Securities and Exchange Commission



Transit Benefit Integrity Awareness Training



Topics

- Program Overview
 - Background and Objectives
 - TRANServe's Role
 - SEC Employee's Role
 - Website Content
 - Legal Implications



Knowledge Checks









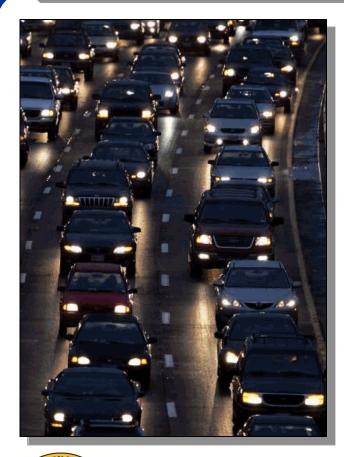
Program Overview

- Transit Benefit Program:
 - Reduce air pollution
 - Reduces traffic congestion
 - Increases use of mass transit
- Studies show that congestion wastes:
 - 3.7 billion hours of travel delays
 - \$63 billion per year nationally
 - \$850 and \$1,600 in lost time and fuel each year per commuter
- Tax-free subsidy for actual costs of transportation
 - Up to the maximum statutory limit





Background



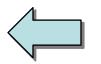
Program History

- 1991 Federal TransitAdministration pilot program
- 1993 Clean Air Initiatives Act
- 2000 Federal Workforce Transportation Fringe Benefit
- 2005 SAFETEA-LU

Eligibility

- All SEC employees working in full or part time paid status
- All SEC interns and volunteers working in a non paid status







Mass Public Transportation

- Rail
 - Subway
 - Commuter
 - Light
- Bus
 - Transit authority
 - Commuter
- Ferries

- Qualified vanpools
 - Commercial/private vehicle
 - At least six adults excluding the driver



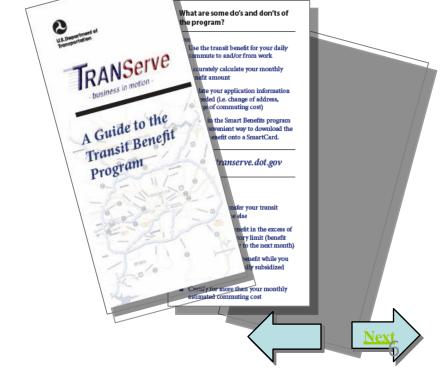






TRANServe

- Distributes transit benefit to qualified employees
- Administers the Transit Benefit Program
- Establishes best practices
- Provides answers and support





Employee Roles and Responsibilities

- Understand the scope and limitations of the Transit Benefit Program
- Not to sell or transfer the benefit or make false claims
- Understand the penalties involved in misuse or false claims

It is a violation of law to provide false or fraudulent information to obtain the transit benefit, to transfer, or to sell the transit benefit.







Employee Roles and Responsibilities

- Not to be named on a SEC provided worksite parking permit, nor participating in a carpool
- Use the transit benefit only for home to work and work to home transportation
- Ensure the amount of transit benefit received does not exceed actual monthly commuting cost of public transportation
- Update commuting costs upon changes to commuting method, work schedule (telework), or change of address
- Complete annual recertification







Employee Roles and Responsibilities

When paper fare media is distributed, employees are responsible for its safekeeping. Lost, stolen or damaged fare media will not be replaced.

In the National Capital Region (NCR), lost, stolen or damaged SmarTrip® cards may be replaced. Contact Metro via a sales office or online at www.wmata.com.

For lost, stolen or damaged TRANServe Cards, contact JP Morgan Chase at UCARD Center:

(https://ucard.chase.com)







Legal Implications

Employees who misuse the transit benefit will be subject to appropriate administrative action including discipline and/or disqualification from future SEC transit benefit program. Disciplinary penalties could range from a letter of admonishment to removal from Federal service depending on the severity of the abuse.

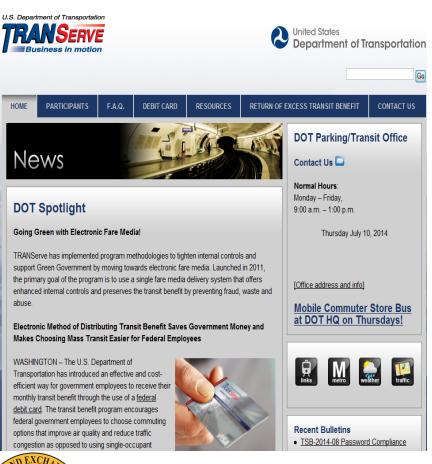






TRANServe Website

TRANServe.dot.gov



Website Pages:

- Home
- Participants
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- TRANServe Card
- Resources
- Return of Excess
- Contact Us







Enrollment Process

- 1. Log into the TRANServe Electronic Transit Benefit Application System (https://transitapp.ost.dot.gov)
- 2. First time enrollments click the "Register" button and create your profile information (temp password comes by email)
- 3. Login using your government email address and password
- 4. Click on "Transit Benefit Application"
- 5. Choose what to do:
 - Request information
 - Withdraw from the program
 - Certify/Enroll





The Transit Benefit Program objective is to:

- ☐ A. Increase compensation of federal employees per month.
- B. Provide incentive to federal employees to use public transportation to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion.
- ☐ C. Reward the employees for their hard work.







