

## Ride Share

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# Ride Share Training

In this workbook, you will learn the definition of Ride Share and its requirements, regulations, and how to access it for yourself or someone you care for.

A Ride Share is a way that drivers who are going to a destination can offer to share the trip with others who need to travel to the same or nearby locations. A Ride Share allows drivers to share the cost of gas while providing transportation assistance to one or more riders. As a result of the completion of this module, you will understand how to access Ride Share opportunities.

It is recommended that you take notes, mark in this workbook, and re-read sections that may be confusing.

Throughout this course, there will be Learning Stops. Learning Stops are questions that provide an opportunity for the student to reflect on the course materials. At the end of each section, there will be one to five questions regarding the reading. These Learning Stops are a way to check your understanding. If you answer a Learning Stop incorrectly, go back and re-read the section to make sure you understand the content completely.

*Ride Share training begins on the next page.*

# What is Ride Share?

Learning Objective: define Ride Share

# What is Ride Share?

## Ride Share

A Ride Share is a way that drivers who are going to a destination can offer to share the trip with others who need to travel to the same or nearby locations.

A Ride Share can be set up between two or more people. Ride Share participants can take turns driving or one person may drive every commute.

Since the invention of cars, people have shared rides. Ride Share enabled people to take jobs and opportunities that were previously not possible; however, recently, ride share participation has dropped significantly. By 2015, 9 out of 10 people drive to work in a car alone.

## Why Ride Share?

There are many reasons to ride share, including saving money, helping others, reducing pollution, and more.

### Save Money

The average car consumes 550 gallons of gas each year.

Ride Sharing allows you to share the cost of gas and parking with other riders.

The more participants in your Ride Share, the more you save.

### Reduce Pollution

Fewer cars on the road means less greenhouse gas emissions - linked to respiratory affects, cardiovascular disease, and allergies.

By ride sharing, you help improve air quality and reduce health risks for yourself and future generations.

### Less Stress

Research suggests that a ride share is less stressful than commuting alone.

### Reduce Traffic

Every Ride Share participant takes another car off the road, which means less congested roads and highways.

### Use the Fast Lane

Many major cities have carpool lanes that are reserved for cars with two or more passengers.

These lanes have less traffic, leading to faster commute times for those who Ride Share.

### Save Time

The average American spends 434 hours in their car each year.

Participating in a Ride Share allows you to check and answer email, read the news, check bank balances, or even close your eyes for a few minutes before starting your day.

### Offer Options

Where public transit service is limited or non-existent, Ride Sharing may be the best option available for individuals who don't drive to get to work or school.

Ride Sharing is a great way to provide a benefit to ourselves and others.

### Create Community

Ride sharing is a great way to make new friends.

# What is Ride Share?

## Learning Stop 1

**TRUE**

OR

**FALSE**

Ride Sharing is a way that drivers who are going to a destination can offer to share the trip with others who need to travel to the same or nearby locations.

## Learning Stop 2

**TRUE**

OR

**FALSE**

As of 2015, nine out of ten people drive alone in a car to work.

# Create Ride Share Agreements

Learning Objective: Demonstrate how to create Ride Share agreements

# Create Ride Share Agreements

Envision your Ride Share needs.

Are you a potential rider, driver – or both? Write up an “ad” so you have something clear to communicate.

## Sample Rider Ad:

I want a part time job. My job coach told me to think about transportation.

I want to ask family, friends, neighbors, and people at church to help me start a ride share.

Having a job will allow me to chip in up to .50 cents per mile for a ride.

The first few weeks, Vocational Rehabilitation will help with the cost. Once I start making a paycheck, I will pay for my ride share myself.

## Sample Driver Ad:

I have worked the day shift at Cooper Manufacturing for five years. With a child in day care, my budget is tight. I can help someone with a ride while sharing my gas expenses.

I can pick up a co-worker near my home or on the way to my child’s day care.

## Find Participants

Let people know you are starting a Ride Share. You may be able to get ride offers or find passengers quicker than you think. Some methods could be:

Writing a short note to send to friends and family.

Posting a social media message.

Talking to neighbors.

Speaking with connections at your church or organization.

You can also find potential riders or drivers at work. Talk to your boss about making an announcement at a meeting, post a flyer in the break room or restroom, or talk to your human resource officer about sending an email announcement.

## Set Ride Share Rules

Developing a list of rules is important for everyone’s needs to be met. Make sure to discuss the following topics with your rider or driver before your first Ride Share:

What are the pickup and drop-off locations?

