

NJ Transportation Options for Individuals with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability

Public transportation:

Existing NJ Transit bus and rail lines.

Or the NJ Transit service for individuals with disabilities “Access Link”

Person must apply for Access Link services.

Must have a reason why they cannot access traditional bus lines

The route they are taking must mirror an existing NJ Transit route/schedule

Person must live within 3 ½ miles of existing NJ Transit route

This service will cross county lines

This service is paid for by the individual - fares are similar to traditional train/bus fares

Medicaid funded county transportation

Each county has it's own transportation service for people with disabilities/senior citizens (Middlesex County – AWTS; Monmouth County – SCAT; Somerset – Somerset County Trans Service; etc.)

Within Monmouth County there is a plan called BETS that provides a reduced fare taxi ride to people with DD. This is within county only.

These are restricted to in county only.

Must follow a regular schedule

Application process

Some counties restrict transport to medical appointments only

Transport is paid for by the individual

Private Transportation

Parent/Family member

Group homes may provide transportation if it is in their contract to do so and within the schedule for the group home staff. This may be unreliable due to limited staffing, limited availability of group home vans, etc.

Other issues

People with developmental disabilities should receive travel training if they are not familiar with using the public transportation system. Travel of 1-2 miles = 3 to 4 sessions of travel training.

Travel training would be absolutely necessary for long trips, especially those involving transfers.