

FareShare helps employers encourage use of transit and vanpooling by their employees working in Montgomery County, by providing funding from the County toward the cost of employer-provided “commuter benefits.” The program incentivizes businesses to adopt these benefits, which reduce traffic congestion and assist with recruitment and retention of employees. The program supports achievement of Non-Auto Driver Mode Share (NADMS) goals in the County’s Transportation Management Districts (TMDs) and other County priorities.



To Learn More About the FareShare Program:

Call, email, or visit our website to take the next smart step:



CALL

240-773-BWTW (2989)



EMAIL

mcdot.CommuterServices@montgomerycountymd.gov



VISIT

montgomerycountymd.gov/commute



101 Monroe Street, 10th floor, Rockville, Maryland 20850



FareShare Transit & Vanpool Benefits Matching Program

Summary and Guidelines





FareShare helps offset employee transit costs for businesses in Montgomery County as part of the employer's benefits package.

- Encourages employers to begin or maintain a program and works with employers to increase the amount of subsidy to employees offered over time in order to attract more participants.
- Supports the use of transit and vanpooling by employees working in Montgomery County, by providing funding from the County toward the cost.
- Incentivizes businesses to adopt these benefits, which reduce traffic congestion and assist with recruitment and retention of employees.
- Reduces employees commute time and increases productivity.
- Employers can offer any amount over \$25, up to the maximum of **\$325 (starting Jan. 1, 2025)** a month as a tax-free direct benefit.
- The County will contribute toward the benefit to a maximum of **\$325** less the \$25 required by the employer per employee per month, and a maximum of \$40,000 a year.

How the FareShare Program Works:

- If the employer does not currently offer a direct transit/vanpool benefit, Commuter Services will assist them in starting a commuter benefits program.
- Employers must contribute at least \$25 per month, per employee to participate in the program.
- Montgomery County will contribute toward the benefit offered by the employer up to **\$325** less the \$25 required by the employer per employee per month.
- Employers are eligible for a State tax credit of 50% of their contribution, to a maximum of \$100 per employee per month.
- Employers will conduct a pre-program survey of employees at the worksite prior to implementation of the FareShare program. The company is expected to participate in subsequent Commuter Surveys every other year to evaluate impact on employee commuting choice.
- Employers must use best efforts to achieve a survey response rate acceptable to the County.
- FareShare is offered on a first-come, first-served basis and is contingent upon the availability of funds.
- FareShare is not intended to provide an ongoing County subsidy, but to help employers with start-up costs and incorporating commuter benefits costs into their budgeting.



Employer Cost-Saving FareShare Benefits.

The following is an example of how FareShare works:

FareShare Program Contributions

Employer pays \$25

Montgomery County pays \$100

Total transit benefit for employee \$125

Breakdown of Employer Contribution

Employer pays \$25

50% Maryland State Tax Credit -\$12.50

Net cost to employer \$12.50

How to Enroll in the FareShare Program:

- Employer completes the *FareShare Employer Enrollment Form*.
- Employer submits the *Montgomery County Employer Worksheet* Invoice along with the WMATA SmartBenefits Order Confirmation Form to the Commuter Services representative for reimbursement from the County.



Don't wait to take advantage of this opportunity, call **240-773-BWTW (2989)** for more information.