



Information Brochure

TRANSPORT ACCESS SCHEME

Introduction

This Scheme is administered by the Tasmanian Government to provide assistance to people who have a permanent and severe disability.

Permanent means life long (not able to be corrected by recognised surgery or treatment). Membership of this Scheme is not available to people who have temporary disorders or who have conditions which are expected to improve in time.

Concessions available under the Scheme

1. Parking Concessions

An Australian Disability Parking Permit issued through the Transport Access Scheme entitles members throughout Tasmania to park:

- **in parking zones designated for people with disabilities – for not longer than any time which may be displayed on the parking sign,**
- in an area controlled by a parking sign (including parking meters) indicating a time limit of less than 30 minutes - **for a maximum of 30 minutes,**
- in an area controlled by a parking sign (including parking meters) indicating a time limit of between 30 minutes and one hour - **for a maximum of two hours,**
- in an area controlled by a parking sign (including parking meters) indicating a time limit of one hour or longer - **for twice the time indicated on the sign.**

Concessions apply to on street parking only, but many Municipal Councils have designated vehicle spaces in off street car parks for people with disabilities.

Please Note

- Australian Disability Parking Permits are issued to Scheme members and are transferable to any vehicle that they travel in, either as the driver or as a passenger.
- Members are not entitled to use their parking permit if they are not leaving the vehicle.
- Parking Concessions only apply if the permit is displayed in the front of the vehicle so that the permit number and expiry date can be clearly seen by parking officers. Parking infringement notices will be issued where permits are detected being used outside of the conditions specified above.
- **The maximum time allowed by a parking meter, or for a parking space for which a voucher vending machine is in operation, must be paid before the additional time allowances conferred by the disability parking permit come into effect.**
- There is a reciprocal arrangement in place where all States and Territories of Australia recognise each other's parking permits issued to people with disabilities. As parking concessions may vary in the other States and Territories, it is advisable that you check with local Councils where you are visiting to find out the concessions available in those Council areas.

2. Vehicle Registration/Driver Licensing Concessions

Under these concessions, members are entitled to:

- A reduced driver licence fee,
- An exemption from annual motor tax charges (for one vehicle only) with a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) not exceeding 4.5 tonnes,
- A reduced motor vehicle registration fee,
- An exemption from stamp duty when registering a new vehicle or transferring the registration of a used vehicle (one vehicle only) with a GVM not exceeding 4.5 tonnes, and
- A reduced Motor Accident Insurance Board (MAIB) premium on a passenger or light goods vehicle with a GVM not exceeding 4.5 tonnes.

Vehicle registration concessions only apply to a vehicle registered in the name of:

- A member of the Scheme, or registered jointly with another person,
- In the case of a child under 16 years of age – his or her parents or guardian. When a TAS member turns 16, the vehicle is required to be transferred into their name or joint names in order to continue receiving the concessions. Only the transfer fee is required to be paid for this transaction.

3. Taxi Fare Concessions

Taxi fare concessions entitle eligible members to:

- a 50% fare reduction when travelling in standard taxis, and is available only to persons meeting income and asset criteria for the issue of a Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card or a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card issued by Centrelink, and holders of a Pensioner Concession Card issued by Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). **The issue of a DVA “Gold Card” is not accepted as eligibility for taxi concessions, it is issued for rebates on medical treatment only and is not income and asset tested,** or
- a 60% fare reduction when travelling in wheelchair-accessible taxis (for wheelchair reliant members of the Scheme only. Applicants who are wheelchair reliant are not required to submit a copy of a pensioner concession or health care card when applying for taxi concessions).

A maximum concession of \$25.00 per journey applies when using standard taxis, and a maximum concession of \$30.00 applies for wheelchair reliant members when using a Wheelchair Accessible Taxi.

Please Note:

- Permits may be cancelled and taxi concessions withdrawn if misuse is detected.
- Transport Access Scheme taxi concessions must not be used if the taxi travel is being fully or partly funded by another Government Department or outside organisation.
- New taxi concession voucher books can be ordered by phoning the office on 6233 5199, or emailing passenger.transport@dier.tas.gov.au when you reach the reorder reminder located halfway through the book. **Please don't wait until all vouchers have been used before placing your order as it takes several days for new books to be printed and mailed.**
- Members of the Transport Access Scheme who are eligible for concession taxi travel may also travel at concession fares in other States and Territories. Interstate taxi subsidy vouchers are green and yellow in colour, and the concessions applicable in Tasmania also apply interstate, ie 50% in a standard taxi and 60% in a wheelchair accessible taxi for wheelchair reliant members. **Interstate vouchers issued in Tasmania for use in other States and Territories cannot be used in Tasmania.**
- Scheme members intending travelling interstate and who require taxi vouchers need to contact this office (telephone 6233 5199) **at least two weeks before their departure** to arrange for the issue and postage of the number of vouchers expected to be used while they are away. Late requests may not be able to be completed before departure.

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Members of the Scheme must advise the Passenger Transport Services Branch of any change in their name or address, also of any change in their medical condition which would warrant reassessment of their eligibility.

Executor or next of kin must notify the Passenger Transport Services Branch of the death of a member of the Scheme and return their permits and/or identification card(s) for cancellation.

Further Information

For further information regarding the Transport Access Scheme, please contact the Transport Enquiry Service on 1300 851 225.