



**Eligibility and Registration Form**  
**Rural Transportation for Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Project**

- ◆ Reduced fare transportation service may be available to you if you are:
  1. A person with a disability and
  2. Age 18 - 64 and
  3. Need accessible public transit in a participating county beyond ADA complementary paratransit services.
  
- ◆ If you would like to participate in this project, please complete this form and send it with a copy of one of the documents listed in Part 2 below to:

*Indiana County Transit Authority  
P.O. Box 869  
Indiana, PA 15701*
  
- ◆ Once your application is received and reviewed you will be notified of your eligibility to participate.
  
- ◆ If you have questions about this project, this form or need this form in an alternate format please call:

(724)465-2140 or 1-800-442-6928

Note: The information provided in this application regarding your disability will be used to determine your eligibility for reduced fare transportation services under the PwD project. Other information within the form will be used for data collection purposes, to determine your eligibility for any additional transportation programs, and to provide you with the appropriate type of service. This information will be kept confidential and used only by professionals involved in evaluating your eligibility and in analyzing the pilot project for future recommendations. Please print clearly.

**PART 1: GENERAL**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street & No.): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

County of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a disability according to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) definition below?  
\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

**Definition of Disability**

Eligibility for this program is based on disability as defined by the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). According to the ADA, "Disability means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual; a record of such an impairment; or being regarded as having such an impairment". "...major life activities means functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and work."

**PART 2: WRITTEN VERIFICATION THAT YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY**

Written verification by a knowledgeable organization or qualified individual that you are a person with a disability is required to participate in the PwD project.

**1. If you have written verification of a disability:**

You may already have written verification that you are a person with a disability from a service organization by having an identification card, a written assessment of your disability, etc. If so, send a copy of this information to the transportation provider listed at the top of this form. If not, you will need to ask an organization or individual listed below to verify, in writing, that you are a person with a disability according to the ADA definition and then send it to the transportation provider listed at the top of page 1.

Please check the organization or individual whose written verification you are submitting with your application form.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) \_\_\_\_\_ Registered Physical/Occupational Therapist
- \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Insurance (SSI) and Disability Insurance (SSDI) \_\_\_\_\_ Physician
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services \_\_\_\_\_ Registered Nurse
- \_\_\_\_\_ Center for Independent Living (CIL) \_\_\_\_\_ PA Attendant Care Program
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program \_\_\_\_\_ Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities
- \_\_\_\_\_ United Cerebral Palsy \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. If you do not have written verification of a disability:**

Please fill out a certification of disability form. It provides verification of a disability according to the definition in the Americans with Disabilities Act. This form can be used to acquire the necessary information for verifying a disability from a qualified health professional. See Attachment B in this package.

**PART 3: INCOME AND HOUSEHOLD RELATED DATA**

Passenger income related data is being collected for further decision-making regarding the project. THIS INFORMATION WILL NOT BE USED TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR DISCOUNTED FARES UNDER THE PwD PROGRAM. Please check the appropriate space in each column:

Annual Income	Household Size
_____ Less than \$10,000	_____ 1
_____ \$10,001-\$15,000	_____ 2
_____ \$15,001-\$20,000	_____ 3
_____ \$20,001-\$25,000	_____ 4
_____ \$25,001-\$30,000	_____ 5
_____ \$30,000-\$35,000	_____ 6
_____ \$35,001-\$40,000	_____ 7
_____ \$40,001-\$45,000	_____ 8 +
_____ \$45,001-\$50,000	_____
_____ \$50,001-\$55,000	_____
_____ \$55,001-\$60,000	_____
_____ \$60,001+	_____

**PART 4: AVOIDING DUPLICATION OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Transportation services provided under the PwD project are not to be provided in place of any current transportation services that you already receive.

1. Do you now receive any transportation services or are any of your transportation costs paid for by another program or organization? Please complete all that apply from the following list.

