

Rider's Guide



June 2020

916.321.BUSS (2877) Select Option 2

www.SacRTgo.com

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Helpful Contact Information

SacRT GO Paratransit Services: www.SacRTgo.com

SacRT General Information: <u>www.SacRT.com</u>

916.321.BUSS (2877)

General Information, Accessible Services,

Eligibility Option 2 then Option 1

Reservations,

Cancellations Option 2 then Option 2

Where's My Bus Info Option 2 then Option 3

Fare Media: Option 2 then Option 4

Fixed Route:

Bus Information,

Light Rail Information Option 1

Customer Service:

Lost & Found Option 3

SacRT GO Paratransit Services Rider's Guide

SacRT GO Paratransit Services is door-to-door, *shared-ride* transportation for individuals who are unable to use the Sacramento Regional Transit District's (SacRT's) bus and light rail system (also referred to as Fixed Route), either all of the time or some of the time, because of a disabling condition. This guide is designed to help you understand Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit service and your responsibilities.

ADA Paratransit Service

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 requires all public transportation agencies like SacRT to provide specialized transportation that is complementary to the public transit bus service for individuals who are unable, due to a disability, independently ride fixed-route public transit.



ADA paratransit service is a shared ride service. Trips must be requested one or two days in advance. If you feel that you may be eligible for ADA paratransit service, you must apply through SacRT's Accessible Services department and be found eligible for the service according to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) ADA guidelines.

Accessible Formats

This Rider's Guide is available in large print, braille, Spanish, on CD, or audio tape, by calling SacRT's Accessible Services at 916.321.BUSS (2877) or 711 for the hearing impaired. It is also available online at www.sacRTgo.com.

Eligibility

Individuals interested in utilizing SacRT GO Paratransit Services must be certified eligible by SacRT before using this service. If you have a disability that prevents you from riding the public bus system and would like to apply for paratransit service, please call SacRT's Accessible Services at 916.321.BUSS (2877).

SacRT's ADA eligible clients must recertify every three to five years. A person's ADA paratransit eligibility letter will indicate his/her ADA paratransit service eligibility expiration date. As a courtesy SacRT sends out reminders several months prior to an active client's eligibility expiration date. Please ensure you contact Accessible Services with any change of address.

Keeping Eligibility and Information Up to Date

Please call SacRT's Accessible Services at 916.321.BUSS (2877), option #2 if there is a change in the following:

- Your address or telephone number
- Your emergency contact's name or telephone number
- The type of mobility device you are using, including the weight when occupied and measurements
- Your physical or mental condition
- Your need for a personal care attendant
- Your need for subscription service

When a person is certified as eligible for ADA paratransit service and does not use the service for 12 consecutive months, he or she is considered an "inactive" customer and the file is "archived." If a reservationist informs you that you are an inactive customer, you will be asked to contact SacRT's Accessible Services at 916.321.BUSS (2877) for further information.

Visitor Eligibility

A "Visitor" is an individual with a disability who does not reside in SacRT's service area.

Visitors who present documentation that they have been ADA paratransit certified in the jurisdiction in which they reside, shall be provided ADA paratransit service in SacRT's service area. Visitors that are unable to present ADA paratransit eligibility documentation will be required to provide proof of place of residence and, if the visitor's disability is not apparent, of his or her disability.

For more information on Visitor Status with SacRT, call 916.321.BUSS (2877).

At the time of making your trip request, let the reservationist know that you are visiting from another area and include which ADA paratransit system you have been certified for, if applicable.

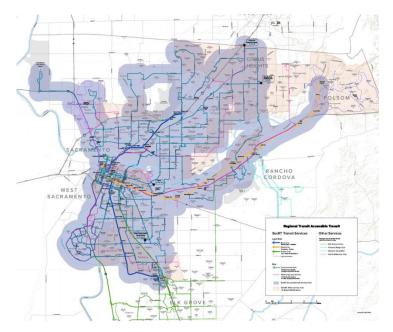
If you require ADA paratransit service beyond the 21-day limit, you must become locally certified.

