

IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT

Transportation is A Huge Barrier

People with disabilities consistently report that their ability to get to and from work interferes with being able to secure and maintain employment. Employment specialists must be especially mindful of the impact transportation will have on a customer's success in a particular job and proactively problem solve how to help them get to work.

Here are a few strategies for employment specialists to consider:



Negotiate Shifts

Assess public transportation schedules and family availability to provide transportation. Then, negotiate shift times with an employer that would enable your client to use their existing transportation options.

Talk to Co-Workers

Many co-workers car pool or would appreciate partial financial assistance for their commute. Inquire about other employees who live near your client who might be interested in providing a ride and splitting the cost of gas. Then, negotiate a shift with the employer that aligns with the co-worker's shift.





Hire Student Help

Many college students have flexible schedules. Consider posting a flyer at a local college about hiring a student to assist with getting to the work shift. This student may use their car for drop off or pick-up at the job, or they may accompany your client on the bus route to and from work.

Travel Train

Teach your client how to travel independently. Spend time teaching them how to walk, bike, order a ride-share, use the bus-line, or take a subway



train to get to their work. Teaching them to be less dependent on others for transportation will increase their employment possibilities. Some communities even have programs that can help your client learn specific transit goals.