How long will the ride share wait if someone is late?

How will ride share participants notify each other?

Is gas reimbursement done weekly or monthly?

How will cancellations/ sick days be handled?

Map It

Use a mapping tool to: plan the best route, set leave times, and to calculate mileage.

*Ride Share Training continues on the next page.*



# Create Ride Share Agreements

## Set the Ride Share Rates

To consider the payment a Ride Share and not taxable income, the rider fee must fall under the IRS mileage reimbursement rate.

View the current IRS reimbursement rate here: [www.irs.gov/tax-professionals/standard-mileage-rates](http://www.irs.gov/tax-professionals/standard-mileage-rates)

## Ride Share Courtesy

The driver controls the radio and temperature in the car.

Passengers don't make conversation unless the driver initiates it.

Don't eat or drink in the car unless the driver says you may.

Don't give/take a ride if you are sick and contagious.

If you are the driver, don't make extra stops unless the riders agree.

## Make a Back-Up Plan

On occasion, things may come up. A driver may be sick, a car may break down, or other conflicts may prevent a driver from being able to provide a ride. A backup plan might include: a family member who can pitch in on occasion, a co-worker who can help out, requesting a day off work, or having money set aside for a taxi.

**Make it  
Official**

Drivers and riders may wish to sign a Ride Share agreement so that arrangements and expectations are clear. See our sample Ride Share Agreement for more assistance.

# Create Ride Share Agreements

## Learning Stop 3

Which of the following is true when considering a Ride Share arrangement as non-taxable income?

- A.** The automobile must not have a commercial sign
- B.** The rider may not pay more than the IRS mileage reimbursement rate per mile.
- C.** The driver must not have a business license.
- D.** All of the above.

# Ride Share FAQs

Learning Objective: Explain Ride  
Share frequently asked questions

# Ride Share FAQs

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is it a business?

**Ride Share is not a business.** Ride Share drivers who are reimbursed no more than the IRS mileage reimbursement rate per mile are not operating as a business.

### Do I need auto insurance?

**All vehicles on the road must be insured.** As usual, drivers must insure their automobile. Ride sharing does not require a commercial insurance policy. Ride Share riders are considered car passengers, like in any automobile trip.

### Are Ride Share payments taxable income?

**Ride Share payments are not taxable income.** Ride Sharing helps riders and drivers share transportation expenses. A rider reimburses the driver in an amount equal to or less than the cost of the drive. By staying under the IRS mileage reimbursement rate, reimbursement to a driver does not qualify as taxable income.

# Ride Share FAQs

## Learning Stop 4

**TRUE**

OR

**FALSE**

The automobile used in a Ride Share arrangement must have commercial automobile insurance.

## Learning Stop 5

**TRUE**

OR

**FALSE**

Payments to a Ride Share driver are considered taxable income by the IRS.

# Waze Carpool

Learning Objective: Use Waze Carpool

# Waze Carpool

## Ride Share Apps: Waze Carpool

While Ride Sharing isn't new, Ride Share apps are a new way to share rides and share the costs of commuting. **Waze Carpool** is an app that lets you drive or ride with people already going your way. Drivers and riders with similar commutes to work or school can team up and ride together through the app. Unlike taxi apps like Uber or Lyft, Waze Carpool **does not pay drivers or charge a commission** on rides. Some important things to know about Waze Carpool are:

Riders pay no more than the IRS reimbursement rate.

Drivers do not earn taxable income or pay fees.

App use is limited to two trips per day.

Waze Carpool uses advertisements in the app to make money.

Drivers use the Waze app, while Riders use the Waze Carpool app.

## Waze Carpool Basics

- Your home and work address are kept private and only shared when you accept a carpool match.
- Drivers can verify their work (or school) email address to be matched with coworkers (or classmates).
- Drivers can specify the number of seats available.
- Drivers can specify the car make & model to make it easier for the rider to find.
- Riders can see driver ratings and compare the mileage reimbursement rate of available drivers.

## Profile Settings & Offering/Accepting Rides

Drivers can set their ride rules within their profile on the app on topics such as: chatting, smoking, and pets. Drivers can review the carpool calendar and **set their availability in advance**. Waze Carpool allows users to set which days they would like to Ride Share - and click a button to turn off days they don't. You can limit your matches to show only: coworkers or classmates, riders of the same gender, and people with whom you share mutual friends.

