport

Disabled Persons Railcard can be purchased by anyone with a disability who meets the eligibility criteria. It entitles the holder and an accompanying adult to one third off the price of most rail tickets.

- ✅ **Call 0345 605 0525 / 0345 601 0132 (Minicom/Textphone)**
  (Open 7 days a week 7am – 10pm)
- ✅ **Email railcardhelp@nationalrail.co.uk**
- ✅ **Visit https://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk/**

Travel Passes for Disabled People are available for free from Transport for Greater Manchester for anyone with a qualifying disability, including serious walking difficulties. The type of pass depends on a person's specific disability. Passes offer free or concessionary travel on buses, trams and trains in Greater Manchester as well as some free travel on local buses across England.

- ✅ **Call 0161 244 1000**
  (Monday – Friday 7am – 8pm, Saturday – Sunday 8am – 7pm)
- ✅ **Email concessionary.travel@tfgm.com**
- ✅ **Visit https://tfgm.com/tickets-and-passes/passes-for-disabled-people**

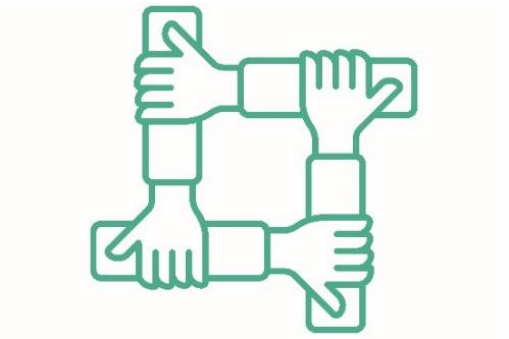
Travel Vouchers for Disabled People can be purchased from Transport for Greater Manchester by anyone who can't travel on ordinary buses because they are registered blind or have serious walking difficulties. The vouchers can be used to book discounted travel in taxis, private hire vehicles and community transport schemes like Ring and Ride.

The scheme membership card can also be used for free or concessionary travel on trains and trams across Greater Manchester. You can swap a Travel Pass for Disabled People for vouchers if you prefer.

- ✅ **Call 0161 244 1000**
  (Monday – Friday 7am – 8pm, Saturday – Sunday 8am – 7pm)
- ✅ **Visit https://tfgm.com/public-transport/travel-vouchers**

Travel Pass for Older People is available for free from Transport for Greater Manchester for anyone who qualifies for the State Pension (irrespective of whether they work or not). It offers free off-peak travel on all buses in Greater Manchester and local buses across England. For a small annual fee, you can add unlimited off-peak travel on trains and trams across Greater Manchester.

- ✅ **Call 0161 244 1000**
  (Monday – Friday 7am – 8pm, Saturday – Sunday 8am – 7pm)
- ✅ **Email concessionary.travel@tfgm.com**
- ✅ **Visit https://tfgm.com/tickets-and-passes/travel-pass-for-older-people**



Driving

Blue Badge can be purchased by people with qualifying disabilities or health conditions to help them park closer to their destination. It exempts the holder from certain parking restrictions and charges when they are driving, or a passenger in, any vehicle (including taxis and hire cars).

- ✅ **Call 0161 277 5919**
- ✅ **Email bluebadge@manchester.gov.uk**
- ✅ **Visit https://tinyurl.com/t29s568s**

Vehicle Tax Exemption or Reduction may be available from the DVLA for a vehicle that is registered in the name of someone with a disability or their nominated driver (so long as the vehicle is only used for the personal needs of the person with a disability).

- ✅ **Call 0300 123 4321**
(24-hour service)
- ✅ **Visit https://www.gov.uk/financial-help-disabled/vehicles-and-transport**

Motability Scheme allows anyone in receipt of a qualifying mobility allowance to lease a car, scooter, powered wheelchair or wheelchair-accessible vehicle.

- ✅ **Call 0300 456 4566 / 0300 037 0100 (Minicom/Textphone)**
(Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm)
- ✅ **Live chat https://www.motability.co.uk/contact/**
- ✅ **Visit https://www.motability.co.uk/**

Transport Services

Ring and Ride is a low-cost, door-to-door minibus service for anyone who can't use public transport because of a disability or age-related walking difficulties. Registered passengers can book journeys of up to six miles across Greater Manchester for themselves and an accompanying adult. The minibuses are wheelchair-accessible and all drivers are trained in disability awareness.

- ✅ **Call 0161 200 6011 (enquiries/registration/bookings)**
- ✅ **Email enquiries@ringandride.info**
- ✅ **Visit https://tfgm.com/public-transport/ring-and-ride-minibuses**

Patient Transport Service is run by the North West Ambulance Service and helps eligible patients get to and from non-emergency healthcare appointments. A carer or other escort may be able to accompany a patient who has specific needs. An alternative, specialised service is available for renal dialysis and cancer patients.

- ✅ **Call 0345 112 0999 / 0151 260 8628 (Minicom)**
- ✅ **Visit https://www.nwas.nhs.uk/services/patient-transport-service-pts/**

Transport for Sick Children is a free volunteer driver scheme. It helps children up to the age of 16 across Greater Manchester and their carers get to and from essential hospital and other medical appointments. Referrals are made by professionals such as health visitors or school nurses.

- ✅ **Call 0161 443 4122**
- ✅ **Email to@transportforsickchildren.org**
- ✅ **Visit http://transportforsickchildren.org/**

If you would like to discuss your options for support or you have a general query about your caring role, you can call the Carers Manchester Contact Point on 0161 543 8000 (Monday-Friday 10am-4pm, Wednesdays 10am-6pm; except bank holidays) or email contactpoint@carersmanchester.org.uk.