



Care and Support. Transport

Driver's licence

In South Australia drivers aged 75 and older who do not have a pre-existing medical condition only need to complete an assessment form to determine their fitness to drive. However all drivers regardless of age, are required by law to report any medical condition that could affect their ability to drive safely and those who currently have a medical condition are also required to undergo regular medical assessments. Health professionals (e.g. GP) are required to notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles if a patient suffers a medical condition that could affect their ability to drive safely and may recommend a practical driving test.

The Royal Automobile Association's CarFit program provides advice and information to older drivers about individual modifications or adjustments that may need to be made to a car to maximise safety and comfort. Sessions are held by trained professionals. Upcoming sessions are advertised on RAA's website (www.raa.com.au/motoring-and-road-safety/carfit); telephone 8202 4221 to book.

Proof of Age Cards

Individuals who no longer have a driver's licence may obtain this photo ID card, which shows their date of birth, from Transport SA. A once-only fee applies. Contact Service SA, tel. 13 10 84, www.sa.gov.au/topics/transport-travel-and-motoring/motoring/drivers-and-licences/proof-of-age-card.

Alternatives to driving

The loss of a driver's licence may be distressing and may possibly lead to isolation and loneliness. Some options that may help individuals who might otherwise be housebound are discussed here.

Powered wheelchairs and scooters – The same road rules for pedestrians apply if the scooter doesn't travel at a speed greater than 10 km/hr on level ground and is being used by a person who has difficulty walking. If the scooter can reach higher speeds the person can still use the footpath if speed is kept within the limit above and the vehicle has an unladen (empty) weight not exceeding 110 kg.

A registration or licence is not required in the cases above if the scooter meets specific weight and performance criteria.

See the South Australian Government's information sheet *Scooters: safe use in the community*.

If considering purchasing such an item, a visit to the **Independent Living Centre (ILC)**, tel. 8266 5260, 1300 885 886, may help. Staff can assist with professional advice and there is a display of equipment, including scooters.

Public transport – For information on all Adelaide Metro bus, train and tram services including timetables, ticket sales, route details and taxi connections, contact the **Adelaide Metro InfoCentre**, 75 King William St, Adelaide, or InfoLine tel. 1300 311 108, TTY 133 677.

All trains, trams and most metropolitan buses are wheelchair-accessible. For details, contact your service provider or the Passenger Transport InfoLine.

- Southlink (bus), info@southlink.com.au or phone depot: Aldgate / Mt Barker (8339 7544), Elizabeth (8282 7900), Lonsdale (8186 2888)
- Torrens Transit (bus) – tel. 8292 8100, customerservice@torrenstransit.com.au
- Light City Buses (bus), tel. 8377 6400
- Adelaide Metro (train/tram/bus) – tel. 1300 311 108 or TTY 133 677

Transport concessions

You must carry your concession card and produce it as required.

For Pension Concession Card holders using Adelaide metropolitan public transport, provincial cities and country bus services, usually 50% concession.

For Seniors Card holders, free travel on weekdays 9.01am – 3pm, 7pm – 7am, all day on weekends, public holidays, 50% concession at all other times.

Seniors Card holders travelling interstate will also receive concessions on public and government-subsidised transport. Check the relevant Seniors Card unit, details at www.australia.gov.au/content/seniors-card. Great Southern Rail (GSR) offers discounts of up to 20% to Pensioner

Catalyst Foundation is supported by the Australian Government Department of Health. Visit the website <https://agedcare.health.gov.au/> for more information. Although funding for this publication has been provided by the Australian Government, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Australian Government.



Care and support. Transport

Concession Card holders. Tel. GSR 1800 703 357 or visit www.greatsouthernrail.com.au for further details.

Some private transport and taxi companies may also offer discounts for seniors. Conditions may apply.

Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) provides eligible persons and their medically required attendants assistance with their transport when travelling for approved medical treatment. Contact DVA, tel. 133 254, 1800 550 455 (regional callers).

