



Public Transportation Tips

Transportation is a challenge! Many of our youth find it difficult to find safe and reliable transportation because of their challenging living situations. For many it is difficult to attend school regularly, or to find and/or keep a job. As a mentor with Friends for Youth, it should not be your responsibility to provide transportation for every one of your youth's activities. Alternatively, it is most helpful for our youth to learn to navigate public transportation to promote independent living skills. In our experience, it has been helpful for mentors to walk through the process of figuring out the public transit system with their youth. It can be intimidating! It is important for them to feel confident in traveling alone. Below are some tips for your youth on how to use the city's public transportation most effectively.

Denver Light Rail - There are over 30 RTD Light Rail stops spanning from the Denver Tech Center to the Denver Downtown area. Light Rail is fast and convenient, and you can also transfer for free to the RTD bus system if a stop is off the Light Rail line or use the Light Rail Park-n-Rides.

Denver RTD Bus System - The RTD Bus system has over 10,000 stops covering all parts of the Denver Metropolitan areas.

Denver skyRide - The RTD skyRide makes getting to and from the Denver International Airport very convenient. Depending on your destination or stop, the cost for skyRide ranges between \$8.00 and \$12.00, and skyRide shuttles run approximately every 15 minutes from 3:30 am - 1:10 am daily. RTD skyRide, like all other RTD public transportation options, is fully wheelchair accessible.

Getting Information for the Denver RTD: If you need to contact RTD for information, they have an automated telephone system called **MyStop** that makes finding information very convenient. The telephone number is **303.299.6000**, then choose option 1, and follow it with option 1. Essentially, every one of Denver's 10,250 bus stops has a numerical code assigned to it, and you can get specific schedule information for that stop. *Even if you don't know the stop number specifically, you can say an intersection or address and get the stop information that is closest. If that fails, a live agent will help you.*

Please visit <http://www3.rtd-denver.com/schedules/getRouteList.action?routeType=2> for information regarding Light Rail Schedules.

Bus Fares:

Cash \$2.00

Monthly Pass \$70.00

Travel in One Zone \$2.00

Travel in Two Zones \$2.00

Travel in Three Zones \$3.5

skyRide

DIA/Stapleton \$8.00

DIA/Denver \$10.00

DIA/Suburban \$12.00

Dangers of not paying fares: First offenders are issued warnings. A repeat violation results in a citation with a \$50 fine; a second citation is a \$100 fine. The violations are Class 2 petty offenses. People with multiple citations are banned from RTD property. http://www.denverpost.com/ci_20002160#ixzz2wKsWdES0

****It is very important to talk to your youth about basic ways to stay safe while using public transportation.***

Note from Match Coordinators: The above topics are only suggestions, if your youth is struggling with a different issue it is recommended that it be the focus of the conversation. As always, we are here to support you as you build this important relationship. If you and your youth discuss a specific route that they are looking at taking but need some additional assistance, Please do not hesitate to contact us at 303.756.9285 if you have specific questions or just need additional ideas as to how to approach your youth about public transportation or any other topics.