

***Union County Public  
Transportation  
Rider's Guide***



**Northeast Oregon Public Transit**

# Are you ready to ride?

## *Programs and things you should know*

### Deviated

<b>Deviated Fixed Route</b> .....	3
<b>Enjoy the Free Fare!</b> .....	3
<b>Scheduling a Deviation</b> .....	3
<b>Bring Your Bike</b> .....	5
<b>What Can I Bring on Board?</b> .....	5
<b>Rules for Riding</b> .....	6
<b>Tips for a Safe Ride</b> .....	7
<b>Traveling With Children</b> .....	7
<b>Accessibility</b> .....	8
<b>Rules of the Road for Non-Deviated Fixed Route Rides</b> .....	8
<b>Scheduling a Ride</b> .....	9
<b>A Word about Trip Purpose, Priority, and Volume</b> .....	9
<b>A Word about Origin to Destination</b> .....	9
<b>Courtesy Window (“Staging Time”)</b> .....	10
<b>Carry On Items</b> .....	10
<b>Personal Care Attendants and Guest Riders</b> .....	11
<b>Cancellation and No-Shows</b> .....	11
<b>Animals</b> .....	11
<b>Refusal of Service</b>	
Union County Public Transit shall not discriminate based on any protected status. However, refusal of service may result engaging in violent, seriously disruptive, or illegal conduct, or representing a direct threat to the health and safety of others. A passenger may also be refused service for discharge of bodily fluids that are not (or cannot) be contained in an appropriate matter. ....	12

<b>Mobility Devices</b> .....	12
<b>Securing Mobility Devices</b> .....	12
<b>Passenger Restraints</b> .....	12
<b>Other Prohibited Conduct</b> .....	12
<b>Cat Link</b> .....	13
<b>Rides to Wellness (when funding is available)</b> .....	13
<b>Title XIX</b> .....	13
<b>Deviated Fixed Route</b> .....	14
<b>EOCCO (GOBHI)</b> .....	14
<b>Refusal of Service</b> .....	14
<b>Sample Suspension Appeal Form</b> .....	15
<b>Appendix A – Blue Route</b> .....	16
<b>Appendix B – Yellow Route</b> .....	18
<b>Appendix C – Saturday Route</b> .....	20
<b>Appendix D – CatLink</b> .....	22
<b>Appendix E – Rides to Wellness (while funding is available)</b> .....	24
<b>Appendix F – Free Medical Rides</b> .....	27

For alternative formats of this document, please request via 541-963-2877

or call TTY at 711 or 1-800-735-2900

## Deviated Fixed Route

### Enjoy the Free Fare!

Yellow route and Blue route are the two routes that currently service the city of La Grande on the weekdays. Both routes operate Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 6:00pm. On Saturday, La Grande operates one route from 8:30am to 4:45pm. The route is a deviated Fixed Route to comply with ADA regulations.

Blue route starts at the La Grande Transit Center and loops to the north of the Transit Center. The route is referenced in Appendix A, page 17-18. Important stops along this route include Walmart, Riveria Activity Center, Safeway, City Hall, and the Veteran's Village. The average time to complete this loop is 37 minutes but can run up to 45 minutes to make room for deviations.

Yellow route starts at the La Grande Transit Center and loops to the southwest of the Transit Center. The route is referenced in Appendix B, page 19-20. Important stops along this route include Safeway, Grande Ronde Hospital, Eastern Oregon University, the Post Office and Market Fresh. The average time to complete the loop is 37 minutes but can run up to 45 minutes to make room for deviations.

Saturday route starts at the La Grande Transit Center and makes a large loop through the entire town. The route is referenced in Appendix C, page 21-22. Important stops along this route include Max Square, Safeway, Eastern Oregon University, and Walmart. The average time to complete this loop is 37 minutes but can run up to 45 minutes to make room for deviations.

### Scheduling a Deviation

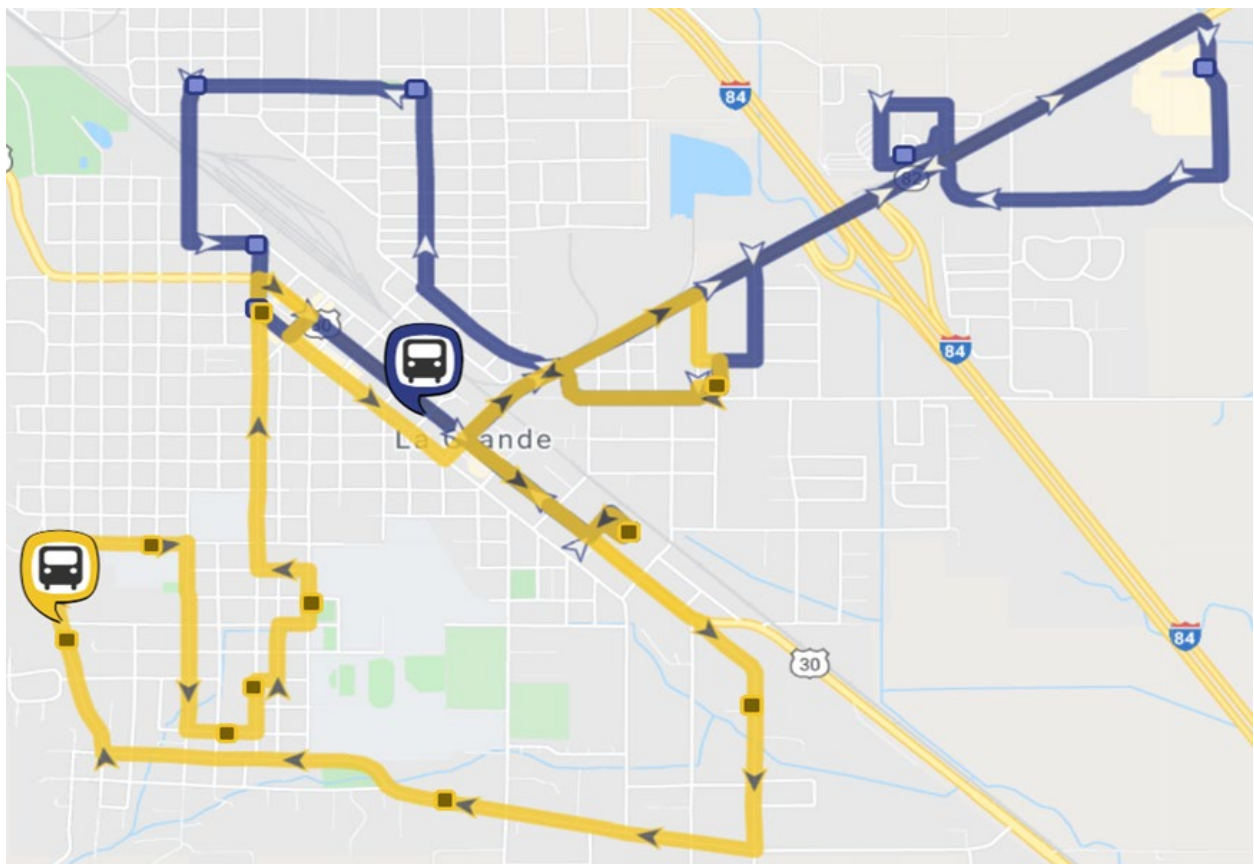
To use a deviation on the route, you would call the Transit Hub to schedule a pick-up that falls inside a three-quarter mile of the fixed route. Deviations are available Monday through Saturday but must be scheduled no later than 5:30 pm on the business day before the requested service. Requests for deviations can be requested up to two weeks in advance. For more information see our published route deviation policy.

Along the normal fixed route, you may also make a flag stop by waving at the driver to let them know of your intent to ride. They will pull over at the nearest safe location to allow you to board. For safety reasons we do not allow flag stops on Island Avenue.

Introducing SPOT. This app will allow riders to use their mobile device to see where the fixed route buses are, in real time!



Go to [ccno.etaspot.net](https://ccno.etaspot.net)  
or scan the code:



## Bring Your Bike

*You can bring it with you!*



Pictured here, bike rack on bus #33

If you are commuting from the Transit Hub, you may find it more convenient to utilize our bike racks outside of the building. We do require that you provide your own locking mechanisms. We are not responsible for lost or damaged bicycles.

We have bike racks available for stowing your bike on the outside of the bus while you ride. This option is particularly convenient if you are traveling a distance further than your destination on our fixed route. Please keep in mind there are only two spots on the rack. It is also preferred that you load your bike yourself, but our drivers are available for verbal assistance in loading upon request.

## What Can I Bring on Board?

---

### Safety is the Number One Priority

---

- Mobility Devices
- Personal 2-wheeled cart (if it can be secured without blocking the aisle **in the driver's estimation**)
- Strollers are to be strapped down for safety. Children must be removed.

- Any bags you are carrying on your person, so long as they can be safely stowed without blocking the bus aisle **(in the driver's estimation)**
- Food and drink may be brought onto the bus if it is in a closed container (there is no eating or drinking on the bus except for liquids in a closeable container)
- Working Service Animals (the ADA does not recognize comfort or companion animals as service animals)
- Other animals, if transported in a small or medium kennel
- Personal portable electronics (i.e. cell phone or hand-held gaming device)

Our drivers will not assist with any item that in his or her estimation exceeds 25 pounds in weight. Typically, on fixed routes our drivers do not help with loading any items onto the bus, but some exceptions are made in instances of ADA assistance.