Service Area

SacRT's ADA paratransit service area is designed to be "comparable" to SacRT's fixed route bus and light rail service, providing ADA paratransit service to origins and destinations within a ¾ mile radius of SacRT's bus routes or light rail stations during regular service hours.

Service area and zone maps are available at www.SacRTgo.com; SacRT's service area includes:

- Antelope
- Carmichael
- Citrus Heights
- Elverta
- Fair Oaks
- Folsom
- Orangevale
- Rancho Cordova
- Rio Linda
- Sacramento.



SacRT's ADA paratransit service **does not** go to Elk Grove, West Sacramento, Galt, Rocklin or Roseville with the following exceptions:

Roseville: SacRT (under an Agreement with the City of Citrus Heights) is able to transport passengers **who live in Citrus Heights** to the Kaiser Permanente Roseville facilities located at Riverside and at Eureka, and to the Sutter Roseville Medical facilities if you are unable to transfer to a Roseville ADA paratransit vehicle.

There are also transfer points, which can connect passengers to and from other ADA paratransit services provided in adjacent jurisdictions such as Roseville and West Sacramento. Reservationists may help in arranging your trip to connect at a transfer point, if needed.

Service Days and Hours

ADA Paratransit Service

ADA Paratransit Service is available during the same days and hours that SacRT's fixed-route bus and light rail service operates. The ADA paratransit service complements the bus or light rail service in operation at the time.

Customers may request a pick-up within ¾ mile of a light rail station during the days and hours service is provided to the station. For example, if a train arrives at the City College light rail station at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, you could also request an ADA paratransit pick up within a ¾ of a mile radius of that station at 8:00 p.m. on a Sunday. Detailed bus and light rail schedule information is available at www.SacRT.com

Non-ADA Demand Response Service

Non-ADA Demand Response Service is available to ADA eligible riders and is service that goes beyond what would be available on regular fixed route buses and light rail trains. This service is not required by law.

The Non-ADA service area includes premium service areas where the origin or destination is not within 3/4 mile of an active bus route or light rail station. This service is available during limited hours, please check www.SacRTgo.com for more information.

Fares



FARE MEDIA	ADA SERVICE	NON-ADA SERVICE
Single Ride Fare (one-way trip)	\$5.00	\$5.00
ADA 60-Ride Monthly Pass	\$137.50	Not Available
Companion	\$5.00	\$5.00
Personal Care Attendant (PCA)	Free	Free
Children Under Age 5	Free	Free
44-Ride Monthly Pass	Discontinued	Not Available

Vehicle operators (including other transportation companies contracted by SacRT GO) must collect fares prior to boarding, so please have the exact fare ready.

Each one-way trip is \$5.00. No fare is required for one personal care attendant. All other guests <u>must</u> pay the applicable fare.

Cash

If you are paying cash for your trip, you will need exact fare. The operator cannot give change.

Single Ride Ticket

You may purchase a Single Ride Ticket for a one-way trip.

Monthly Pass

The ADA 60-Ride Monthly Pass is for ADA service only. Full fare is required for additional ADA trips in excess of 60 during the calendar month.

The ADA 60-Ride Monthly Pass will be managed electronically in the scheduling software system.



With the purchase of a monthly pass, an eligible paratransit client is also eligible to use fixed route for no additional charge.



A Connect Card will be issued with the first ADA 60-Ride Pass and sent to the user; with each subsequent purchase, the Connect Card will automatically be loaded with a SacRT fixed route monthly pass.

There is no Monthly Pass available for Non-ADA Service.

