

The purpose of the FareShare program is to encourage the use of transit and vanpooling by employees working in Montgomery County, by offering a subsidy matching program through employers. Increasing use of transit and vanpooling will improve the Non-Auto Driver Mode Share (NADMS) in the Transportation Management Districts (TMDs).



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FARESHARE PROGRAM:

Call, email, or visit our website to take the next smart step:



CALL

240-773-BWTW (2989)



EMAIL

mcdot.CommuterServices@montgomerycountymd.gov



VISIT

montgomerycountymd.gov/commute



FARESHARE TRANSIT & VANPOOL BENEFITS MATCHING PROGRAM

Summary and Guidelines



**Better Ways
To Work!** Montgomery County
Commuter Services

MCDOT
Montgomery County Department of Transportation

101 Monroe Street, 10th floor, Rockville, Maryland 20850



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FARESHARE IS A “SEED-MONEY” PROGRAM.

It is intended to incentivize employers to begin a transportation benefits program, or to increase the impact of their existing program by increasing their benefits in order to attract more participants.

- FareShare can help employers offset start-up costs, but it is not intended to provide an ongoing County subsidy for employers. Employers are encouraged to set the maximum subsidy per employee at a level their organization will be able to sustain once the County’s match ends. The total benefit provided to any employee cannot exceed their actual commuting cost, by Federal law.
- Employers can offer any amount up to the maximum of \$255/month permitted by Federal tax law as a tax-free benefit. The County will contribute a maximum of \$50/employee/month, and a maximum of \$10,000 in one year to any one employer.
- Transit and vanpool benefits must be offered through WMATA’s SmartBenefits program.
- Employers are eligible for a State tax credit of 50% of their contribution, up to a maximum of \$100/employee/month. This credit is available to both for-profit and non-profit organizations.

HOW THE FARESHARE PROGRAM WORKS:

- If the employer does not currently offer a direct transit/vanpool benefit, Montgomery County will assist them in starting a benefits program and will match the benefit offered by the employer up to \$50/employee/month – or a total of \$100/employee/month.
- If the employer already offers a transit benefit, but it is less than the maximum allowed of \$255/month, the County will match any increase in the transit benefit up to \$50/month.
- Commuter Services will assist the employer in filing a Traffic Mitigation Plan if they have not already submitted one.
- Commuter Services will conduct a survey of employees at the worksite prior to implementation of the FareShare program and again at the end of one year, to evaluate impact on NADMS. The employer will use best efforts to achieve a survey response rate that is acceptable to the County.
- This program is contingent upon availability of funds.



EMPLOYER COST-SAVING FARESHARE BENEFITS.

The following is an example of how FareShare works:

FareShare Program Contributions	
Employer pays	\$50
Montgomery County pays	\$50
Total transit benefit for employee	\$100

Breakdown of Employer Contribution	
Employer pays	\$50
50% Maryland State Tax Credit	-\$25
Federal tax deduction	-\$12.50
State tax deduction	-\$4.13
Net cost to employer	\$8.37

*Assumes 25% Federal corporate tax bracket
Assumes 8.25% State corporate tax bracket*



THE FARESHARE PROGRAM WILL BE ADMINISTERED AS A COST REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM.

- The employer will complete a FareShare Employer Enrollment Form.
- The employer will submit the Montgomery County Employer Worksheet Invoice along with the WMATA SmartBenefits Order Confirmation Form to the TMD representative, for reimbursement from the County.

Don't wait to take advantage of this opportunity, call 240-773-BWTW (2989) for more information.