Our drivers need ease of access when securing clients. Excess items may not be allowed, which may make it hard for the driver to secure chairs.

## Rules for Riding

---

### Safety is the Number One Priority

---

- No Eating on the Bus
- No Open Containers
- Non-Service Animals Must be in a small or medium kennel
- No Vulgar Language or Gestures
- No Standing While Bus is in Motion
- No Illegal, Violent, or Disruptive Behavior
- No Empty Cans
- No Loitering (You Must Have Destination)
- No Stopping on Island Avenue

## Tips for a Safe Ride

### The following are recommended for riders:

- Do not run through traffic to catch your bus. If you must run, it is not your ride; you can catch the next one.
- Only cross at designated crossings and look both ways before you cross.
- Do not cross in front of a bus unless it is fully stopped at a traffic light or parked on the side of the street to pick up passengers.
- When it is dark outside wear light and/or reflective clothing.
- When walking to and from your stop please be aware of your surroundings. Check for vehicles in the road before looking down at your phone.
- Hold on to a seat, handrail, or strap while the bus is in motion.
- Keep track of your belongings while on board and make sure they are always secured safely. (Remember in the event of a crash all those items become potential projectiles that could injure you or your fellow riders.)

## Traveling With Children

---

### Children under the age of 12 must travel with an adult accompanying them

---

You are allowed to bring a stroller on board the bus, but you must be able to safely stow it without blocking the aisle. You may board the bus with your child in the stroller, but before the bus can begin moving again you will need to remove the child from the stroller. You may find it more convenient to ask the driver to lower the ramp/lift prior to your boarding. We ask that you give priority seating to the elderly or riders with disabilities.

Please hold on to your children when entering and exiting the bus; their safety is important to us. You will need to keep track of your children while the bus is in motion. Please make sure that they are following all the rules for riding in addition to the tips for a safe ride both on and off the bus.

Children ages twelve and up are eligible to ride the bus without being accompanied by an adult. Decorum is expected while they ride despite the removal of the requirement that a parent or guardian ride with them.



## Accessibility

---

The Transit Hub and all our buses are fully accessible  
when using mobility devices

---

### *Bus Features:*

All our buses are equipped with either a powered lift or a boarding ramp to allow for the use of ADA equipment while boarding. All you need to do is ask the operator to lower it when you are trying to board, and they will be glad to assist you. Our buses also have priority ADA seating including securement points near the driver.

The best practice for boarding with a mobility device is to wait in sight of the driver, ask for the lift or ramp to be lowered (if it has not already been deployed for you), move to a priority seat at the front of the bus, and take advantage of the securement points available to you (assistance will be given if it is needed).

### *If Fixed Route Does Not Work for You:*

Some travelers may find that even with our ADA equipment on board, utilization of the deviated fixed route is still a bit of a challenge. If you struggle to get to a location to flag the bus, down call the transit hub at (541) 963-2877 to schedule a bus deviation within  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles of the bus route.

Please see Appendix A, B, and C for Routes.

## Rules of the Road for Non-Deviated Fixed Route Rides

Many of our services such as Cat Link, Rides to Wellness, Title XIX, and EOCCO (GOBHI) will have the same rules and requirements for safe reliable transportation.

## Scheduling a Ride

Trip planners are available Mon-Fri from 7:30AM to 5:30PM. Simply schedule **A DAY IN ADVANCE**. Keep in mind that the further in advance you schedule your ride, the higher the probability that we will be able to accommodate your ride.

For your convenience, we will consider your reservation up to 14 days in advance.

Trips are dispatched via Mobile Data Computers (a one way medium). Drivers cannot change any aspect of a trip. Trip changes can only be arranged through the call center.

## A Word about Trip Purpose, Priority, and Volume

Union County Public Transit does not restrict or prioritize trips. A ride to the grocery store is just as important as a ride to the dentist. A passenger may request unlimited trips (so long as they are compliant with our scheduling rules).

## A Word about Origin to Destination

It is reasonable to expect that Origin to Destination will mean Door-to-Door for some riders or locations and Curb-to-Curb may work better for others. This is exactly the sort of detail the ADA leaves to local operators and riders. The ADA recognizes that arranging for assistance beyond the curb takes additional time and that it is reasonable for us to ask for advance notice from a passenger who has need of it.

The ADA does NOT require transit providers to fundamentally alter the nature of their service to make accommodations.

Cited examples include:

- Assistance through a door and into or out of a building
- Leaving a vehicle unattended for a lengthy period
- Losing the ability to keep an unattended vehicle in line of sight.
- Actions that are unsafe (backing down a narrow alley, etc.)

Other operational examples are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

The bottom line is Union County Public Transit will make its best effort to fulfill a Door-to-Door request that does not constitute a fundamental alteration of our basic service. All that we ask in

return is that you observe our strong preference for such requests to be made at least a day in advance (preferably at the time the original ride reservation is scheduled).

## Courtesy Window (“Staging Time”)

Our Courtesy Window, sometimes called “Staging Time” is 5 minutes (meaning we will wait five minutes after arrival for you to appear before proceeding to our next scheduled rider) for EOCCO, CATLINK, Rides to Wellness, and TITLE XIX. The Courtesy Window for deviated fixed route is 30 seconds to ensure the buses stay on schedule. The driver will not leave after 5 minutes / 30 seconds so long as the rider is within view and approaching the vehicle.

IMPORTANT... It is important to keep an eye open for the vehicle because unless you specifically requested Door-to-Door service at the time you make your reservation, the driver may not knock on your door based on your housing situation and parking accommodations. Door-to-Door services may not always be available, if your house is on a fenced property, the driver has to leave their vehicle unattended, or the driver deems the location unsafe to do so.

If the Courtesy Window closes before you appear, your trip will be booked as a “No-Show,” and you will need to schedule another appointment. Please do not expect our drivers to be able to wait. They have other riders waiting for their service after your ride.

## Carry On Items

Our drivers will happily assist you with your carry-on items with a few limitations.

1. Carry on assistance is limited to getting your items on and off the vehicle - sorry, we cannot help you in with the groceries...
2. We will NOT transport any carry-on item that cannot be safely stowed for travel (in the driver’s estimation).
3. **Our driver will NOT assist with any item that in his or her estimation exceeds 25 pounds in weight.**

If you go shopping and are returning with more items than you can carry, we encourage you to arrange a Personal Care Attendant to ride with you.

## Personal Care Attendants and Guest Riders

We will transport a care attendant free of charge. Public Transit will not provide a care attendant nor is our driver qualified to fill this role.

We will transport a traveling companion who is not a care provider with you if there is space available. It is best to let the dispatch know when scheduling how many people will be going. More than one companion may be transported on a space available and fare for service basis.

## Cancellation and No-Shows

If you are unable to make a scheduled ride, you must notify us at least an hour before pickup to avoid a “No-Show.” Our drivers **CAN NOT** make scheduling changes. If you need to cancel a ride outside of office hours, please dial (541) 963-2877 to leave a voicemail.

A No-Show or pattern of late cancels may result in the automatic cancellation of pending and future rides. A passenger who has future rides canceled is subject to the same rights of appeal as a rider who is suspended or found ineligible for service.

Once a passenger reaches three no shows in one calendar month and if these no shows total 10% or more of their trips in that calendar month, the No Show suspension policy may take effect.

UC Public Transit approaches suspensions VERY reluctantly, however, we also need to be good stewards of taxpayer funding. When a rider “No-Shows” it potentially used a spot that another rider could have used.

A passenger who is suspended for No Show and/or Late Cancel activity has the same right of appeal as a passenger on the deviated fixed route.

## Animals

We welcome your service animal but cannot accommodate pets. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) defines a service animal as “any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability, including, but not limited to, guiding individuals with impaired vision, alerting individuals with impaired

hearing to intruders or sounds, providing minimal protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, or fetching dropped items.”

## Refusal of Service

Union County Public Transit shall not discriminate based on any protected status. However, refusal of service may result engaging in violent, seriously disruptive, or illegal conduct, or representing a direct threat to the health and safety of others. A passenger may also be refused service for discharge of bodily fluids that are not (or cannot) be contained in an appropriate matter.

A passenger denied service has the same right of appeal as a passenger found ineligible for service.

## Mobility Devices

We will not transport any mobility device that exceeds the capacity of our equipment. Wheelchairs must fit entirely within the width of our ramp/lifts (including helper ringer on wheels). We will likewise not attempt a boarding where the combined weight of a rider and device exceeds equipment specifications. If you have a large mobility device, please call for an evaluation before making a ride request.

## Securing Mobility Devices

Our driver (**and only the driver**) is responsible for securing your mobility device into our vehicle. It is our policy to secure all devices for transport.

## Passenger Restraints

UC Transit requires all passengers to use shoulder restraints and lap belts when available.

## Other Prohibited Conduct

In addition to the items listed in the foregoing, a passenger may not:

- Eat, drink, smoke, or spit on the bus
- Fight, push, shout, or act violently
- Use vulgar or offensive language
- Throw objects
- Engage in illegal activity

- Carry hazardous objects
- Carry flammable or poisonous items
- Drinking or having open containers of alcohol
- Riding more than one loop at a time
- Not using headphones when listening to electronic devices

Transport material that may harm others, could spill, or have an offensive odor.