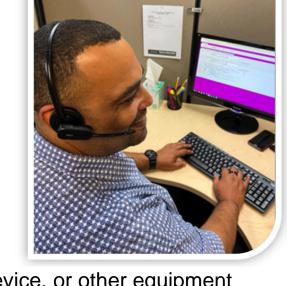
To purchase a Single Ride Ticket or an ADA 60-Ride Monthly Pass:

- Use a credit card and call 916.321.BUSS (2877), Option 2, Option 4
- Visit the SacRT Sales Center located at 1225 R Street in Sacramento
- Send in a completed order form along with a check or money order to: Sacramento Regional Transit, P.O. Box 688, Sacramento, CA 95816

Reservations / Scheduling a Trip

You may make a reservation by calling 916.321.BUSS (2877), Option 2 then Option 2. Reservation hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, including holidays. Ride requests must be made one or two days in advance. Sameday service is **not** provided. Please have the following information available:

- Your first and last name
- Your ADA paratransit ID number
- The day and date of your requested trip
- Your appointment time, requested pick-up time, and return time
- Your origin and destination addresses (including building name and specific drop-off and pick-up information)
- A contact phone number you can be reached at while traveling
- Please notify if you will be traveling with a personal care attendant, companion, children, or service animal
- Please notify if you or anyone accompanying you will be traveling using a wheelchair, scooter, mobility device, or other equipment
- Any other information to ensure a successful trip.



SacRT GO is a shared ride service; the vehicle operator may make other stops on the way to your destination. It is suggested that you book outbound trips with an appointment time. When booking your trip to an appointment time, a trip will be scheduled with a negotiated pick-up time to ensure you get to your appointment on time. If booking by pick-up time, it's best to allow plenty of time to get to and from your destination. If you are unsure of how much time you should allot for your trip, please ask the reservation specialist for assistance. You will need to use your "best guess" when scheduling your return time. The ADA guidelines specify that rides cannot be prioritized based on the purpose of the trip.

Subscription Service

For eligible SacRT GO customers who routinely request trips to the same destination on a regular schedule, subscription services may be beneficial. Customers only need to call once to reserve a recurring subscription trip.

Subscription service will only be considered where a **30-day history** exists. Subscription service is available on a limited basis to riders requesting to travel to the same place at the same time at least once a week for a **minimum period of 90 days**. SacRT GO reserves the right to restrict subscription service to maintain service efficiencies.

ADA paratransit regulations allow waiting lists for subscription service. SacRT GO will seek to add subscription trips when they are efficient and do not negatively impact the ability to provide non-subscription trips or create capacity constraints.

Subscription trips will be canceled on New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. If the trip is needed, it must be scheduled by calling it in one or two days prior to the day of the trip.

Subscription service may be canceled for any customer who demonstrates a pattern of unexcused late cancels and is suspended under SacRT's Late Cancel Policy. Frequent changes to an existing subscription trip may result in the cancellation of subscription service and will require a new subscription request.

Taking a Trip

ADA Paratransit Service and Non-ADA Service may be provided using a variety of vehicles and may include other vendors as determined by SacRT. SacRT reserves the right to determine whether service will be delivered using its own operators and vehicles or using operators and vehicles of other entities (for example other transportation companies contracted by SacRT).



You must ride in the vehicle that is sent for you. Special requests for specific vehicles and vehicle operators cannot be honored.

If your pick-up and/or drop-off location is not accessible, your ADA paratransit service will be provided curb-to-curb.

Boarding Time / Pick Up Window

When you call to reserve your ride, you will be given a 30-minute "pickup window" in which the vehicle will arrive. You will need to be ready at the beginning of your "pick-up window". For example, if your negotiated "ready time" is 8:00 a.m., your 30-minute "pick-up window" is 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. You will need to be ready to board at 8:00 a.m. By being ready when the vehicle arrives, you help keep everyone's trips on schedule.



How Long Will the Paratransit Vehicle Wait?

Passengers are expected to board the vehicle upon arrival. When the vehicle arrives within the "pick-up window," the vehicle operator will wait no more than five (5) minutes. When a passenger is not ready to board the vehicle upon arrival, this adversely impacts other riders.

If the vehicle arrives before your "pick-up window" starts, you may leave if you are ready. If you are not ready, the vehicle operator will wait until your "pick-up window" starts and no more than an additional five (5) minutes.

What if My Ride is Late?

If your ride has not arrived within **30 minutes** after your "ready time," call 916.321.BUSS (2877), Option #3: Where's My Bus Info and listen to the instructions for the status of your ride.