Knowledge Check 1 - Answer

The Transit Benefit Program objective is to:

- □ A. Increase compensation of federal employees per month.
- **B.** Provide incentive to federal employees to use public transportation to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion.
- ☐ C. Reward the employees for their hard work.

The Federal Workforce Transportation Fringe Benefit Program under Executive Order 13150 was put in place to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion.







 If I misuse my transit benefit, such as selling my benefit or over estimating my need for the benefit, I could be removed from service to the federal government.

- □ True
- □ False





Knowledge Check 2 - Answer

 If I misuse my transit benefit, such as selling my benefit or over estimating my need for the benefit, I could be removed from service to the federal government.

- ☐ True
- False

Disciplinary penalties could range from a letter of admonishment to removal from Federal service depending on the severity of the abuse.







The role of TRANServe is:

- ☐ A. Distribute the transit benefit to SEC employees.
- B. Administer the Transit Benefit Program.
- ☐ C. Establish Best Practices.
- ☐ D. All of the above.





Knowledge Check 3 - Answer

The role of TRANServe is:

- A. Distribute the transit benefit to SEC employees.
- **□** B. Administer the Transit Benefit Program.
- ☐ C. Establish Best Practices.
- D. All of the above.

TRANServe administers the Transit Benefit and establishes best practices.

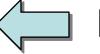






- Dale plans on teleworking. The correct course of action based on this is:
 - □ A. Inform her supervisor.
 - □ B. Continue claiming her transit benefit without change.
 - ☐ C. Submit an updated application.







Knowledge Check 4 - Answer

Dale plans on teleworking. The correct course of action based on this is:

- A. Inform her supervisor.
- B. Continue claiming her transit benefit without change.
- **☑** C. Submit an updated application.

You are responsible to update your application whenever your commuting method, work schedule, address changes.











Transit Benefit Certification





Certification Required



 Anyone who enrolls for the Transit Benefit Program must certify that certain conditions are true.

Certify:

"To formally and legally attest a specific statement to be true"







Certification Statement

WARNING!

This certification concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of an agency of the United States. Making a false, fictitious, or fraudulent certification may constitute criminal violations punishable under Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001, by imprisonment up to five years and fines up to \$10,000 for each offense, and/or agency disciplinary actions up to and including dismissal.

- I certify that I am employed by the U.S. Federal Government.
- I certify that I am not named on a federally subsidized parking permit with any other federal agency.
- I certify that I am eligible for a public transportation fare benefit, will use it for my daily commute to and from work by public transit or vanpool, and will not give, sell, or transfer it to anyone else.
- I certify that in any given month, I will not use the Government-provided transit benefit in excess of the statutory limit. If my commuting costs per month on public transit exceed the month statutory limit, then I will supplement those additional costs with my own funds rather than use a Government-provided transit benefit designated for use in a future month.
- I certify that I will not claim the transit benefit in excess of my actual monthly commuting expense. If at anytime during a given month I am out of work due to sickness, vacation or any other reason, on official travel, or use a private vehicle for commuting, I will claim less and adjust the amount of my transit benefit the following month if appropriate.
- I certify that my parking fees are not included in the computation of the daily, weekly or monthly commuting costs for my transit benefit.







Certification

What did I just agree to?

- I am employed by the SEC
- I am eligible for a public transportation fare benefit
- I will only use the transit benefit for my daily commute to and from work
- I will not give, sell, or transfer my transit benefit to anyone else
- I will not use the Government-provided transit benefit in excess of the statutory limit
- I will not claim the transit benefit in excess of my actual monthly commuting expense
- I will not include parking fees in the computation of the daily, weekly, monthly or annual commuting costs.







Rick joined a carpool after commuting by train for 5 years. He received the maximum benefit per month for his commute. He sells his benefit since he believes the benefit belongs to him. Is this the correct course of action?

- ☐ Yes
- □ No







Knowledge Check 5 - Answer



 Rick joined a carpool after commuting by train for 5 years. He received the maximum benefit per month for his commute. He sells his benefit since he believes the benefit belongs to him. Is this the correct course of action?







It is against the law to sell or give away your transit benefit.

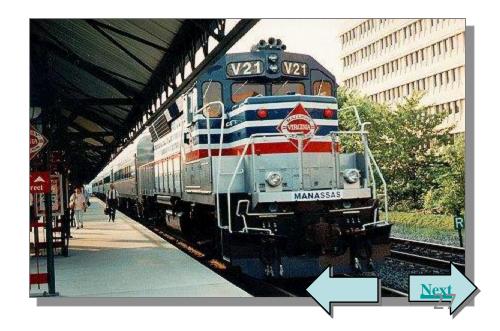




Carrie commutes to work from Maryland. Her costs are \$375 per month. She is eligible to receive the entire amount in transit benefit since her commute is so costly.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False





Knowledge Check 6 -

• Carrie commutes to work from Maryland. Her costs are \$375 per month. She is eligible to receive the entire amount in transit benefit since her commute is so costly.