## Cat Link

Anyone living in Union County is eligible to ride under this program. There is no restriction based on address, age, disability, or any other type of class. However, the trip must begin and end in Union County. CAT Link is most used for those individuals that seek transportation for town-to-town travel within Union County. Everyone rides free on this service, but ride schedulers need to know the number of passengers at the time the trip is scheduled.

Please see Appendix D for more information on this service.

## Rides to Wellness (when funding is available)

Rides to Wellness is intended to provide demand response access to medical care and bridge the coverage gap between Medicaid/OHP and those who can't afford private transportation. Program goals include improved access to primary and urgent care, fewer missed appointments, less preventable use of the Emergency Room and reduced preventable hospitalization (or rehospitalization). Rides to Wellness is free in the town of La Grande, however medical rides outside of Union County will have a co-pay based on the service requested.

Please see Appendix E for additional information on this service.

## Title XIX

Is a ticket system provided by DHS. Oregonians will need to get ahold of a Case Manager through DHS to see if they are eligible. Once approved DHS will issue the rider tickets that they can use with Union County Public transit to facilitate their riding needs. Most common use for Title XIX tickets is grocery shopping, hair appointments, and rides to recreational location (parks). The service is free for those that qualify. Please contact DHS at 541-963-4113 for more information.

## Deviated Fixed Route

Deviated Fixed Route is a service intended to assist passengers who find it difficult to reach a designated stop on the bus route. The deviated fixed route bus will deviate to your house and is available to anyone who lives within ¼ miles of the route and will deliver you to any location within ¼ miles of the route. Please keep in mind that you may have to travel the entire length of the route to reach your destination and will need to plan for travel time. (I.E. if you are going from Walmart in Island City to the Hospital in La Grande you will need to travel to the transit hub and transfer buses).

If you live in a location that is too difficult to get a fixed route bus to, we can send the designated “third bus” which is a smaller vehicle capable of reaching those areas. The third bus has its own route and will still roughly stick to the timeframes of the city buses and pick up multiple passengers on the way to your location.

Please see **Appendix A, B, and C** for Brochures.

## EOCCO (GOBHI)

This plan offers members or OHP free rides to appointments. Rides are available to Covered Services under the Oregon Health Plan. Service may be medical, mental health and dental. You must not have other ways to get to these services.

Please see **Appendix F** for more information if you are interested in this service.

## Refusal of Service

Union County Public Transit reserves the right to deny entry or to remove any passenger who interferes with the safe operation of the vehicle. In most cases, this cessation of services would end with the business day. This refusal of service would be issued by the driver in an instance of a violation of the Rules for Riding.

However, in circumstances of continued abuse of the Rules for Riding a longer suspension, or formal suspension, period may be issued; said suspension would be for at least 30 days but not exceed 90 days.


In the instance of a formal suspension, the Assistant Transit Manager will issue a written suspension. This document will include the length of suspension, the reason for suspension, and a written explanation of the appeals process.

All suspension windows are open to a written appeals process submitted to the Public Transit Manager in writing. Available at the Transit Hub is an appeal request form to be filled out and attached to your letter of appeal. You have 14 calendar days from the day of your formal suspension to file an appeal with the Public Transit Manager, and she/he will investigate the issue and interview witnesses before providing you with a conclusion in writing (or accessible format upon request).

Services can be reinstated to riders at any time during the suspension period if Transit Manager investigates and finds enough time has passed, safety has been addressed, and mannerism have changed.

## Sample Suspension Appeal Form

Please pick up a full-page copy of the form at the Transit Hub in the instance of a formal appeal.

<b>UNION COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSIT</b> 2204 EAST PENN AVENUE, LA GRANDE, OR 97850 - 541-963-2877	
---	---

Please complete this form if you would like to appeal our determination regarding your eligibility for the [\_\_\_\_\_]. Once completed, please return it to the address listed below. Completed forms must be postmarked within 60 days of the date of your eligibility determination letter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number with area code: (\_\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_\_ Select one of the following:

I choose to submit additional information for the Appeal Panel to consider, but do not want to appeal in person. (If you choose this option, please send all additional information you would like the Appeal Panel to consider along with this form. Please consider the information on the page attached to your letter of determination titled "Basis for the Determination" when preparing additional information.)

I choose to appeal in person. (If you choose this option, we will contact you to schedule a mutually agreeable day and time for the appeal hearing. You may bring additional information to the hearing and can attend with others who are able to provide information on your behalf.)

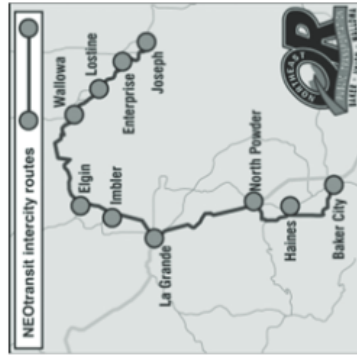
Applicant signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Our Services

The Blue Route shuttle bus is just one of many services linked by the Northeast Oregon Public Transit network. The map below shows the entire NEOTransit service area, highlighting the served communities.



## Donations

NEOTransit is part of the Community Connection of Northeast Oregon family. We are a nonprofit community action agency providing housing assistance, senior services, public transportation, regional food banks, meals on wheels, and much more to the whole Northeast Oregon region. Donations like yours allow us to better serve our community. You can make donations on our website at [ccno.org](http://ccno.org), or just give us a call. Thanks for riding with us today!

## Free Ride!

Exciting news for residents and visitors in La Grande! The Blue Route service is a cost-free adventure. Hop aboard and explore our beautiful city without reaching for your wallet.

*Keep Moving!*  
[www.neotransit.org](http://www.neotransit.org)

## Route Information

Get route alerts!



Track the route live with \$pot!



Or search "\$pot ETA" on your phone's store to download the app. It's free!



# Blue Route

## La Grande

Downtown, north side, and  
 Island City  
 Fixed Route Shuttle



The Blue Route is a deviated route. To schedule a deviation please call us at 541-963-2877, Monday through Friday, before 5:30pm the day before your ride.

**Union County Office**  
 2204 E Penn Ave - La Grande, OR  
**541-936-2877**  
[neotransit.org](http://neotransit.org)

# Blue Route Schedule

**Monday thru Friday**

**7:30am - 6:00pm**



**START**

**FINISH**

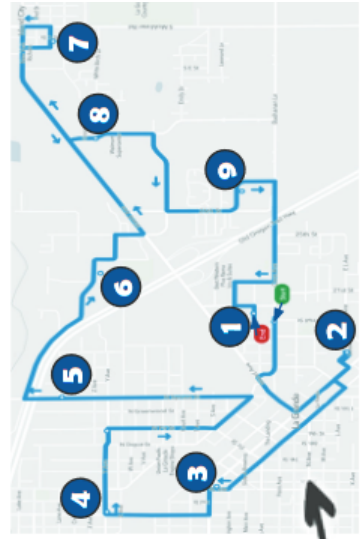
Transit Hub	Safeway	City Hall	Riveria	Vet's Village	May Lane Apts.	Island City	Walmart	Timber Ridge	Transit Hub
7:30 am	7:33 am	7:36 am	7:38 am	7:41 am	7:44 am	7:49 am	7:54 am	7:57 am	8:05 am
8:15 am	8:18 am	8:21 am	8:23 am	8:26 am	8:29 am	8:34 am	8:39 am	8:42 am	8:50 am
9:00 am	9:03 am	9:06 am	9:08 am	9:11 am	9:14 am	9:19 am	9:24 am	9:27 am	8:35 am
9:45 am	9:48 am	9:51 am	9:53 am	9:56 am	9:59 am	10:04 am	10:09 am	10:12 am	10:20 am
10:30 am	10:33 am	10:36 am	10:38 am	10:41 am	10:44 am	10:49 am	10:54 am	10:57 am	11:05 am
11:15 am	11:18 am	11:21 am	11:23 am	11:26 am	11:29 am	11:34 am	11:39 am	11:42 am	11:50 am
12:00 pm	12:03 pm	12:06 pm	12:08 pm	12:11 pm	12:14 pm	12:19 pm	12:24 pm	12:27 pm	12:35 pm
12:45 pm	12:48 pm	12:51 pm	12:53 pm	12:56 pm	12:59 pm	1:04 pm	1:09 pm	1:12 pm	1:20 pm
1:30 pm	1:33 pm	1:36 pm	1:38 pm	1:41 pm	1:44 pm	1:49 pm	1:54 pm	1:57 pm	2:05 pm
2:15 pm	2:18 pm	2:21 pm	2:23 pm	2:26 pm	2:29 pm	2:34 pm	2:39 pm	2:42 pm	2:50 pm
3:00 pm	3:03 pm	3:06 pm	3:08 pm	3:11 pm	3:14 pm	3:19 pm	3:24 pm	3:27 pm	3:35 pm
3:45 pm	3:48 pm	3:51 pm	3:53 pm	3:56 pm	3:59 pm	4:04 pm	4:09 pm	4:12 pm	4:20 pm
4:30 pm	4:33 pm	4:36 pm	4:38 pm	4:41 pm	4:44 pm	4:49 pm	4:54 pm	4:57 pm	5:05 pm
5:15 pm	5:18 pm	5:21 pm	5:23 pm	5:26 pm	5:29 pm	5:34 pm	5:39 pm	5:42 pm	5:50 pm

**Blue Route**

Track the route live with \$pot!



