



Travel Concessions for Disabled People in Scotland

Introduction

In Scotland, concessionary travel gives free or discounted trips on public transport to eligible disabled people, older people and younger people. This information guide outlines the main travel concessions available, who qualifies, what they cost, and how to apply. Concessions may apply to buses, coaches, trains and ferries.

National Entitlement Card (NEC)

The National Entitlement Card (NEC) gives free or discounted access to bus and coach travel and some local railway and ferry routes in Scotland.

You may qualify because you are:

- aged 60 and over
- under 22
- disabled: transport Scotland explains the criteria for disabled people here eligibility and Conditions for the 60+ or Disabled Traveller <https://www.transport.gov.scot/concessionary-travel/60plus-or-disabled-free-bus-travel/#37403>

If you are disabled you may also be entitled to a “companion” card if you qualify.

Ferry Concessions

Residents of the Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland who have a National Entitlement Card can get two free return ferry journeys to the mainland each year to travel as a foot passenger. When you apply for your National Entitlement Card your council will send your ferry vouchers, and will send you additional ferry vouchers each year.

Some Scottish councils use the card for other services such as library/leisure memberships, cashless catering in schools and taxi travel for disabled people. You can find out how to apply for your National Entitlement Card Contact the National Entitlement Card here <https://www.nec.scot/apply-now>

You will need:

- a recent photograph
- proof of age or disability
- proof of your current address

If you need to renew or replace your card you can find out how to do this here <https://www.nec.scot/apply/replacement-cards>



Disabled Persons Railcard

If you have a disability that makes travelling by train difficult you might qualify for the Disabled Persons Railcard. This allows you to get 1/3 off most rail fares throughout Great Britain. If you are travelling with an adult companion they can also get 1/3 off their rail fare. The Disabled Persons Railcard costs £20 for a one year card and £54 for a three year card.

You can find information about who qualifies here <https://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk/are-you-eligible/>

You can apply for a Disabled Persons railcard online using the “buy now” button on this page here <https://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk/>
You will need

- A passport-style photo of you saved on your device or computer.
- Proof of eligibility.
- A valid debit/credit card

A Disabled Person's railcard is available either as a plastic card or as a railcard app on your phone.

If you prefer not to apply online you can download an application form from this page here <https://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk/using-your-railcard/how-to-apply/> and send it to the address shown.

In Scotland, Scotrail also offer “Club 50” discounts here <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/tickets/club-50>

Senior Railcard

With a Senior Railcard anyone aged 60 or over can save 1/3 on all Standard and First Class, Anytime, Off-Peak and Advance fares. It costs for £30 for 1 year or £70 for 3 years. You can purchase one from the Senior Railcard website here <https://www.senior-railcard.co.uk/> or from a staffed railway station (1 year card only).

In Scotland, Scotrail also offer “Club 50” discounts here <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/tickets/club-50>

Community transport schemes

Community transport schemes such as Dial-a-Ride and Taxi-card offer transport options for people with restricted mobility or who are unable to use public transport. Contact your local council to see what community transport schemes are available within your area and how you can apply.



The Community Transport Association has created a map of available community transport services here

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1VEGkWq6DCNOxCeDis_1XD0QSw9Nda8s&ll=57.883574066791006%2C-4.2214270499999996&z=5

Call our helpline on 0300 323 9961 if you need help to find community transport locally.

Information last updated on **8 August 2024**. Please note that information may be subject to change. All information is provided in good faith but Disability Information Scotland does not endorse any product or service referred to within this resource.