Special needs

Patient Assistance Transport Scheme (PATS) provides financial help to those in rural areas who need to travel over 100 km (each way) to receive specialist medical treatment in SA. Contact Country Health SA Local Health Network on 1300 341 684 or email CHSAPATS@sa.gov.au.

Australian Disability Parking Scheme – enables people to use car parks reserved for people with a disability. A doctor's assessment is required. Temporary permits may be issued to those whose disability is likely to last for more than six months but is not permanent. Tel. Service SA, 13 10 84.

South Australian Transport Subsidy Scheme (SATSS) – provides taxi vouchers for people whose disability prevents them from using public transport safely. Subsidies cover 50% (or 75% for those requiring wheelchair-accessible taxis) of the first \$40 of a taxi fare. SATSS vouchers can be used in conventional or wheelchair-accessible taxis. Wheelchair-accessible taxis are mostly found in the metropolitan areas. Adelaide Access Taxis (tel. 1300 360 940) co-ordinate and dispatch the wheelchair-accessible taxi bookings. All Australian states and territories have similar taxi subsidy schemes and SATSS vouchers can be used.

Plus One FREE COMPANION card: for people with a disability who are unable to use public transport independently. The companion/carer will travel free. For information and application forms on the above programs, tel. SATSS 1300 360 840.

Travel Pass for Person with Vision Impairment entitles card holders to travel free on all Adelaide Metro bus, train and tram services. Contact Adelaide Metro, tel. 1300 311 108. **Mobility Pass** – for people unable to validate a ticket using on-board equipment due to a physical or cognitive impairment. Contact Adelaide Metro, tel. 1300 311 108, www.adelaidemetro.com.au.

Driver assessment and retraining

Occupational Therapy Australia's website includes a search facility whereby it is possible to search for private practitioners qualified to conduct a driving assessment. www.otaus.com.au/find-an-occupational-therapist

Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre offers the Driver Assessment and Retraining Service to patients of its Stroke Rehabilitation Unit, Medical Rehabilitation Unit and SA Spinal Cord Injury Service and Orthopaedic, Amputee & Burns Rehabilitation Unit. Specific eligibility criteria apply. Tel 8222 4000

Community transport services

Local council – Many local councils provide community buses that call door to door and may be wheelchair-accessible. They may offer scheduled shopping trips and possibly take people to day centres or other activities. A minimal fare is charged.

Community Passenger Networks provide transport information, coordination and brokerage service for transport-disadvantaged people.

Barossa Regional, tel. 8563 8411

Eastern Metro, tel. 8372 5472

Eyre Peninsula, tel. 1300 306 551 (Port Lincoln), 8625 3852 (Ceduna)

Hills Community Transport, tel. 8391 7234

Inner Southern Metro, tel. 8375 6769

Kangaroo Island, tel. 8553 4500

Mid North, tel. 8842 1677

Murray Mallee, tel. 8572 4288

Murray Transport Connections (Murray Bridge), tel. 1300 190 869

Northern Metro, tel. 8256 0355, 8256 0133

Northern Region (country), tel. 8666 2255

Onkaparinga, tel. 1300 365 729

Riverland, tel. 1800 334 882

South East, tel. 8725 3622

Southern Communities Transport Scheme (Victor Harbor), tel. 8551 0760

Yorke Peninsula, tel. 1300 132 932

Tools to find your local Community Passenger Network can be found on the website of the South Australian Community Transport Association: www.sacta.org.au.

Commonwealth Home Support Program – Through this Australian Government-funded program some transport support may be available for eligible people over 65 years of age (50 for indigenous people) to attend medical appointments and to access community services. Referral from My Aged Care (tel. 1800 200 422) is required.

Australian Red Cross (SA Division) – Transport Service is provided for people who have a disability or are aged and do not have any other way to attend medical appointments. Tel. 8100 4587. For people over 65 years of age (50 for indigenous people) referral from My Aged Care is required (see above).