Canceling a Trip

The Cancel Line is available 24 hours. The minimum cancellation notice required for trips is two (2) hours in advance of the scheduled pick-up time. If your travel plans change or you will not be ready to board at your "ready time," please call 916.321.BUSS (2877) and listen to the instructions after dialing to reach the right unit. Shorter notice without a compelling reason may result in service interruption in the future.

Preventing No-Shows

It is SacRT's goal to always connect with passengers and provide their scheduled ride. When riders do not cancel at least two (2) hours in advance or are not available to board within five (5) minutes, it is considered a "no-show."

Riders can prevent no-show situations when they:

- Review dates, times and addresses with the reservationist to be sure information is correct
- Call SacRT GO to cancel rides as soon as the ride is no longer needed
- Cancel at least two (2) hours in advance of the scheduled pick-up time
- Are prepared to board at the starting time of the "pick-up window" and no later than five (5) minutes after the vehicle arrives

When there are circumstances outside the rider's control, it is not considered a no-show violation.

No Show / Late Cancelation Policy

To emphasize the importance of avoiding no-show and late cancels, SacRT has adopted a Late Cancel Policy which considers both the number of unexcused late cancels as well as the percentage of unexcused late cancels to overall trips scheduled. We will record each customer no-show or late cancellation and the reason for the cancellation, and may suspend, for a reasonable period, any customer whose unexcused late cancels are excessive whether the trips are advance reservation or subscription trips.

When you "no-show" for the first leg of a trip, **all later rides for the day** <u>will</u> **not automatically be canceled**. It is the rider's responsibility to cancel rides they no longer need.

Missed trips are considered excessive when a passenger has three or more unexcused late cancels within any calendar month and the unexcused late cancels account for 10% or more of total trips scheduled during that calendar month. Excessive late cancels are considered a pattern or practice and a violation of SacRT's No Show/Late Cancellation policy.

Suspensions will not be imposed for circumstances that are beyond your control. Examples of situations not within your control are:

- A sudden personal emergency.
- Sudden or worsening illness.
- Late arrival of the vehicle.

Penalties

The following penalties shall apply to violations of this policy that occur within the same rolling 12-month period.

1st Violation Counseling/Warning Letter

2nd Violation 1-day suspension 3rd Violation 5-day suspension Subsequent Violations 30-day suspension

Notification of Suspension

Customers receiving a suspension of paratransit service will be issued a notice of suspension identifying each trip that was a no-show or late cancel. The notice will also advise the customers of the dates when the suspension begins and ends, as well as the date that the customers can start to use paratransit service again. You will also receive written instructions for appealing your suspension. In addition, subscription service may be cancelled for any customer who is suspended under this policy. Suspended subscription service customers must reapply to be considered for a new subscription.

Passenger Assistance

SacRT GO operators will accompany passengers to and from the main door of the pick-up location and assist passengers with boarding and deboarding. Passengers who need other types of help, like managing several bags or packages, finding an office inside a large medical building, filling prescriptions, etc., are advised to bring along a personal attendant.

Personal Care Attendant

A personal care attendant assists the passenger with daily life functions and may provide assistance during the ride or at the destination. If you need assistance to travel, riding with a personal care attendant is strongly encouraged. A personal care attendant is not required to pay a fare and must be picked up and dropped off at the same location as the passenger. A passenger's need for a personal care attendant must be certified through SacRT's Accessible Services department during the eligibility determination process. If you did not indicate a need for a personal care attendant when you initially applied for ADA paratransit service and later determine that you need one, you must call SacRT's Accessible Services at 916.321.BUSS (2877). You <u>must</u> reserve space for your personal care attendant when scheduling a trip.

Note: A family member or friend is regarded as a person accompanying the eligible rider, and not as a personal care attendant, unless the family member or friend is acting in the capacity of a personal care attendant.

Companion

A companion is someone accompanies a rider, but not as a personal care attendant. You may bring one companion along on each ride in addition to a personal care attendant. Companions must be picked up and dropped off at the same addresses. Additional companions may be scheduled, if space is available. Companions pay the same fare as the rider. You must reserve space for your companion (including children) when scheduling a trip.

