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 deboarding 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).

- Your have a specific impairment-related condition that prevents you from traveling to or from any boarding/discharging 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? □ Manual Wheelchair □ Walker □ Cane
□ Powered Scooter □ Transfer Board □ Crutches
□ Powered Wheelchair □ Service Animal □ Oxygen
□ Communication Board □ Hearing Aid □ Braces
□ Boarding Chair □ 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):

      □ There are curb cuts. □ Curb cuts have detectable warnings
      □ There is a sidewalk □ There is no snow, ice or debris
      □ Sidewalk is paved □ I am familiar with the area
      □ I need an attendant □ I need training to get to the stop
      □ There are no street crossings □ The ground is level or slightly inclined
      □ 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   [ ] The driver announces my stop
      [ ] It is light out            [ ] 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   [ ] Every bus on my route is accessible
      [ ] I am familiar with the route   [ ] I have an attendant with me
      [ ] A seat is available            [ ] 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
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