



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL 2017/18 INFORMATION SHEET FOR NEW APPLICANTS

To qualify by age

- People born before 6 April 1950 are eligible for a bus pass from their 60th birthday.
- People born after 6 April 1950 will become eligible for a bus pass when they reach pensionable age applicable to a woman irrespective of whether they are male or female.

To qualify by disability

Qualifying disabled applicants who are aged 5 or over can apply for a bus pass. The criteria to qualify as a disabled applicant are set out in Parts 3 or 4 on this form.

About the Free Fare Off-Peak National Bus Pass

The bus pass can be used for free off-peak travel on any local bus service in England.

Off peak is anytime from **9.30am-10.59pm Monday to Friday** (or from **9.00am within the borough**) and all day Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays.

In addition, the bus pass allows free off-peak travel on the Park & Ride service at Winnersh Triangle, although you will need to purchase a parking ticket from the bus driver.

It also allows free travel on dial-a-ride services operated by Readibus and Keep Mobile and on medical trips offered by the Community Voluntary Transport Schemes operating in Earley, Shinfield, Twyford & Wargrave, Wokingham and Woodley. However, to use any of these specialist services, the user must meet the conditions of those schemes.

Companion Issue

For those disabled applicants who are unable to travel alone at all times a companion pass can be issued. You will be issued with a Bus Pass that is marked to show that a companion can travel with you. Your companion can travel free of charge anywhere within Wokingham borough when accompanying you on a valid journey, however the Council cannot guarantee that your companion will be allowed free travel elsewhere in England. On valid journeys taken outside of the borough, free travel for your companion will be at the discretion of the bus driver. If free travel is not allowed, your companion will have to pay the normal fare for the journey taken.

If you are applying for a Companion Issue bus pass you must qualify for and apply for a Disabled bus pass if you do not already hold one.

HOW AND WHERE TO APPLY

Please complete the enclosed application form. You will need to provide proof of your date of birth, your address and any disability (if applicable). Details of acceptable proof for each are given on the application form.

If you need to obtain a letter from your GP (or other medical professional) to prove you are disabled and/or are unable to travel alone, you may be charged for the letter. If so, you will have to pay this bill yourself.

Please choose the most convenient method from the following: -

By Post

Send in your completed application form and any evidence that is required to the address below. Any original evidence papers you send in will be returned to you.

Your bus pass will be printed and sent to your home address. You will generally receive this within ten working days of making your application.

Earley Town Council, Radstock Lane.

Monday to Friday, 9:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 4:30pm

You can apply for a Free Fare National Bus Pass at Earley Town Council.

Your bus pass will be printed and sent to your home address. You will generally receive this within ten working days.

If you have any questions or need help with your application, please contact us at:

Telephone: 0118 9746000

Web: www.wokingham.gov.uk

Email: concessionarytravel@wokingham.gov.uk

Address: Concessionary Travel Department

Wokingham Borough Council

PO Box 152

Shute End

Wokingham

Berkshire

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