

The many benefits of ridesharing

What is keeping your employees from participating in your rideshare program?

What benefits are available to employees?

SPRING 2020

Here's a list of benefits ridesharing can provide;
no matter the mode...



SAVE MONEY



IMPROVE
HEALTH



TIME
MANAGEMENT



EMPLOYER-
PROVIDED
INCENTIVES



GUARANTEED
RIDE HOME



**Ridesharing, regardless of the mode,
can save you money!**

Let's find out how...

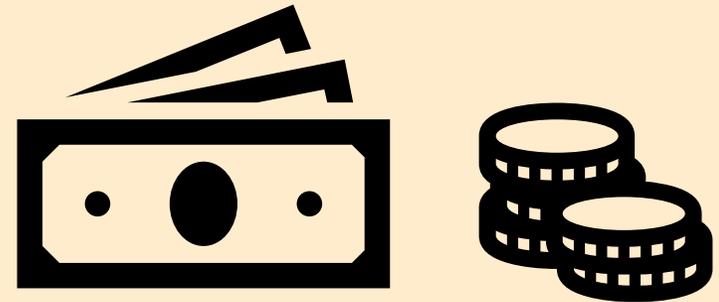


Payroll tax savings for both employer and employee



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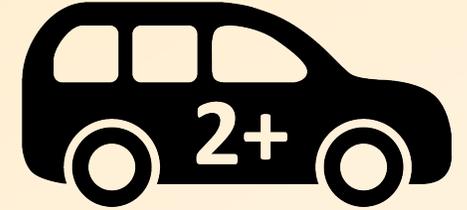
IRS allows a pre-tax benefit of up to **\$270 per month**
(for 2020) for qualifying expenses





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Carpooling



Estimated vehicle operating costs (maintenance, fuel, insurance, tires and depreciation) are \$9,000+ per year per vehicle.

Carpoolers can reduce costs by:

- Taking turns driving
- Participants pay the driver if no one else can drive
- Does your employer provide monetary incentives?
- Does your insurance company offer discounts or additional benefits?



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Vanpooling

- 3+ people
- Cost determination
- Which is less expensive?





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Vanpooling

Using Community Transit's cost sheet to find the cost per participant for a small vanpool:

- Daily round trip miles: 40 (20 miles each way)
- Number of riders: 5
- Total vanpool cost: \$513/month

$$\$513 \div 5 = \$102.60$$

Vanpool drivers usually receive a discount but it's up to all the participants to decide



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Vanpooling

- Cost of fuel, maintenance, insurance, and sometimes highway tolls are covered by the transit agency
- Some employers offer incentives to off-set the vanpool cost to the employee
- Your own vehicle isn't subjected to "wear and tear"
- Some insurance companies offer discounts for ridesharing



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Vanpooling

Ask yourself, or your employees, the following questions:

- What is your estimated monthly vehicle operating cost?
- Does your employer contribute to the vanpool cost?
- Is your out-of-pocket cost for vanpooling more or less than commuting alone?

How did you answer them?



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Walking and biking

Walking and biking are a great way to commute, if you can handle the distance...

- Reduces or eliminates the monthly costs associated with commuting alone
- Besides bike maintenance, only costs are time and energy

What is worth more to you?





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Take the bus



If taking the bus at least 4x a week,
save with a monthly pass:

- Pass values are based on the highest bus fare used, not by transit agency
- Valid for the calendar month, not from the purchase date
- Covers all trips at or below the fare value of your pass
- Number of trips are completely unlimited for the calendar month



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Take the bus

Calculate the cost of your pass:

Multiple your highest fare by **36** to get the cost of a pass that covers your entire commute:

$$\$2.50 \times 36 = \$90$$

- Would cover adult fare for Community Transit buses (\$2.50) and lower fares like Everett Transit (\$2.00)
- Can also check the price of passes at orcacard.com



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Take the bus

Do the math to determine your savings:

- Are the operating costs of your vehicle more or less than a bus pass?
- Does your employer contribute to the cost of the pass?
- Does your employer offer a fully subsidized ORCA Passport pass?



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Take the bus

ORCA Passport Pass

- Employer has a “Business Account” with ORCA and orders ORCA cards with the Passport loaded onto them
- Employer pays a flat fee per employee annually
- Offers unlimited rides to the employee
- Employee usually signs an agreement outlining usage rules of the ORCA card.
- Usually allowed to use for personal trips as well



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Take the bus

Flexible Subsidized ORCA Pass

Employer may:

- Reimburse employee for monthly pass value through the company's reimbursement procedures
- Pay the employee via payroll for their pass value
- Have an ORCA business account and load employee cards with a set amount or monthly pass



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Take the bus

More savings

Taking the bus can also help save on...

- Parking fees
- Highway tolls
- Ferry tolls
- Gas and maintenance

Questions?



All of these commute modes also offer health benefits.

Let's find out how...