Or search "\$pot ETA" on your phone's store to download the app. It's free!



# Appendix B – Yellow Route

# YELLOW ROUTE

## La Grande

**Downtown, south side, hospital, and DHS Fixed Route Shuttle**



**The Yellow Route is a deviated route. To schedule a deviation please call us at 541-963-2877, Monday through Friday, before 5:30pm the day before your ride.**

**Union County Office**  
**2204 E Penn Ave - La Grande, OR**  
**541-936-2877**  
**neotransit.org**

<p><b>Free Ride!</b></p> <p>Exciting news for residents and visitors in La Grande! The Yellow Route service is a cost-free adventure. Hop aboard and explore our beautiful city without reaching for your wallet.</p> <p><i>Keep Moving™</i>  <a href="http://www.neotransit.org">www.neotransit.org</a></p>	<p><b>Route Information</b></p> <p>Get route alerts!</p> <p> @NeoTransit</p> <p>Track the route live with \$pot!</p>  <p>Or search “Spot ETA” on your phone’s store to download the app. It’s free!</p> 
--	--

**Our Services**

The Yellow Route shuttle bus is just one of many services linked by the Northeast Oregon Public Transit network. The map below shows the entire NEOTransit service area, highlighting the served communities.

**Donations**

NEOTransit is part of the Community Connection of Northeast Oregon family. We are a nonprofit community action agency providing housing assistance, senior services, public transportation, regional food banks, meals on wheels, and much more to the whole Northeast Oregon region. Donations like yours allow us to better serve our community. You can make donations on our website at [ccno.org](http://ccno.org), or just give us a call. Thanks for riding with us today!

# Yellow Route Schedule

**Monday thru Friday**

**7:30am - 6:00pm**



**START**

**FINISH**

Transit Hub	Bi-Mart	DHS	Safeway	Marketplace	EOU	4th St Clinic	Sunset Clinics	Transit Hub
7:30 am	7:33 am	7:36 am	7:39 am	7:44 am	7:47 am	7:49 am	7:50 am	8:05 am
8:15 am	8:18 am	8:21 am	8:25 am	8:30 am	8:33 am	8:35 am	8:36 am	8:50 am
9:00 am	9:03 am	9:06 am	9:09 am	9:14 am	9:17 am	9:19 am	9:20 am	9:35 am
9:45 am	9:48 am	9:51 am	9:55 am	9:59 am	10:03 am	10:05 am	10:06 am	10:20 am
10:30 am	10:33 am	10:36 am	10:39 am	10:44 am	10:47 am	10:49 am	10:50 am	11:05 am
11:15 am	11:18 am	11:21 am	11:25 am	11:30 am	11:33 am	11:35 am	11:36 am	11:50 am
12:00 pm	12:03 pm	12:06 pm	12:09 pm	12:14 pm	12:17 pm	12:19 pm	12:20 pm	12:35 pm
12:45 pm	12:48 pm	12:51 pm	12:55 pm	12:59 pm	1:03 pm	1:05 pm	1:06 pm	1:20 pm
1:30 pm	1:33 pm	1:36 pm	1:39 pm	1:44 pm	1:47 pm	1:49 pm	1:50 pm	2:05 pm
2:15 pm	2:18 pm	2:21 pm	2:25 pm	2:30 pm	2:33 pm	2:35 pm	2:36 pm	2:50 pm
3:00 pm	3:03 pm	3:06 pm	3:09 pm	3:14 pm	3:17 pm	3:19 pm	3:20 pm	3:35 pm
3:45 pm	3:48 pm	3:51 pm	3:55 pm	3:59 pm	4:03 pm	4:05 pm	4:06 pm	4:20 pm
4:30 pm	4:33 pm	4:36 pm	4:39 pm	4:44 pm	4:47 pm	4:49 pm	4:50 pm	5:05 pm
5:15 pm	5:18 pm	5:21 pm	5:25 pm	5:30 pm	5:33 pm	5:35 pm	5:36 pm	5:50 pm

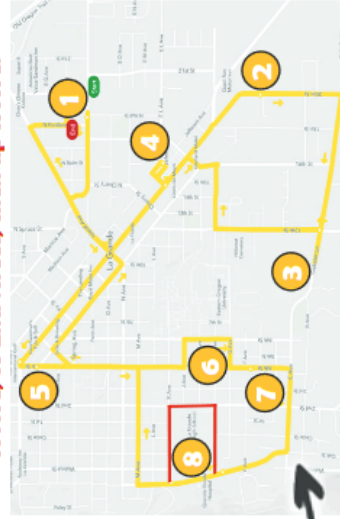
Track the route live with \$pot!



Or search "\$pot ETA" on your phone's store to download the app. It's free!

## Yellow Route

\*With ongoing construction at Grande Ronde Hospital, the bus will deviate down H Ave, to 2nd street, then up K Ave.



# Appendix C – Saturday Route

# GREEN ROUTE

## La Grande

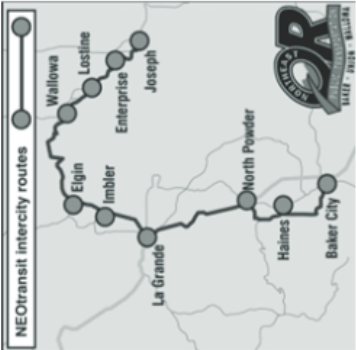
**Saturdays Only**  
**North side, south side,**  
**and Island City**  
**Fixed Route Shuttle**



The Green Route is a deviated route. To schedule a deviation please call us at 541-963-2877, Monday through Friday, before 5:30pm the day before your ride.

**Union County Office**  
**2204 E Penn Ave - La Grande, OR**  
**541-936-2877**  
**neotransit.org**

<h3>Free Ride!</h3> <p>Exciting news for residents and visitors in La Grande! The Green Route service is a cost-free adventure. Hop aboard and explore our beautiful city without reaching for your wallet.</p>		<h3>Route Information</h3> <p>Get route alerts!   @NeoTransit</p> <p>Track the route live with \$pot!</p>  <p>Or search “Spot ETA” on your phone’s store to download the app. It’s free!</p> 
---	--	---

<h3>Our Services</h3> <p>The Green Route shuttle bus is just one of many services linked by the Northeast Oregon Public Transit network. The map below shows the entire NEOTransit service area, highlighting the served communities.</p> 	<h3>Donations</h3> <p>NEOTransit is part of the Community Connection of Northeast Oregon family. We are a nonprofit community action agency providing housing assistance, senior services, public transportation, regional food banks, meals on wheels, and much more to the whole Northeast Oregon region. Donations like yours allow us to better serve our community. You can make donations on our website at <a href="http://ccno.org">ccno.org</a>, or just give us a call. Thanks for riding with us today!</p>
---	--

# Green Route Schedule

**Saturdays Only**

**8:30am - 4:45pm**



**START**

**FINISH**

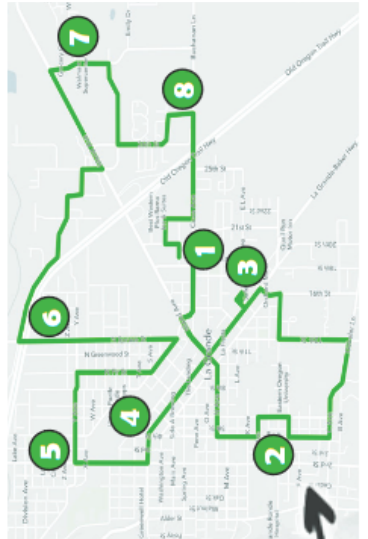
Transit Hub	EOU	Safeway	Max Square	Riveria	Vet's Village	Walmart	Timber Ridge	Transit Hub
8:30 am	8:35 am	8:39 am	8:43 am	8:45 am	8:51 am	8:57 am	9:02 am	9:05 am
9:15 am	9:20 am	9:24 am	9:28 am	9:30 am	9:36 am	9:42 am	9:47 am	9:50 am
10:00 am	10:05 am	10:09 am	10:13 am	10:15 am	10:21 am	10:27 am	10:32 am	10:35 am
10:45 am	10:50 am	10:54 am	10:58 am	11:00 am	11:06 am	11:12 am	11:17 am	11:20 am
11:30 am	11:35 am	11:39 am	11:43 am	11:45 am	11:51 am	11:57 am	12:02 pm	12:05 pm
Lunch								Lunch
1:00 pm	1:05 pm	1:09 pm	1:13 pm	1:15 pm	1:21 pm	1:27 pm	1:32 pm	1:35 pm
1:45 pm	1:50 pm	1:54 pm	1:58 pm	2:00 pm	2:06 pm	2:12 pm	2:17 pm	2:20 pm
2:30 pm	2:35 pm	2:39 pm	2:43 pm	2:45 pm	2:51 pm	2:57 pm	3:02 pm	3:05 pm
3:15 pm	3:20 pm	3:24 pm	3:28 pm	3:30 pm	3:36 pm	3:42 pm	3:47 pm	3:50 pm
4:00 pm	4:05 pm	4:09 pm	4:13 pm	4:15 pm	4:21 pm	4:27 pm	4:32 pm	4:35 pm

**Green Route**

Track the route live with \$pot!



Or search "\$pot ETA" on your phone's store to download the app. It's free!