Children and Child Safety Seats

Children traveling as companions or personal care attendants, who are under the age of eight or under 4 feet 9 inches tall, are required by law to use a child safety seat or other safety restraint system. You are responsible for providing such safety equipment and for securing it and the child in paratransit vehicles. Children must be under the control of the rider.

Boarding with a Mobility Device

paratransit ADA service vehicles are lift-equipped accommodate will and mobility devices primarily designed to assist persons mobility disabilities. with such as powered or manual wheelchairs with three (3) or more wheels and that are usable indoors and canes. walkers. crutches and provided the mobility devices can be secured and do not block the aisle or obstruct passage of other persons, and provided that



they safely fit within the lift design load and platform measurements. The minimum lift design load for a mobility device when occupied is 600 pounds. The minimum lift platform measurement is 30 inches by 48 inches. If you use a power wheelchair or scooter, SacRT will verify what you and your wheelchair weigh together, as well as the width and length of your wheelchair. If your weight in your wheelchair exceeds the lift weight capacity, SacRT may be able to accommodate you through an alternative boarding method, subject to a safety evaluation and approval process.

If you change your mobility device or your mobility device breaks down and you need to use a different mobility device, you must contact SacRT's Accessible Services at 916.321.BUSS (2877), option #1, to report the new mobility device, before reserving a ride. SacRT may require that the new device is measured and weighed with you in it before you use it on the paratransit system. The same is true for all personal care attendants, guests and companions using wheelchairs or other mobility devices who accompany you on a trip. If SacRT observes that vehicle lifts are unable to lift you in your wheelchair due to the combined weight, SacRT may require that the weight is verified at the SacRT Accessible Services office.

- All vehicle operators are trained to operate the lift and will secure you
 after boarding. A boarding belt is also used by the vehicle operator to
 ensure safety while engaged in passenger boarding.
- Boarding while standing on the lift is allowed, but not encouraged.
- Boarding while sitting on a mobility device other than a wheelchair, such as a walker with a seat, is not allowed.

Life-Support Equipment

You may bring a respirator, portable oxygen and/or other life-support equipment as long as it does not violate laws or rules related to transportation of hazardous materials.

Carry-on Bags

Due to space limitation, customers may only carry three (3) small bags on the vehicle that they are able to manage independently without the assistance of the vehicle operator. The three carry-on items must fit within a certain space either on your lap or in front of your area. If you bring more than three (3) small bags, it will be your choice whether to board with only three bags and find alternative transportation to carry the remaining packages, or to decline the trip. If you travel with a companion, the companion is allowed a total of three small bags.

Service Animals

You may travel with a service animal such as a guide dog or canine companion. The use of a service animal must be identified at the time of your eligibility assessment. All service animals must follow SacRT rules. Service animals must remain in a sit or down position, unless doing so would inhibit it from performing its' task. Any service animal who is not under the control of its' handler will not be allowed to ride. Emotional support and therapy animals must follow the rules related to pets. Small pets and other non-service animals may be carried on paratransit service vehicles only in properly secured containers or carriers. You are responsible for loading and securing the containers in paratransit vehicles. Operators are not permitted to assist in carrying the animal carrier/container. Please tell the reservationist when you book trips that you will be traveling with a service animal.

Reasonable Modification Policy

The Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) is committed to providing safe, reliable, efficient, accessible and user-friendly service to its customers. To ensure quality and fairness, SacRT is committed to making reasonable modifications to its policies, practices and procedures to avoid discrimination and ensure programs and services are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Requests for modifications can be made by calling SacRT's Accessible Services at 916.321.BUSS (2877), or by emailing paratransit@sacrt.com.

Lost and Found

SacRT is not responsible for lost or damaged items. If you leave an item on a vehicle, call SacRT's Customer Service Department at 916.321.BUSS (2877). If the item is located, you will be contacted by phone to make arrangements for pick-up. All lost and found items will be disposed of after 30 days.