- \_\_\_ Senior Citizens Shared-Ride Transportation Program
- \_\_\_ Area Agency on the Aging
- \_\_\_ Medical Assistance Transportation Program
- \_\_\_ Americans with Disabilities Act Complementary Paratransit
- \_\_\_ Mental Health/Mental Retardation (MH/MR)
- \_\_\_ Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
- \_\_\_ The training program I am in at \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ The employment program I am in at \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ The group home where I live.
- \_\_\_ Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

2. If you are not registered for Medical Assistance (MA), you may qualify. If appropriate, you will be referred to the County Assistance Office (CAO) for a determination of eligibility for MA and other programs.

\_\_\_ I have been informed of *pending referral* to the County Assistance Office (CAO)

\_\_\_ I was referred to the CAO for MA eligibility determination on (date): \_\_\_\_\_

Initials of staff person faxing the referral to the CAO \_\_\_\_\_

**PART 5: INFORMATION SO WE MAY SERVE YOU BETTER**

1. Is your disability permanent? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No  
(A standard definition of a permanent disability is one that lasts for 12 months or longer.)

2. If not, how long is it expected to last? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the nature of your disability? Check those that apply.

- \_\_\_ Mobility disability (please see question 4 below)
- \_\_\_ Vision disability
- \_\_\_ Hearing disability
- \_\_\_ Cognitive disability
- \_\_\_ Mental disability
- \_\_\_ Other --- Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Please check all mobility aids that apply.

- \_\_\_ Manual wheelchair \_\_\_ Crutches
- \_\_\_ Power Wheelchair \_\_\_ Cane
- \_\_\_ Motorized Scooter \_\_\_ Walker



**Eligibility and Registration Form — Supporting Information**

Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) Eligibility Information – Attachment A

Documentation of Disabilities

Three Categories of Disabilities – Attachment B

- 1) Mental impairment, including development disabilities
- 2) Physical impairment
- 3) Major life activities

Attachment C: Certification of Disability Form: To be used if an applicant has no written documentation of his/her disability

Attachment D: Federal Poverty Income Guidelines

## Attachment A - Medical Assistance Transportation Program — Eligibility Guidelines

In keeping with the maintenance of effort policy of the PwD project, transportation providers and their subcontractors, if appropriate, are required to refer Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) eligible clients to that program for funding for their medical trips.

The County Assistance Office (CAO) provides individuals who are eligible for MA with an ACCESS card. Eligibility for MA and MATP is confirmed through the Department of Public Welfare's computerized Eligibility Verification System or EVS. All MATP providers are required to verify a client's MATP eligibility through EVS, which can be accessed by telephone, a point of sale device, or through an EVS provided computer disk. MATP eligibility verification information must be recorded.

If a transit provider is not also the MATP coordinator, then the transit provider must request the MATP coordinator to check on a client's eligibility status through EVS or the client must be referred to the CAO for an assessment of MA eligibility. The transit provider must notify the client of his/her referral to the CAO prior to making the actual referral.

Clients of the PwD project, whose incomes indicate a possible eligibility for MA, must be referred to the CAO for a determination of eligibility for MA and other programs. A client who is determined eligible for MA is also eligible for the MATP. PwD providers must then refer them to the MATP for funding of their medical trips. Clients must also receive notification of the CAO referral in advance.

### *Documentation of Disabilities*

The transit provider must obtain documentation of the disability as identified by the applicant. Transportation authorities that have established ADA eligibility determination procedures can use these procedures as a base for the pilot project's disability eligibility determination.

All agencies should accept the eligibility determinations and documentation that have been prepared by organizations and programs that interact with the disability community. **Examples** of these agencies and programs include the following:

- Social Security Administration's SSI and SSDI eligibility determinations and supporting documentation, such as a SSDI card.
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's (OVR) establishment of a mental or physical disability through its Comprehensive Medical Examination.
- Attendant Care Program qualifying disability: any medically determinable physical impairment that can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.
- A qualifying disability through the Community Services Program for Persons with a Physical Disability. A medically determinable condition, excluding primary diagnoses of mental retardation or mental illness, expected to continue indefinitely; and resulting in at least three of the following six substantial functional limitations: self care, understanding and use of language, learning, mobility, self direction, and capacity for independent living.
- The Certification of Disability Form that has been developed for the pilot project. This form, which is Attachment B, provides verification that an applicant has a disability according to the definition in the Americans with Disabilities Act. If there is no organization available to provide the disability documentation, then the transit provider should use this form to acquire the necessary information for determining eligibility from a qualified medical provider.