## **Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc.**

### **Donations**

NEOTransit is part of the Community Connection of Northeast Oregon family. We are a nonprofit community action agency providing housing assistance, senior services, public transportation, regional food banks, meals on wheels, and much more to the whole Northeast Oregon region. Donations like yours allow us to better serve our community. You can make donations on our website at [ccno.org](http://ccno.org), or just give us a call. Thanks for riding with us today!

**Northeast Oregon Public  
Transit is a Service of  
Community Connection  
of Northeast Oregon, Inc.**



**Public Transit Hub  
2204 East Penn Avenue  
La Grande, OR 97850**  
Reservation line: (541) 963-2877  
[www.neotransit.org](http://www.neotransit.org)

For alternative formats of this document, please request via 541-963-2877, or call TTY at 711 or 1-800-735-2900

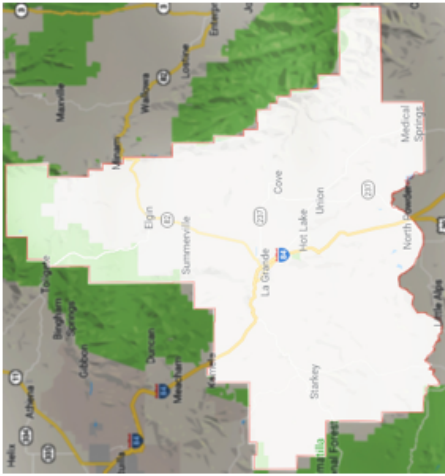


**NORTHEAST  
OREGON PUBLIC  
TRANSIT**

*brings you:*



07-18-2023



## How Do I Schedule a Ride?

To book a ride, you can call us at (541) 963-2877 between 7:30 am and 3 pm. It's best to schedule your ride at least one day in advance, but the sooner, the better. Please note that both the departure and return trips need to be scheduled, and we cannot accommodate on-demand or flexible-time trips. Our service covers the entire county, so it travels throughout the day.

If you plan to use our Deviated Fixed Route or Paratransit services for multiple tasks in La Grande, those trips can be scheduled on a flexible basis, but only your return trip will have a specific pickup time.

If you need to cancel a ride, we kindly request a two-hour notice. This allows us to offer the spot to someone else or prevent the driver from leaving the Public Transit Hub unnecessarily.

## Who Can Ride?

Anyone who resides in Union County is welcome to ride using this program.

There are no limitations based on address, age, disability, or any other criteria. However, it's important to note that the trip must both start and end within Union County. The service is free for everyone, but when scheduling a ride, the ride schedulers need to know the number of passengers who will be traveling.

## When Can I Ride?

CAT Link services are offered on specific days in different areas. In Union and Cove, you can use the service on Tuesdays and Thursdays, while in Elgin, Imbler, and Summerville, it's available on Wednesdays and Fridays. The service runs from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. However, please note that there is no service on Mondays. So, if you need a ride, make sure your pickup time falls between 7:30 am and 4:30 pm on the days when the service is available. For instance, if you work in Elgin and want to travel back home, you should leave La Grande no later than 4:30 pm to arrive home around 5:00 pm.

### Service Limitations

Generally, carryon items are limited to what you can independently load and store at your feet. Our driver may assist with loading a reasonable number of items under 25 pounds on and off the vehicle, but not to and from a building.

All items must fit completely within the vehicle, and your seating area.

Please keep in mind you will need to take your items with you if transferring services.



## Appendix E – Rides to Wellness (while funding is available)

When you call for an appointment, please have the following information available:

- Your name, home address and phone number
- Your complete appointment address including doctor's name and phone number (if known)
- Your appointment time and date
- Approximate length of your appointment (if known)

**WE KEEP ALL INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL**

If your plans change, please call right away as we may be able to clear your reservation for another rider. If you need to cancel outside of office hours, please leave a voicemail.

We encourage feedback to better our service. Please reach out to us Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/NeoTransit](http://www.facebook.com/NeoTransit)  
Website: [www.neotransit.org](http://www.neotransit.org)

Or contact us directly:

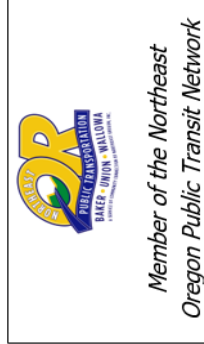
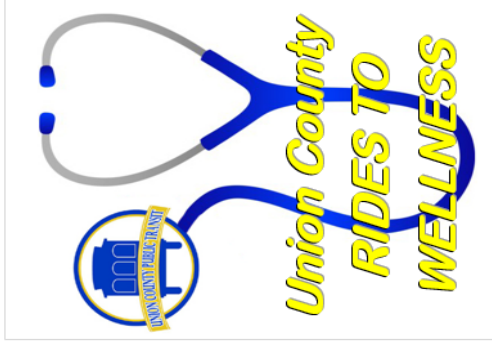
(541) 963-2877

Northeast Oregon Public Transit is a service of Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc.

Transit Operations Office  
2204 East Penn Ave  
La Grande, OR 97850

Information Line: (541) 963-2877

[www.neotransit.org](http://www.neotransit.org)



9-20-2023

## Enhanced Access to Medical Care...



Rides to Wellness is intended to provide demand response access to medical care and bridge the coverage gap between Medicaid/OHP and those who can afford private transportation. Program goals include improved access to primary and urgent care, fewer missed appointments, less preventable use of the Emergency Room and reduced preventable hospitalization (or rehospitalization).

Passengers can access Union County Public Transit services by calling (541) 963-2877. Medicaid and Oregon Health Plan recipients are assisted through the brokerage, which can be reached at 877-875-4657. For passengers not assisted through the brokerage, there is a co-pay for the service. Rides are only available outside of Union County and pricing is on a sliding scale based on mileage. Call 541-963-2877 for more information.

Customer service is available:

Mon - Fri 7:30am to 5:30pm

Rides can be scheduled for (almost) any time a medical appointment is made. Reservations to ride can be made up to 14 days in advance.

Rides to Wellness features a broad range of passenger accessibility options including:

- ADA Accessible Vans
- Stretcher Vans

**Please be aware that there is an additional cost associated with stretcher transports.**

None of the program's providers have medical professionals on staff. We are not an appropriate option for medical emergencies that require care in route.

**Co-pay prices as of July 1st, 2023**  
(prices are subject to change)

Walla Walla (80 miles) - \$60.00  
Tri-Cities (120 miles) - \$80.00  
Boise (170 miles) - \$100.00  
Portland (250 miles) - \$150.00

Rides to Wellness welcomes your service animal and/or personal care attendant. **One quick caveat...** A service animal is defined as having been individually trained to perform tasks to accommodate an individual with a disability. The Americans with Disabilities Act considers companion and comfort animals to be pets - sorry, we can't transport pets...

If you'll be riding with a care provider or service animal, please advise the ride scheduler when booking your reservation so we can send the most appropriate provider and a vehicle with sufficient capacity.

Limitations...

**This service is designed primarily to serve outside of Union County.** If you have an access need within Union County, we may still be able to assist as we have other programs. Please call for more information...

Trips are provided on an *origin-to-destination* basis. For some riders that means curb-to-curb, for others it may mean door-to-door. We can even escort riders into the waiting room at the clinic; however, we are unable to enter your dwelling.

## Appendix F – Free Medical Rides



# Non-Emergent Medical Transportation Free Ride Guide

Revised January 2024

### For Our:

Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization  
(EOCCO) Members

Oregon Health Plan / Medicaid Members

**877-875-4657**

## EOCCO Non-discrimination Notice

- Network providers must treat you fairly
- We and our providers must follow state and federal civil rights laws
- We cannot and will not treat people unfairly because of a person's:
  - Age
  - Color
  - Disability
  - Gender identity
  - Marital status
  - National origin
  - Race
  - Religion
  - Sex
  - Sexual orientation
  - Health status
  - Need for services

Everyone has a right to know about EOCCO's programs and services:

- All members have a right to use our programs and services
- We give free help when you need it
- We offer sign and spoken language translation
- We also offer written materials in other languages, braille, large print, audio and other formats
- We provide multilingual call center staff and can accommodate hearing and/or speech impaired callers

If you need any of the services listed above, contact Customer Service at 888-788-9821 or TTY/Oregon Relay 711

If you feel you were treated unfairly for any of the above reasons, you can make a complaint or grievance.

Need help filing a complaint? Call Customer Service, a peer wellness specialist, or personal health navigator.