Passenger Responsibilities

Passengers must observe the following rules and responsibilities:

- Smoking and vaping are prohibited on and within 40 feet of the vehicle
- Exact fare must be provided (cash or pre-paid fare) prior to boarding. Vehicle operators cannot make change, accept checks or credit cards
- Seatbelts are required by all passengers on all vehicles
- Do not distract the vehicle operator while the vehicle is in motion
- Personal musical devices are allowed with headphones as long as the sound is not audible to others
- Maintain appropriate, reasonable personal hygiene
- Proper attire, including shirts and shoes (or appropriate foot coverings), are required on the vehicle
- Bring a personal care attendant, if needed
- Do not deliberately evade paying a fare
- Eating or drinking is not allowed on the vehicle, unless required for health reasons
- No petting guide dogs or other service animals without permission from the owner
- No riding under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- No physical or otherwise abuse of other riders or the vehicle operator
- Mobility devices and wheelchairs must be clean and in good working order

Vehicle Operator Responsibilities

Vehicle operators will treat you with courtesy and dignity as they escort you to and from the main door (the main door is considered the lobby of a major medical facility, apartment building, etc.) of your pick-up locations and help you get on and off the vehicle. They can stow small personal belongings, push a manual wheelchair, provide directions or act as a sighted guide, but if you need other types of help, like checking you out of a care facility, filling prescriptions, managing several bags or packages, etc., please bring along a personal care attendant.



Vehicle operators are <u>not</u> permitted to:

- Operate, push or lift your electric mobility device
- Transfer passengers from wheelchairs to vehicle seats
- Lift or carry riders
- Cross residential thresholds
- Carry packages and other items
- Secure child safety systems in the vehicle or children into such systems

Suspension of Service

Service Suspension for Abusive or Disruptive Behavior

Service will immediately be denied on a long-term basis or indefinitely to passengers who engage in violent, seriously disruptive, or illegal conduct directed at other riders or ADA service provider staff. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to: threats or fear of physical or verbal abuse; unlawful harassment, including unwelcome verbal, nonverbal, or physical behavior having sexual or racial connotations; unauthorized use of equipment on the vehicle; voluntarily and repeatedly violating vehicle-riding rules, including smoking in the vehicle, eating or drinking without medical indication, or defacing equipment.

Steps of the Suspension Process

Customers will receive a notice with the reason(s) for the suspension. The notice will also advise the customer of the dates when the suspension begins and ends, as well as the date that the customer can start to use ADA paratransit service again. You will also receive written instructions for appealing your suspension, should you wish to appeal the decision to suspend you.

ADA Complaints and Compliments

SacRT cares about what you think and welcomes all compliments, complaints and suggestions about its ADA paratransit service.

To submit comments in writing:

Sacramento Regional Transit District Accessible Services Department P.O. Box 2110 Sacramento CA 95812-2110

To submit comments via phone call:

916.321.BUSS (2877)

SacRT will work diligently to resolve customer concerns and provide positive results.

Fixed Route Transit Service (SacRT Bus and Light Rail)

SacRT provides fully accessible fixed-route transit service in the greater Sacramento region. SacRT encourages seniors and individuals with disabilities to take advantage of the independence and flexibility that is provided by its bus and light rail train system, which offers the following services and accessible features:

- Reduced fare for seniors and individuals with disabilities
- Audio features on light rail fare vending machines
- Trip planning
- Automated stop announcements that include transfer points and major intersections, as well as announcements by vehicle operators of any requested stops announced to help orient passengers to their destinations
- Priority seating for riders who have difficulty standing while the vehicle is moving
- Buses with ramps or kneeling features to assist riders who use wheelchairs and other mobility devices or have difficulty getting up and down the bus steps
- Reserved wheelchair securement spaces on buses
- Boarding ramps at most light rail stations to assist passengers who have difficulty climbing steps
- Braille and raised-print signage posted at light rail stations to assist blind and visually impaired passengers
- Detectable warning tile at light rail stations to assist blind and visually impaired passengers in navigating the system