The transit provider may also permit another agency to complete the Registration and Eligibility Form. This is acceptable if all of the necessary eligibility documentation is provided to the transit provider with the application.

## Attachment B

### Three Categories of Disabilities

Rural Transportation for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Program

**Disabilities are described in the following three categories:**

1) Mental impairment, including development disabilities

- a. Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments;
- b. Is likely to continue indefinitely;
- c. Results in substantial functional limitations in any of the following areas of major life activities: self-direction, learning, mobility, economic self-sufficiency, self-care, capacity for independent living and receptive and expressive language;
- d. Causes the substantial diminished level of functioning in the primary aspects of daily living and an inability to cope with the ordinary demands of life, attention impairment, cognition impairment, language impairment, memory impairment, conduct disorder, or motor disorder.

2) Physical impairment

- a. Persons having a physical condition resulting from injury, disease, or congenital deficiency which significantly interferes with or limits one or more major life activities and affects one or more of the following body systems: anatomical, musculoskeletal, neurological, respiratory including speech organs, cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genito-urinary, hemic and lymphatic, skin and endocrine;
- b. The term physical impairment includes but is not limited to such contagious or non-contagious diseases and conditions as orthopedic, visual, speech and hearing impairments; cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, mental retardation, emotional illness, specific learning disabilities, HIV disease and tuberculosis.

3) Major life activities

- a. Activities relating to the performance of self-care and engaging in leisure or play activities. Self-care includes grooming, mobility, object manipulation, and ambulation;
- b. Activities relating to the ability to walks, see, hear, breathe or communicate;
- c. Activities relating to moving about in one's community for purposes that include accessing and participating in vocational, educational, recreational, and social activities in the community with other members of the community.

**Attachment C**

**Certification of Disability Form**  
Reduced Fare Transportation Services  
Rural Transportation for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Program

The purpose of this form is to provide written, independent verification that the applicant named below has a disability according to the definition in the Americans with Disabilities Act. This form is to be completed by a professional who is familiar with the applicant's disability. A professional is someone who has medical training, provides rehabilitative or therapeutic services, does cognitive assessments, or provides independent living and counseling services to people with disabilities. The applicant has applied for transportation services under the Rural Transportation for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) program, which is being administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation with services provided by the Indiana County Transit Authority. If you have any questions about the form, please call 1-800-442-6928.

Applicant information (to be completed by applicant):

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street & No.): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant signature or that of the person who completed this form \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Definition of Disability**  
Eligibility for this program is based on disability as defined by the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). According to the ADA, "Disability means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual; a record of such an impairment; or being regarded as having such an impairment". "...major life activities means functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and work."

Please answer the following questions (to be completed by the agency or person providing verification of eligibility information)

Is the applicant's disability permanent? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
(A standard definition of a permanent disability is one that lasts for 12 months or longer.)  
If not, how long is it expected to last? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the nature of the applicant's disability? Check those that apply. Please check all mobility aids that apply.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Mobility disability (please see question to the right) \_\_\_\_\_ Manual wheelchair \_\_\_\_\_ Crutches
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vision disability \_\_\_\_\_ Power Wheelchair \_\_\_\_\_ Cane
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hearing disability \_\_\_\_\_ Motorized Scooter \_\_\_\_\_ Walker
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cognitive disability
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mental disability
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other — Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Professional \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Agency or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form to: **Indiana County Transit Authority • PO Box 869 • Indiana • 15701**

**ATTACHMENT D**

**250% of the 2005 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines**

Family Size	Monthly Limit	Annual Limit
1	\$1,994	\$23,925
2	\$2,673	\$32,075
3	\$3,352	\$40,225
4	\$4,031	\$48,375
5	\$4,711	\$56,525
6	\$5,390	\$64,675

Dec. 2005