Make (or file) a complaint with EOCCO in any of these ways:

<b>Phone:</b>	888-788-9821 TTY/OREGON RELAY 711
<b>Fax:</b>	503-412-4003
<b>Mail:</b>	EOCCO Attention: Appeal Unit 601 SW Second Ave. Portland, OR 97204
<b>Web:</b>	English: <a href="http://www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/complaint_form.pdf">www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/complaint_form.pdf</a>

	Spanish: <a href="http://www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/Member/Resources/complaint_formSpanish.pdf">www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/Member/Resources/complaint_formSpanish.pdf</a>
--	--

You also have a right to file complaint with any of these organizations:

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Oregon Health Authority Ombudsman</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	503-947-2346 877-642-0450 TTY/Oregon Relay 711
<b>Mail:</b>	500 Summer St NE, E17 Salem, OR 97310-1097

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Client Services Unit (CSU)</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	800-273-0557 TTY/Oregon Relay 711
<b>Hours:</b>	Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PST

Nick Gross coordinates EOCCO's nondiscrimination and civil rights work:

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>EOCCO</b>
<b>Name:</b>	Nick Gross Chief Compliance Officer
<b>Phone:</b>	503-952-5033 TTY/OREGON RELAY 711
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:compliance@eocco.com">compliance@eocco.com</a>

You also have a right to file a discrimination or civil rights complaint with:

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Civil Rights</b>
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="http://www.oregon.gov/OHA/OEI">www.oregon.gov/OHA/OEI</a>
<b>Email:</b>	OHA.PublicCivilRights@state.or.us
<b>Phone:</b>	844-882-7889 TTY/Oregon Relay 711
<b>Mail:</b>	Office of Equity and Inclusion Division, 421 SW Oak St., Suite 750, Portland, OR 97204

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Bureau of Labor and Industries Civil Rights Division</b>
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="https://www.oregon.gov/boli/civil-rights/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/boli/civil-rights/Pages/default.aspx</a>
<b>Email:</b>	crdemail@boli.state.or.us
<b>Phone:</b>	971-673-0764 TTY/Oregon Relay 711
<b>Mail:</b>	Bureau of Labor and Industries Civil Rights Division, 800 NE Oregon St., Suite 1045, Portland, OR 97232

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights (OCR)</b>
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf">https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf</a>
<b>Email:</b>	OCRComplaint@hhs.gov
<b>Phone:</b>	800-368-1019 800-537-7697 TTY/Oregon Relay 711
<b>Mail:</b>	Office for Civil Rights, 200 Independence Ave. SW, Room 509F, HHH Bldg., Washington, DC 20201

This free ride guide is available electronically or in paper copy within 5 business days of request at no charge. If you want an electronic copy, just ask and give us your approval to send it. Any format of the ride guide has the same information. We also want the ride guide to be easy to find on our website. It is on the first page. Contact EOCCO to get any type of ride guide at:

<b>Phone:</b>	503-765-3521 888-788-9821 TTY/Oregon Relay 711
<b>Fax:</b>	503-948-5577
<b>Address:</b>	Moda Tower, 601 SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue Portland, Oregon 97024
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="https://www.eocco.com/members">https://www.eocco.com/members</a>

We want everyone to have information about EOCCO's care model in a way that they need it. This is free for:

- Members
- Member representatives
- Family members  
Caregivers

<b>English</b>
You can get this letter in other languages, large print, Braille or a format you prefer. You can also ask for an interpreter. This help is free. Call 1-888-788-9821 or TTY/Oregon Relay 711. We accept relay calls. - You can get help from a certified and qualified health care interpreter.
<b>Spanish</b>
Puede obtener este documento en otros idiomas, en letra grande, braille o en un formato que usted prefiera. También puede recibir los servicios de un intérprete. Esta ayuda es gratuita. Llame al servicio de atención al cliente 1-888-788-9821 o TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Aceptamos todas las llamadas de retransmisión.



- Usted puede obtener ayuda de un intérprete certificado y calificado en atención de salud.
<b>Russian</b>
Вы можете получить это письмо на другом языке, напечатанное крупным шрифтом, шрифтом Брайля или в предпочитаемом вами формате. Вы также можете запросить услуги переводчика. Эта помощь предоставляется бесплатно. Звоните по тел. 1-888-788-9821 или TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Мы принимаем звонки по линии трансляционной связи. - Вы можете получить помощь от аккредитованного и квалифицированного медицинского переводчика.
<b>Vietnamese</b>
Quý vị có thể nhận tài liệu này bằng một ngôn ngữ khác, theo định dạng chữ in lớn, chữ nổi Braille hoặc một định dạng khác theo ý muốn. Quý vị cũng có thể yêu cầu được thông dịch viên hỗ trợ. Sự trợ giúp này là miễn phí. Gọi 1-888-788-9821 hoặc TTY (Đường dây Dành cho Người Khiếm thính hoặc Khuyết tật về Phát âm) Oregon Relay 711. Chúng tôi chấp nhận các cuộc gọi chuyên tiếp. - Quý vị có thể nhận được sự giúp đỡ từ một thông dịch viên có chứng nhận và đủ tiêu chuẩn chuyên về chăm sóc sức khỏe.
<b>Arabic</b>
يمكنكم الحصول على هذا الخطاب بلغات أخرى، أو مطبوعة بخط كبير، أو مطبوعة على طريقة برايل أو حسب الصيغة المفضلة لديكم. كما يمكنكم طلب مترجم شفهي. إن هذه المساعدة مجانية. اتصلو على 1-888-788-9821 أو المبرقة الكاتبة Oregon Relay 711. نستقبل المكالمات المحولة. - يمكنكم الحصول على المساعدة من مترجم معتمد ومؤهل في مجال الرعاية الصحية

<b>Somali</b>
<p>Waxaad heli kartaa warqadan oo ku qoran luqaddo kale, far waaweyn, farta dadka indhaha aan qabin wax ku akhriyaan ee Braille ama qaabka aad doorbidayso. Waxaad sidoo kale codsan kartaa turjubaan. Taageeradani waa lacag la'aan. Wac 1-888-788-9821 ama TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Waa aqbalnaa wicitaanada gudbinta.</p> <p>-</p> <p>Waxaad caawimaad ka heli kartaa turjubaanka daryeelka caafimaadka oo xirfad leh isla markaana la aqoonsan yahay.</p>
<b>Simplified Chinese</b>
<p>您可获取本文件的其他语言版、大字版、盲文版或您偏好的格式版本。您还可要求提供口译员服务。本帮助免费。致电1-888-788-9821或TTY/Oregon Relay 711。我们会接听所有的转接来电。</p> <p>-</p> <p>您可以从经过认证且合格的医疗口语翻译人员那里获得帮助。</p>
<b>Traditional Chinese</b>
<p>您可獲得本信函的其他語言版本、大字版、盲文版或您偏好的格式。您也可申請口譯員。以上協助均為免費。請致電 1-888-788-9821 或聽障專線 Oregon Relay 711。我們接受所有傳譯電話。</p> <p>-</p> <p>您可透過經認證的合格醫療保健口譯員取得協助。</p>
<b>Korean</b>
<p>이 서신은 다른 언어, 큰 활자, 점자 또는 선호하는 형식으로 받아보실 수 있습니다. 통역사를 요청하실 수도 있습니다. 무료 지원해 드립니다. 1-888-788-9821 또는 TTY/Oregon Relay 711에 전화하십시오. 저희는 중계 전화를 받습니다.</p> <p>-</p> <p>공인 및 자격을 갖춘 의료서비스 전문 통역사의 도움을 받으실 수 있습니다.</p>
<b>Hmong</b>

Koj txais tau tsab ntawv no ua lwm yam lus, ua ntawv loj, ua lus Braille rau neeg dig muag los sis ua lwm yam uas koj nyiam. Koj kuj thov tau kom muaj ib tug neeg pab txhais lus. Txoj kev pab no yog ua pub dawb. Hu 1-888-788-9821 los sis TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Peb txais tej kev hu xov tooj rau neeg lag ntseg.

-

Koj yuav tau kev pab los ntawm ib tug kws txawj txhais lus rau tib neeg mob.

#### Marshallese

Kwomaroñ bōk leta in ilo kajin ko jet, kōn jeje ikkillep, ilo braille ak bar juon wāwein eo emmanḷok ippam. Kwomaroñ kajjitōk bwe juon ri ukōt en jipañ eok. Ejjelok wōḡāān jipañ in. Kaaltok 1-888-788-9821 ak TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Kwomaroñ kaaltok in relay.

-

Kwomaroñ bōk jipañ jān juon ri ukōt ekōmālim im keiie āinwōt ri ukōt in ājmour.

#### Chuukese

En mi tongeni angei ei taropwe non pwan ew fosun fenu, mese watte mak, Braille ika pwan ew format ke mwochen. En mi tongeni pwan tingor emon chon chiaku Ei aninis ese fokkun pwan kamo.

Kokori 1-888-788-9821 ika TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Kich mi etiwa ekkewe keken relay.

-

En mi tongeni kopwe angei aninis seni emon mi certified ika qualified ren chon chiaku ren health care.

#### Tagalog

Makukuha mo ang liham na ito sa iba pang mga wika, malaking letra, Braille, o isang format na gusto mo. Maaari ka ring humingi ng tagapagsalin. Ang tulong na ito ay libre. Tawagan ang 1-888-788-9821 o TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Tumatanggap kami ng mga relay na tawag.

-  
Makakakuha ka ng tulong mula sa isang sertipikado at kwalipikadong tagapagsalin ng pangangalaga sa kalusugan.

#### German

Sie können dieses Dokument in anderen Sprachen, in Großdruck, in Brailleschrift oder in einem von Ihnen bevorzugten Format erhalten. Sie können auch einen Dolmetscher anfordern. Diese Hilfe ist gratis. Wenden Sie sich an 1-888-788-9821 oder per Schreibtelefon an Oregon Relay/711. Wir nehmen Relaisanrufe an.

-  
Sie können die Hilfe eines zertifizierten und qualifizierten Dolmetschers für das Gesundheitswesen in Anspruch nehmen.

#### Portuguese

Esta carta está disponível em outros idiomas, letras grandes ou braile, se preferir. Também poderá solicitar serviços de interpretação. Essa ajuda é gratuita. Ligue para 1-888-788-9821 ou use o serviço TTY/Oregon Relay 711. Aceitamos encaminhamentos de chamadas.

