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Concessionary Travel: Freedom Pass, Taxi card And Blue Badge

CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL

If you have a severe and permanent disability which impairs your mobility, or, because of a sensory impairment or learning difficulty, you are unable to travel independently, you may be entitled to a Blue Badge, a Taxi card or a Freedom Pass.

Freedom Pass

The Freedom Pass is provided by your local borough councils to give older and disabled Londoners free travel on almost all public transport in London. If you have any of the following disabilities you can apply for a Freedom Pass.

- People who are blind or partially sighted
- People who are deaf
- People without speech

- People who have a disability, or have suffered an injury, which has left them with a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to walk.
- People who do not have arms or have a long-term loss of the use of both arms.
- People who have a learning disability that is defined as ‘a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind which includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning.
- People who, if they applied for the grant of a license to drive a motor vehicle under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, would have their application refused pursuant to section 92 of the Act (physical fitness) otherwise than on the grounds of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

Blue Badge

The Blue Badge scheme is intended for people with severe mobility problems who have difficulty using public transport. The scheme allows people to travel independently, as either a driver or passenger, by allowing them to park close to their destination.

- Free parking on a single or double yellow line for a period of up to 3 hours as long as you are not causing an obstruction (except where there is a ban on loading or unloading or other restrictions).
- Parking on a resident’s bay in the Borough in which the badge was issued.
- Concessions in some “pay and display” car parks.
- Parking on a “disabled drivers only” parking bay.

- Free parking without time limit at parking meters on street and pay and display bays.
- Exemption on parking times imposed on other users (check local signs).
- In many areas local authorities provide reserved parking places for blue badge holders.

Note: Badge holders must always display a valid badge when occupying one of these spaces. See Fact Sheet 1 for further information about Blue Badges.

Taxi card scheme

The Taxi card is a scheme to provide subsidised door to door transport for Harrow residents with a mobility impairment, which makes it difficult for them to use mainstream public transport such as tubes, buses and trains.

Taxi card holders make journeys in licensed London taxis and the subsidy applies directly to each trip.

Your Taxi card can be used anytime, 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year, subject to taxi availability.

For more information, please read fact sheet titled: Dial-a-Ride and Taxicard Scheme.

Application forms

Harrow Council operates a single assessment application process which means you only need to complete one application for all three forms of concessionary travel.

Application forms are available from:

The Civic Centre:

Address: Harrow Concessionary Travel,

PO Box 592,

Civic Centre,

Station Road,

Harrow,

HA1 9BN

Telephone: 020 8901 2680

or visit:

http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200034/disabilities/527/concessionary_travel/2

Do you need further help?

**Please contact HAD.org.uk on 020 8861 9920,
Or visit us at The Wealdstone Centre,
38-40 High Street, Wealdstone, Harrow, HA3 7AE.**

This fact sheet is one of a series, providing information and advice on a number of topics.

HAD.ORG.UK FACTSHEETS:

- Access to Shops, Cafes and Everyday Services
- Accessible Public Transport
- Aids and Adaptations
- Blue Badge Scheme
- Concessionary Travel
- Dial-a-Ride and Taxicard Schemes
- Education and Learning
- Holidays
- Leisure at Home
- Motoring
- Performing Arts
- Self Directed Support
- Sports
- The Care Act 2014
- Universal Credit
- Utilities
- Visiting Places of Interest
- Voluntary Transport
- Welfare Benefits
- Wheelchairs

HOUSING MATTERS:

- A General Guide to Housing Benefit
- A Guide to Housing Benefit for Disabled Students
- Applying as Homeless (Priority Need)
- Homelessness (Out of Hours) Emergencies
- Private Tenants: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms
- Rent Increases : Assured Shorthold Tenancies
- The Right to Rent
- 10 Rights of Private Tenants