



ADA Eligibility Application for Certification City of Duluth, Minnesota & Superior, Wisconsin

The following forms are to be used by persons wishing to apply for eligibility for the Cities of Duluth & Superior's ADA paratransit services (STRIDE). Individuals with disabilities that **prevent** them from boarding, riding on, or disembarking regular route accessible DTA buses **may** qualify for this service. Currently all regular routes in Duluth and Superior have accessible bus service.

The Information obtained through the certification process will only be used by staff to determine eligibility status and to provide transportation services if eligible.

THIS APPLICATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE PLEASE CALL (218) 722-3327.

HOW TO APPLY:

1. Fill out the first part of this form.
2. Send that information along with the **Health Care Professional** form to your physician.
3. Have your **Health Care Professional** mail both forms to the STRIDE Office.
4. You will be notified by STRIDE about your eligibility.
5. If you have not been notified within 21 days of your submittal please call STRIDE at 722-3327, if your application was received and if a determination has not yet been made you will be temporarily eligible for paratransit service.
6. If you are denied eligibility, you have the right to appeal. All appeals are made to the STRIDE Advisory Committee. The STRIDE office will supply you information on the appeals process.

Forms that are not fully completed or signed will be returned!

WHO QUALIFIES:

The American Disabilities Act (ADA) set rules for certification. Under these rules there are two basic categories of people who are eligible for paratransit services. Any person with a disability is eligible **if** (Check all that apply to you):

- You, as a result of your disability are unable to board, ride, or disembark from an accessible vehicle without the assistance of another person (except for the operator of a lift or other boarding device).
- You have a specific impairment-related condition that **prevents** you from traveling to or from **any** boarding/disembarking location.

If you have checked one of the boxes above you may qualify for STRIDE services. All STRIDE trips must start and end within City of Duluth or within ¼ mile of a bus route in Superior. If you reside outside this area you may still be eligible for this service, but all trips must start and end within that service area. It is your responsibility to get within the service area for service.

Personal

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Home Address: _____

TDD: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

In Case of Emergency Notify:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____

4.a. Do you require the use of a personal assistance device? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, what type?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Manual Wheelchair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Walker	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cane
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Powered Scooter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transfer Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crutches
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Powered Wheelchair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Animal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oxygen
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Communication Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hearing Aid	<input type="checkbox"/>	Braces
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Boarding Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____		

4.b. If you use a wheelchair, is it less than 30 inches wide by 48 inches long and does it weigh less than 600 pounds when your weight is added? Yes No

5. Check One Box Only:

- a. **I can get to and from a DTA regular route bus stop.**
- b. **I cannot get to and from a DTA regular route bus stop.**
- c. **I can get to and from a DTA regular route bus stop only if (check all that apply):**
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | There are curb cuts. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Curb cuts have detectable warnings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | There is a sidewalk | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is no snow, ice or debris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sidewalk is paved | <input type="checkbox"/> | I am familiar with the area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I need an attendant | <input type="checkbox"/> | I need training to get to the stop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | There are no street crossings | <input type="checkbox"/> | The ground is level or slightly inclined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other _____ | | |

6. **Check One Box Only:**

- a. I can independently recognize my destination and leave a DTA regular route bus.
- b. I cannot independently recognize my destination and leave a DTA regular route bus.
- c. I can recognize my destination and leave a DTA regular route bus only if (check all that apply):
 - I receive travel training
 - It is light out
 - The driver announces my stop
 - Other _____

7. **Check One Box Only:**

- a. I can ride on an accessible bus operating on a regular route.
- b. I cannot ride on an accessible bus operating on a regular route.
- c. I can ride on an accessible bus operating on a regular route only if (check all that apply):
 - I receive travel training
 - I am familiar with the route
 - A seat is available
 - Every bus on my route is accessible
 - I have an attendant with me
 - Other _____

8. **I require a Personal Care Attendant for my STRIDE trips.**

- Yes No Sometimes When? _____

9. **Are you interested in travel training?** Yes No

10. **Why are you unable to ride a regular route bus or get to bus stop (distance is not a factor under the ADA)?**

The remaining pages of this form must be filled out by a Health Care Professional. Please submit the total form to them and have them return it to the STRIDE office in the attached envelope. You must also sign this form, thus signifying that the information contained herein is true.

Signature

Date

ADA Certification Health Care Professional

Dear Physician:

The Duluth Transit Authority operates the STRIDE (Special Transit Ride) system. STRIDE is designed to compliment the DTA's regular route service in Duluth and Superior to meet the requirements of the American Disabilities Act or ADA.

STRIDE provides **curb to curb** accessible service, riders must be able to present themselves at the curb for service. The vehicles used by STRIDE are specially equipped to assist physically disabled people. Drivers are trained to assist physically disabled people boarding and alighting from the vehicle. The services are limited by availability and the DTA is therefore concerned that we are serving the people that really need this level of service. As an example, people who reach the age of 65 are not eligible just because they are 65. ***People who cannot get to a bus stop or live too far from a bus stop are not eligible because of that.*** Their disability must **PREVENT** them from getting to **any** stop. People must be physically unable to board, ride on, and get off a regular route DTA bus to be eligible for STRIDE.

In order to assure that our passengers require this level of service, each person is required to meet certain qualifications established by the STRIDE Advisory Committee and endorsed by the State of Minnesota, and Federal Transit Administration in accordance with ADA. **The ADA is a civil rights statute, not a transportation or social service program statute.** The ADA clearly emphasizes nondiscriminatory access to fixed route service, with complementary paratransit acting as a "**safety net**" for people who cannot use the fixed route system. Under the ADA, complementary paratransit is not intended to be a comprehensive system of transportation for individuals with disabilities. Any individual whose disability prevents them, as the result of a physical or mental impairment (including a vision impairment), and without the assistance of another individual (except the operator of a wheelchair lift or other boarding assistance device), to board, ride, or disembark from any vehicle on the system which is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, is eligible.

Please read the attached information completed by the individual and complete the short form attached. This is necessary to determine eligibility for your client. Please return all forms to the STRIDE office as soon as possible.

Please return this form to:

STRIDE - DTA
2402 W. Michigan Street
Duluth, MN 55806

Should you have any questions please call the STRIDE office at 722-3327 or the DTA office at 722-4426 and ask for Jim Heilig.

Thanks for your help!

Sincerely;

Jim Heilig

Jim Heilig, STRIDE Director

Physicians ADA FORM

1.a. I have read the material submitted. Yes No

1.b I agree with the material submitted. Yes No

2. Condition causing disability: (Please detail in laymen's terms) _____

3. Expected duration of disability:

Temporary: Expected duration until: ____ / ____ / ____

Long-term: Conditions with potential for improvement, periods of remission, or seasonal (Circle one if correct)

Permanent: Conditions with no expectation of improvement.

4. It is my professional opinion that the applicant, _____, has a disability and the applicant: (Check all that apply)

A. Has a specific impairment related condition which **prevents** the applicant from traveling to and from any DTA bus stops. Yes No

B. If the person were at a bus stop, would they with the help of the operator be able to board, ride on, and deboard an accessible bus? Yes No

C. Is unable, as a result of a physical (including a vision impairment) or mental impairment, and without the assistance of another individual (except the operator of a wheelchair lift or other boarding assistance device), to get on, ride, or get off buses which are accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities. Yes No

5. I hereby certify that the information I have supplied is true and correct. I understand that false certification may be reported.

Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number _____

Thank You for Your Assistance