

What is ADA Paratransit?

Fixed-Route v. ADA Paratransit

Fixed-route transit systems operate on a set route and follow a fixed schedule.

Example: city bus

ADA Paratransit is an accessible alternative to fixed-route transit.

ADA Paratransit is an extension of a community's fixed-route bus system. Like the fixed-route system, ADA Paratransit is available for all purposes of travel - business, personal, and leisure.

Requirements

- Service area must be the same as fixed-route service
- Hours of service must be the same as fixed-route service
- Fares cannot exceed twice the fixed-route passenger fare
- Reservation systems should allow for next-day service
- Restrictions may not be placed on trip purpose

Eligibility

Riders are eligible for ADA Paratransit if **they cannot independently use all or portions of the fixed-route service**, even if they would be able to use the fixed-route system with the help of a friend or personal attendant.

Eligibility for ADA Paratransit may not be limited to categories of trips. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) found that providing ADA Paratransit only for certain types of trips, such as dialysis, was in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.