☑ False

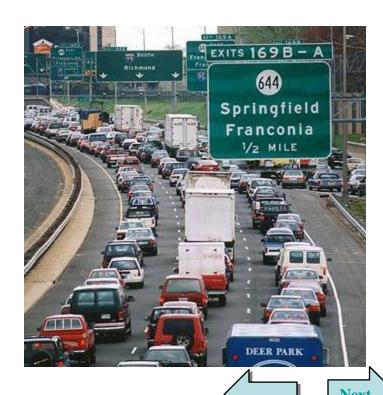
Important: Notification of Optional Taxable Event

The federal government permits up to \$130 in non-taxable transit benefit for mass transportation commuting costs. The SEC permits employees to choose to receive an additional \$120 transit benefit. The additional amount is taxable. These taxes will appear on the earnings statement. The employee must cover the amount over \$250, "out of pocket".



- Sarah rides in a carpool. She is eligible to receive the transit benefit.
 - **□** True
 - □ False





Knowledge Check 7 - Answer

- Sarah rides in a carpool. She is eligible to receive the transit benefit.
 - □ True
 - ☐ False

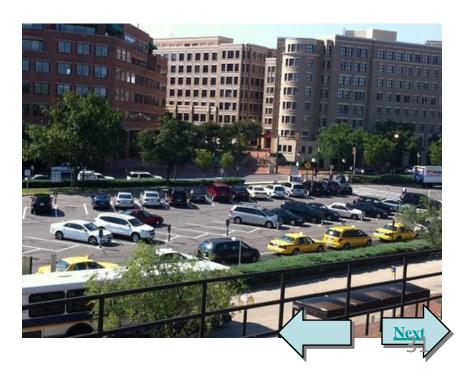
The Federal Transit Benefit is for federal employees who choose to commute using mass transit in a commuter highway vehicle. This includes bus, rail, light rail or an authorized vanpool.





- Alicia rides mass transit and parks in the lot near the station. She includes her parking fees in the computation of her monthly commuting cost. She is right to do this.
 - □ True
 - □ False





Knowledge Check 8 - Answer

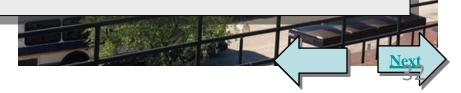
 Alicia rides mass transit and parks in the lot near the station. She includes her parking fees in the computation of her monthly commuting cost. She is right to do this.

■ True

☐ False

The Federal Transit Benefit is provided solely for your home-to-work-to-home commute while using mass transportation. Any other use of the benefit is actionable as fraud, waste, or abuse of federal funds.





- Melinda has come to an agreement with HR and her supervisor to work in the office 3 days and telework 2 days per week indefinitely. She currently receives \$25/week in transit benefits. The correct course of action based on this change to her schedule is to:
 - □ A. Thank her supervisor for his/her understanding.
 - ☐ B. Continue claiming her transit benefit without change.
 - ☐ C. Update her transit benefit application to reflect her new commuting expense.





Knowledge Check 9 - Answer

- Melinda has come to an agreement with HR and her supervisor to work in the office 3 days and telework 2 days per week indefinitely. She currently receives \$25/week in transit benefits. The correct course of action based on this change is to:
 - □ A. Thank her supervisor for his/her understanding.
 - B. Continue claiming her transit benefit without change.
 - C. Update her transit benefit application to reflect her new commuting expense.

You must change your benefit amount if your commuting expense changes.







 Christian is going to an off-site meeting. He is using mass transportation to and from the meeting, and decides to use his transit benefit. This is the correct course of action.

- □ True
- □ False





Knowledge Check 10 - Answer

 Christian is going to an off-site meeting. He is using mass transportation to and from the meeting, and decides to use his transit benefit. This is the correct course of action.

■ True

□ False

Travel to an off-site meeting or training class is an office expense. The Transit Benefit is provided solely for your home-to-work-to-home commute via mass transportation.







- Ernest has commuting costs of \$240. He has accepted a transit subsidy above the tax-free statutory limit. At the end of the calendar year, will Ernest have to pay taxes on the amount he USED that was over the statutory tax-free limit?
 - □ True
 - □ False



Knowledge Check 11 - Answer

 Ernest has commuting costs of \$240. He has accepted a transit subsidy above the tax-free statutory limit. At the end of the calendar year, will Ernest have to pay taxes on the amount he USED that was over the statutory tax-free limit?



☐ False

Amounts used above the statutory tax free-limit of \$130 will be taxed at the end of year.



Congratulations!

You have successfully completed

TRANSIT BENEFIT INTEGRITY TRAINING