-  
Você poderá obter a ajuda de intérpretes credenciados e qualificados na área de saúde.

#### Japanese

この書類は、他の言語に翻訳されたもの、拡大文字版、点字版、その他ご希望の様式で入手可能です。また、通訳を依頼することも可能です。本サービスは無料でご利用いただけます。1-888-788-9821 または TTY/Oregon Relay 711までお電話ください。電話リレーサービスでも構いません。

-  
認定または有資格の医療通訳者から支援を受けられます。

## Table of Contents

Introduction	9
Program Overview	9
<b>Contact Information and Service Hours</b>	<b>11</b>
Your Rights	11
Your Responsibilities	12
Your Privacy	12
What to Expect from Your Driver	12
Who Can Get Free Rides	13
Approval of Free Rides	14
<b>When Calling for a Ride</b>	<b>15</b>
What We Need to Know	16
Special Conditions	17
Types of Rides	18
Vehicle Types Can Include	18
Safety Belts/Seat Belts	18
Personal Care Attendant (Attendant)	19
Children	19
Service Animals	20
Travel Costs	20
Cancellations	21
Ride Modifications	22
Bad Weather	22
Infection / Disease	22
Denial of Rides	23
Complaints, Appeals and Fair Hearings	23
Frequently Asked Questions	31
<b>NEMT Driver and Vehicle Standards</b>	<b>32</b>

## Introduction

Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization along with Oregon Health Plan (OHP Medicaid) helps members get free rides to their medical, dental and behavioral health appointments. The program that arranges this transportation for our members is called Non-Emergent Medical Transportation (NEMT).

EOCCO provides all NEMT services for our members.

For more information, refer to your Member Handbook on the Greater Oregon Behavioral Health (GOBHI) and EOCCO websites:

GOBHI – <https://www.gobhi.org/>

EOCCO - <https://www.eocco.com/members>

## Program Overview

Oregon Health Plan (OHP) offers members free rides to medical appointments.

You can get a ride:

- 24 hours a day
- 7 days a week
- 365 days a year

Rides or repayments are available as Covered Services under the Oregon Health Plan and EOCCO (Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization). Services can include medical, behavioral health and dental appointments.

NEMT will check to see if you are eligible for free rides. We will confirm this through the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) database when you call to book a ride.

**The NEMT program provides free rides to EOCCO members in the following counties:**

- Baker
- Lake
- Gilliam
- Sherman
- Grant
- Umatilla
- Harney
- Union
- Hood River
- Wallowa
- Malheur
- Wasco
- Morrow
- Wheeler

We want you to call our toll-free call center to request a ride. We have local numbers and a toll-free number. You can call most of our EOCCO communities with a local number. There is a toll-free number available to you for any areas where there is not a local number. Our subcontractors also use the toll-free number. Language interpreter services are available at no cost to you.

<b>Brokerage Toll Free</b>			
<b>877-875-4657</b>			
<b>Baker City</b>	541-249-5230	<b>Ontario</b>	541-216-4556
<b>Bend</b>	541-948-8352	<b>Pendleton</b>	541-304-3208
<b>Burns</b>	541-288-9163	<b>The Dalles</b>	541-298-1045
<b>Enterprise</b>	541-263-7636	<b>Umatilla</b>	541-275-8207
<b>Hermiston</b>	541-303-8103 541-303-8104 541-303-8110	<b>Union</b>	541-562-7888
<b>Hood River</b>	541-716-4460	<b>Walla Walla</b>	509-524-9058
<b>John Day</b>	541-620-5075	<b>Toll Free FAX</b>	855-541-1517
<b>La Grande</b>	541-624-3082	<b>TTY/TDD relayOregon Relay</b>	7-1-1

## Contact Information and Service Hours

EOCCO & GOBHI provides NEMT services to you in the area that you live.

**Your NEMT provider may be closed on the following holidays:**

- New Year's Day – January 1<sup>st</sup>
- Memorial Day – Last Monday in May
- Independence Day – July 4<sup>th</sup>
- Labor Day – First Monday in September
- Thanksgiving Day – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in November
- Christmas Day – December 25<sup>th</sup>

If our office is closed we have a recording to help you.

- It will be in English or Spanish.
- We will also give you info about our service hours
- We will also tell you to call 911 for an emergency
- We will call you back if you leave a clear message with your name and phone number
- We will call you back on the next business day.
- We will keep calling back until we talk to you.

## Your Rights

As a NEMT user, you have the right to:

- **Receive safe and reliable rides to and from appointments that meet your needs**
- Receive free rides to the closest provider that is able to meet your needs for medical, dental or behavioral health services
- **Ask for interpreter services when talking to a customer service representative**
- **Request any materials from your NEMT provider in a language or format that meets your needs**
- Receive a written notice if a ride is denied
- **If you feel your ride was denied unfairly, you can ask for a reconsideration, turn in an appeal, ask for a hearing, or ask for all**
- Share concerns, complaints, and **file a grievance** with your NEMT provider, GOBHI, or EOCCO



## Your Responsibilities

As a passenger, we expect that you:

- **Treat drivers and other passengers with respect at all times**
- Inform NEMT of any medical symptoms that may be contagious
- **Call NEMT as early as possible to schedule, change, or cancel a ride**
- **Use seatbelt(s) and other safety equipment as required by law (example: car seats)**
- Drivers can only make stops that we have approved.
- **If you need to make an extra stop, such as a pharmacy or another appointment, please call NEMT before your ride.**

## Your Privacy

NEMT providers comply with HIPAA. Information you provide will be kept private. We only tell drivers enough to provide your ride.

NEMT will only tell drivers the information that is necessary to provide your ride for you.

Medical information is only provided to drivers when needed. Drivers will not share any of your information outside of the ride except with your NEMT Provider, EOCCO, the Oregon Health Authority, or the Oregon Department of Human Services, as required or requested.

## What to Expect from Your Driver



You can expect your driver to:

- Hold your safety as their highest priority
- Be friendly, courteous and professional
- Treat you with respect and dignity
- Drive safely and follow all laws and regulations
- Use a hands-free device for phones and tablets
- Tell you when they arrive by calling, knocking on your door, or by coming into the lobby of the facility
- Have completed all State required training (such as CPR, First Aid, and Defensive Driving)

**If requested, drivers can:**

- Help you walk up or down 1 or 2 steps
- Provide you with curb-to-curb, door-to-door, or hand-to-hand service (See page 14)
- Help you into the lobby of the health care facility - Drivers cannot help you beyond that point

If you need help with the above, please let us know when you schedule your ride.

**Drivers cannot:**

- Enter your home or room
- Help you get ready for transport (dressing, shoes, jacket)
- Transfer you between bed and wheelchair, or wheelchair and van
- Help you with any personal needs during your ride
- Ask for or accept fares or tips
- Solicit or sell any other products or services
- Make any stops, pick up food or help run errands
- Change the arranged pick up time of rides without prior documented permission from EOCCO or GOBHI

If you need these supports or any others, you will need to provide your own caregiver to help you.

If you will need help at your appointment, such as help to eat or go to the bathroom, you will need to bring a caregiver to help you.

## Who Can Get Free Rides



We follow OAR 410-141-3920 rules.

You can get free rides from your NEMT provider if:

- You are covered by EOCCO through the Oregon Health Plan (Medicaid) in Eastern Oregon
- You are traveling to an approved appointment
- The ride is a covered service
- If you have both Medicaid and Medicare (dual member) we will check your coverage to see that you can get rides to or from a covered service or other health-related service
- Rides are to the closest provider

- You are traveling to a health-related service. For more information about health-related services see your Member Handbook
- This could be inside or outside of our service area to travel to approved appointments. For example:
  - When EOCCO cannot give you a service inside our service area, we give rides outside the service area. This includes members with both Medicaid and Medicare. It also includes when EOCCO is responsible for cost-sharing.
- If you are covered by the Compact of Free Association (COFA) Dental Program or the Veteran Dental Program, we only give rides for your dental services.
  - These programs are defined in OAR chapter 410, division 200

## Approval of Free Rides

If you meet the requirements for a free ride, the NEMT provider will:

- Verify that you are covered on the Oregon Health Plan through EOCCO, are eligible for services, and transportation is a covered NEMT service
- Determine the best type of ride for your needs
- Determine the best level of services for your needs
  - Curb-to-curb: Your driver will meet you at the curb of your pickup location.
  - Door-to-door: Your driver will meet you at the door or front desk of your pickup location. The driver will assist you to the door or front desk of your drop-off location.
  - Hand-to-hand: Your driver will meet you and your personal care attendant at your pickup location. Your driver will bring you all the way inside at your drop-off location. Your driver will stay with you until someone takes you the rest of the way. If you choose, a personal care attendant can help you.
- Enter the information in our system for tracking
- Make a decision to approve or deny the ride within 24 hours of receiving the request. A decision can be made before 24 hours, as needed to make sure you arrive on time for your appointment
- You will never receive a bill or be requested to pay any money to EOCCO or another company for your ride, even if the ride payment is denied

## When Calling for a Ride



We will need some information from you to help schedule your ride. Please have this information available before calling NEMT

### Needed information to schedule a ride:

Full name

Full street address

Phone number or contact number

Doctor /Clinic name

Doctor /Clinic street address

Doctor /Clinic phone number

Date of appointment

Time of appointment

Pick-up time after appointment

Reason for appointment

You may call to request a ride, you can also have someone else call for you:

- A Community Health Worker
- A parent, foster parent or adoptive parent
- Providers that you have given permission to request a ride for you.