Health improvement

Stress reduction

- Take advantage of the extra time not spent driving:
 - Read
 - Listen to music
 - Play a game
 - Catch up on work
 - Online shopping
 - Draw
 - Call a friend
 - Nap (at your own risk!)
- Biking and walking can be relaxing:
 - Exercise reduces stress
 - Choose your own pace
 - Get extra vitamin D
 - Experience nature
- Reduced odds of being in an accident with less vehicles on the road
- Less road rage





Health improvement

Physical fitness



- Biking and walking increase stamina and strengthen muscles
- Walking to a bus stop or carpool location can provide exercise depending on how far it is
- Employers may provide amenities such as lockers, showers, bike lockers, and storage
- Your jurisdiction's administrator may be able to provide bike racks/storage lockers for your worksite if this will help promote biking



Health
improvement

Environmental benefits



- Less pollution
- Less oil consumption
- Fewer vehicles on the roads
- Prevents further increasing the effects of climate change



Time, here's an entity with a mind of its own and no regard to you or anyone else. But when you rideshare, you have some control over time.

Let's find out how...





Time
management
or saver

Walking and biking

- Choose your pace
- Stop and smell flowers
- Say hello to people you pass
- Visit local shops along the way
- Put your phone away and enjoy the scenery





Time
management
or saver

Carpooling and vanpooling

- Use the HOV lanes to cruise right by those SOVs (single occupant vehicles) sitting in traffic
- Many HOV-only exits from the HOV lanes allow you to exit without hurrying across multiple lanes of slow traffic
- Take advantage of extra time as a passenger to catch up on some emails or messages - work or personal





Time
management
or saver

Carpooling and vanpooling

- Have a fun pre-work chat
- You could grab a quick nap, if you don't want to distract the driver
- Many employers provide “preferred parking” to rideshare participants that are closer to the work site's entrance
- Designated carpool parking - no circling parking lots looking for an open parking space



Time
management
or saver

Take the bus



Busing can sometimes turn a 15-minute drive into a 40-minute bus ride, but there are many ways to use your time effectively:

- Catch up on emails and messages
- Get familiar with new routes you might not otherwise travel
- Watch the scenery go by
- Make a new friend or two (seriously!)



The Guaranteed Ride Home benefit is probably the best benefit your rideshare program can offer!

Let's find out why...





Guaranteed Ride Home

Some of the top “arguments”

employees have against ridesharing are:

- What happens if I need to leave work unexpectedly? Like if my kid gets sick at school or daycare? Or I get sick?
- What about last-minute mandatory overtime?
- What if my carpool leaves without me?

In many cases, the Guaranteed Ride Home benefit takes care of these scenarios.



Guaranteed Ride Home

What happens

when a participant needs a Guaranteed Ride Home:

- We call Yellow Cab and schedule the ride
- ETCs can also call Yellow Cab directly outside business hours
- ETC fills out form that asks for participant name, pick up location, time, and drop off location
- Taxi driver asks for ID to verify the participant
- ETC faxes or emails form to our office
- We receive and pay the bill for the cab ride
- *Tips are not reimbursed and are at the discretion of the participant*

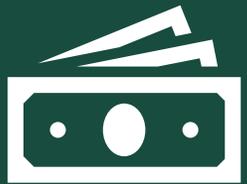


Guaranteed Ride Home

Participants are only eligible

for a Guaranteed Ride Home if they have a qualified reason:

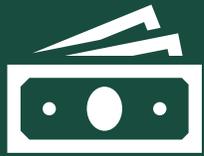
- Participant must work later than scheduled without prior notice (e.g., suddenly having to cover a shift)
- Participant must leave work early because of an emergency (e.g., participant gets sick, child has an emergency at home or school, etc.)
- The driver of the carpool must leave earlier than planned and the participant is stranded



INCENTIVES!

Here's how organizations can encourage and reward participation...



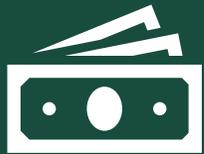


Incentives

In addition to improving your health and saving time and money ridesharing, many employers offer additional incentives:

- Monthly stipend added to your paycheck
- Employer-paid ridesharing costs, i.e. vanpool, bus
- Preferred parking
- Additional PTO (paid time off)
- Worksite ridesharing challenges (we'll have another class on how to create and promote these)

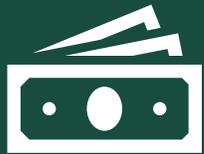
Check with your employer to see what incentives your organization offers.



Incentives

Incentives may be available in other ways even if your employer doesn't offer any:

- By creating an account on [Rideshareonline.com](https://rideshareonline.com), you can access a list of promotions under the Rewards tab
- Available promotions are based on your start and end locations
- Sign up even if you don't think you qualify!
- Some rewards are applied automatically without signing up



Incentives

More about Rideshareonline.com

- More detailed class about Rideshareonline.com coming soon
- Participants can log their commute trips in an online calendar
- Most promotions/challenges use information from the online calendar to determine reward eligibility

Conclusion

We understand that there are reasons why people cannot always use a non-SOV way to commute, but we also encourage those to try when possible.

You never know, you just might like it!

Thank you!



EVERETT TRANSIT