

VANPOOL

Frequently Asked Questions



► What is a vanpool?

Vanpools are a group of commuters traveling from one or more origination points to a shared destination. Vanpools include as few as four riders and up to 15 people. Vanpools help reduce stress and allow commuters to avoid traffic with a direct route consisting of minimal stops. Vanpools travel free in HOV/HOT lanes and can save riders 1-minute per mile traveled during their commute.

► Who can ride in a vanpool?

Anyone can ride in a vanpool. It's a great choice for riders who maintain a consistent work schedule and live 15 or more miles away from work.

► Who drives the vanpool?

A regular commuter, like you. Riders in the vanpool generally choose two to four drivers to share the responsibility.

► How much does a vanpool cost?

Pricing varies based on the type of van and total round-trip miles. Riders can use their commuter benefits to pay for their monthly fees (up to \$260) and new riders receive a \$50 subsidy from Arlington Transportation Partners each month, for their first six months. The more people in your van, the lower the monthly cost for each individual rider.

Save up to
\$260 a month
vanpooling

► Are there subsidies available for a vanpool?

Vanpool Connect

Arlington Transportation Partners offers new riders who live or work in Arlington, a \$50 monthly subsidy for their first six months through the **Vanpool Connect** program. Riders can also earn rewards through rider referrals. More information: bit.ly/Vanpool-Connect

Vanpool Alliance

A regional program in the area that offers vans a \$400 subsidy per month if they agree to provide basic reporting and meet a few requirements. More information: bit.ly/VanpoolAlliance

'Pool Rewards

Vans traveling from certain areas in the DC region may qualify for the **'Pool Rewards** subsidy. More information: bit.ly/PoolRewards

► What kind of vehicle is included in a vanpool?

We work with vanpool providers to provide comfortable van options. Depending on the size of your vanpool, you could have anywhere from seven to 15 seats available in your van. Vans also come with customizable options, ranging from WiFi, reclining captain's seats, heated seats, and more.

► Where does a vanpool pick up and drop off?

Vanpools choose central meeting points for the riders, so they can park their personal cars. Meeting points tend to be a shopping center, mall, or grocery store parking lot. In the evening, the van is either left at the original meeting point or at the lead driver's home.

► What happens if a rider needs to work late?

Riders who experience unscheduled overtime or an unexpected emergency can take advantage of the Guaranteed Ride Home program. Riders must register at CommuterConnections.com. Guaranteed Ride Home provides vanpool riders with a free, reliable ride home, up to four times per year in case of emergency (sick child, unexpected over time, etc.). More information: ArlingtonTransportationPartners.com/GRH.

► Can my pre-tax SmartBenefits funds be used to pay for the vanpool?

Yes, riders can have their SmartBenefits pre-tax funds transferred to pay for their vanpool fare.

► How do I join a vanpool?

You can join a vanpool by visiting JoinAVanpool.com or calling 703.247.2417.