## Invite Friends

Waze and Waze Carpool allow you to invite friends to join the app. Sending invites helps you increase your chances of finding a ride or rider within your network. Riders can also get money in your account when they invite their friends.

### Invitations

Friends you invite to Waze Carpool get a \$20 gift. You get \$20 when they complete a ride. You can get up to 10 gifts (\$200) when you get your friends carpooling.

## Ride Payment

All payments are handled through the app. Drivers can transfer out their payments each month. Waze processes payments through Google Pay. You'll need to connect your bank account to Google Pay to easily transfer funds. Riders can connect their method of payment - including ABLE account cards as a payment source.

*Ride Share Training continues on the next page.*

# Waze Carpool

## Ride Rates

While you're using the app, adjust the ride share cost using the sliding button, up to the maximum IRS reimbursement rate (currently 58 cents per mile). Waze Carpool sets some limits in the app:

Waze Carpool will only match a driver with passengers for 2 trips per day.

Waze Carpool drivers may charge no more than the IRS reimbursement rate.

Participants must be 18 years of age or older.



# Ride Share

## Learning Stop 6

Which of the following apps is used by ride share drivers?

**A.** Lyft

**C.** Waze

**B.** Uber

**D.** Waze Carpool

## Learning Stop 7

Which of the following apps is used by ride share riders?

**A.** Lyft

**C.** Waze

**B.** Uber

**D.** Waze Carpool

# Partner with Waze Carpool

Learning Objective: Identify ways to partner with Waze Carpool

# Partner with Waze Carpool

## Community Based Supports

Ride Sharing services like Waze Carpool can help individuals develop community-based transportation supports – especially in areas where public transit options do not exist. Agencies, employers, schools, and service professionals can partner with Waze Carpool. Santa Monica College partnered with Waze Carpool. In the first month, 800 students, faculty, and staff signed up.

Employers or groups can complete the steps to partner with Waze Carpool through the website:

Complete the steps at: [www.waze.com/carpool/companies](http://www.waze.com/carpool/companies)

There is no cost to partner with Waze Carpool. Partners **gain access to metrics** on the impact of their Ride Share initiative.

## Carpool Groups

Carpool groups can be created easily within the Waze app. These groups remain private and require an invitation. Groups can be created for:

Clubs	Agencies	Employers	Schools
Churches	Civic Organizations	Neighborhoods	and more

Add members by invitation within the app, email or text message, or through an invite code. Riders and drivers can participate in more than one carpool group.

# Partner with Waze Carpool

## Learning Stop 8

Who could benefit from creating Waze Carpool groups?

- A.** An employer
- B.** An advisory board
- C.** A college or university
- D.** A self-advocacy organization
- E.** All of the above.

## Learning Stop 9

What is a benefit of partnering with Waze Carpool?

- A.** Free pizza
- B.** Free gift cards
- C.** Tax credits
- D.** Access to data about your initiative

# Uber and Lyft

Learning Objective: Describe Uber and Lyft

# Uber and Lyft

Though often called Ride Share services, Uber and Lyft drivers essentially operate as private taxis. Uber and Lyft passengers are not sharing a ride with someone who owns a car and is going in the same direction. Instead, Uber and Lyft drivers provide **fee-for-service transportation**. Uber and Lyft are both **for-profit, publicly traded companies**.

## Profit-Based Model

Uber processes over 14 million rides per day across the United States and leads all ridesharing companies with a staggering \$62 billion net worth. Lyft's estimated value is \$23 billion.

### Uber & Lyft Pros

Since Uber and Lyft don't have to maintain fleet cars or pay for commercial insurance, their rates can be cheaper than a taxi.

Uber and Lyft, where available, operate 24/7.

### Uber & Lyft Cons

During "surge" pricing (when ride demand is high) Uber and Lyft rides can cost as much or more than a city taxi.

These apps do not have drivers available in all locations.

Finding accessible vehicles in Uber or Lyft can be difficult.

## The Bottom Line

Average trip cost is \$2 per mile.

The minimum fare ranges from \$4-\$7.

Short trips are more expensive per mile than longer trips.

A rider traveling just a few blocks will pay the same minimum as one riding three to four miles.

# Uber and Lyft

## Learning Stop 10

TRUE

OR

FALSE

The average cost of Uber or Lyft is \$2 per mile and the ride minimum averages \$7-10.

## Learning Stop Answers

1. True
2. True
3. B
4. False
5. False
6. C
7. D
8. E
9. D
10. True