You or your representative may schedule:

- Same day rides
- Rides up to 90 days ahead of time
- Multiple rides for recurring appointment up to 90 days ahead of time

We will also have a few questions. This helps us identify the supports needed for your trip:

- Do you use a walker, cane or wheelchair?
- Are there any specific needs you will have for this ride?
- Is a helper coming with you? If so, what kind of support do they provide?
- If the ride cannot be set up during the first call, we will contact you to let you know the details
  - What is the best way (phone, email, fax) and time of day to contact you?

After we decide the best type of vehicle for your ride, we will schedule the ride and confirm the details with you at the time of your call, or at least 2 days before your ride:

- The name of the Driver or Provider
- Phone number of Transport Provider
- The scheduled date and time of pick up
- The address of pick up
- Time you should be ready
- What type of vehicle

If the ride is requested less than 2 days before the pick-up time, we will provide you with our phone number, and we may be able to tell you the name and phone number of your NEMT driver or NEMT provider.

## What We Need to Know

- If you will have a helper with you
- Parents or guardians must provide an attendant to ride with members age 12 and under
- Parents and guardians must provide an attendant to ride with members with special physical or developmental needs no matter their age.
- If you have a mobility aid (wheelchair, walker, or cane)
  - If you have a wheelchair is it more than 30 inches wide
  - Is it more than 48 inches long

- Is it more than 600 pounds when occupied
- If you have a scooter
- If you have a portable oxygen tank
- If you have a service animal
- If you need any other special equipment
- If you have a health issue that changes your needs
- If you need a secured ride
- The best way to reach you (email, phone, fax) to confirm rides and tell you about changes to your schedule

Your needs will be saved in your member file with NEMT. This is to make sure you get the best ride for your needs.

- We provide rides based on specific needs of the member. EOCCO may approve exceptions to this rule in some cases
- You will need a note from your doctor if you need to travel 75 miles or more beyond the Oregon border for services

## Special Conditions

When you schedule a ride, you might have a special condition that we should know about to make changes to your ride.

- If you have a behavioral health disability or physical health needs
- If you have challenges walking safely
- If your ability to make decisions is compromised
- Discuss the reason to make changes to your ride with us
- We can explore options to meet your needs
- We want to plan for health and safety concerns

We may discuss these changes with your care team or your care coordinator or CCO. You can also tell us any other person you want us to talk to.

Once the changes are in place, we will notify you and anyone involved in the changes in writing.

Secure medical transportation is required if you are in danger of harming yourself or others, according to OAR 410-141-3940:

- 1 attendant can go with you at no charge when appropriate. Attendants can be a parent, legal guardian, or escort. Examples of reasons for an attendant include:
  - To give you medication
  - To meet legal requirements
  - Other reasons when needed

## Types of Rides



Your NEMT provider schedules the best ride to meet your needs by asking you questions when you schedule your ride.

Rides are provided in a way to keep you and the drivers safe. Your answers will help determine which type of ride will fit you best.

Here are some service providers you may encounter:

- Public transportation services
  - You must arrange local public transportation
- Private non-profit transportation services
- Public transportation that might be a shared ride
- For profit transportation services
- Volunteer drivers

## Vehicle Types Can Include

- Help with the cost for you (or someone else) to drive to your appointment
- Wheelchair van
- Stretcher van
- Bus/Shuttle pass
- Car, SUV, Van
- Ambulance
- Other types, as necessary

There may be schedule changes. Heavy traffic may result in driver running more than 15 minutes late. We will do our best to re-assign the ride or trip as quickly as possible.

## Safety Belts/Seat Belts

Riders must follow all state, and federal laws regarding safety belt use. This means all riders must wear seat belts at all times while the vehicle is moving.

Riders using wheelchairs must use the lap and shoulder belt. If you refuse to wear the safety belt, your driver may decline to provide the ride.

If you need a safety belt extension, let us know when scheduling your ride.

Seat belt exemption cards must be shown to the driver before every ride.

## Personal Care Attendant (Attendant)



If you need an attendant, EOCCO will make sure they meet all standards. This applies if you have special needs, regardless of age.

- EOCCO does not supply an attendant for you
- There is no charge for bringing an attendant
- An attendant may be any adult 18 years and older that is approved by the guardian
- An attendant may be a parent, legal guardian, or escort
- If adult (18+) members have a legal guardian, the guardian must approve of the attendant

## Children

There is no charge for an adult attendant.

- An adult attendant must be with children age 12 and under. An attendant may be the member's mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, grandparent, or guardian. The attendant may also be any adult 18 years or older authorized by the member's parent or guardian.
- The child's parent or legal guardian must approve in writing the child's adult attendant.
- Children 13 and older may have an attendant travel with them for free.
- Drivers do not install car seats or booster seats. Car seats and booster seats are required for a person who:
  - Weighs less than 40 pounds and who is shorter than 4 feet 9 inches;
  - Is under two and must use a rear-facing child safety seat; and
  - Weighs more than 40 pounds and who is shorter than 4 feet 9 inches, unless the child is secured with a car/booster seat that meets the minimum standards established under ORS 815.055 (the rules establishing standards for safety belts, harnesses, and child safety systems)
- The child's attendant is responsible for this. A driver is not allowed to provide a ride if safety or booster seats are not provided or do not meet legal requirements.



## Service Animals



- Service animals are allowed on rides.
- Let us know ahead of time if you plan to bring a service animal.

## Travel Costs

We can pay for rides by someone other than you. If the rider is under 18, we can pay for someone who is not their guardian. If someone other than you or a minor member's parent/guardian provides a ride, that person can be paid. EOCCO does not arrange for this ride.

- Please call us at 877-875-4657 or TTY/Oregon Relay 711 before your scheduled appointment for details on how to get mileage cost help.

At times, we can help with mileage and lodging. **You should ask for this ahead of time if:**

- You are required to begin travel before 5AM and
- You are traveling from an appointment after 9PM or
- Your healthcare provider has documented a medical need requiring lodging
- Additional circumstances upon EOCCO approval

We can also help with meals, which you must ask for ahead of time unless:

- You are traveling more than 60 miles or 60 minutes out of your area
- You are traveling for more than 4 hours round trip

We can also help with mileage, meals, and lodging costs for 1 attendant to ride with you for any of these reasons:

- The rider/member is a minor child and cannot travel without an attendant
- Your medical provider signs a statement showing the need for you to ride with an attendant
- You are unable to reach your appointment without help for medical reasons
- You would be unable to return home without help after your appointment
- Additional circumstances upon EOCCO approval

Please keep all receipts, as we will need them to repay you. You will need to fill out a repayments form and have the staff at the medical clinic you visit sign it.

- You have up to 45 days to give us the form and receipt
- We will review your form and receipt
- We will send you a check within 30 days once approved
- We will contact you if your request needs more information
- We may hold your payment until your repayment amount reaches \$10

The current payment rates are:

- \$0.44 cents per mile
- Up to \$27.00 a day for meals for you and up to an additional \$27.00 for your attendant's meals
  - Breakfast (travel before 6AM): \$8.00
  - Lunch (travel must span 11:30AM through 1:30PM): \$8.50
  - Dinner (travel ends after 6:30PM): \$10.50
- \$98.00 per night for client lodging
- \$98.00 per night for attendant lodging

If EOCCO over pays, we may recover those funds. This can happen when EOCCO pays you:

- For mileage, meals, and lodging:
  - When another resource also paid you or
  - Paid for the ride, meal, or lodging provider directly
- When you did not use the money for that purpose, If you did not attend the appointment, or if you shared the ride with another EOCCO member who was paid
- For public transportation passes, and you sold or transferred them to another person

## **Cancellations**

No-shows and canceled rides can result in providers refusing to take your trip:

- If you cancel your trip(s) frequently
- If you cancel at the door when the driver arrives
- If you are not home to take the ride

## Ride Modifications

The types of rides available to you may change if:

- You have a health condition that can affect the health and/or safety of the driver or other riders
- You travel with an attendant
- You may use public transportation
- You drive or have someone drive you and receive mileage reimbursement
- You use a specific transportation provider
- You threaten to harm the driver or other riders
- You act in a way that may cause providers to refuse to see you, unless the problem could be avoided with changes to your type of ride
- You have frequent no-shows or cancellations
- We will notify you the day of or the day before your ride if there are any changes
- You will get a written response if there are any changes to your service

## Bad Weather

We will stay open during bad weather if:

- We have special equipment
- It is safe to travel

Examples of bad weather are very hot or cold, flooding, tornado warnings, heavy snowfall, icy roads, etc.

Some rides may need to be canceled due to bad weather, dangerous or closed roads.

We will continue to provide rides for critical care needs such as renal dialysis and chemotherapy

## Infection / Disease

In times of health risk, infection or disease we may ask you more questions about your health. We may require riders to wear safety gear (gloves, mask, etc.) during transport. If asked, this equipment will be required.

If a member has a health issue that could affect the driver or others their ride may be changed. We will let you know if this is the case. OAR 410-141-3955

## Denial of Rides

We may deny a request for a ride based on program rules. If we do, we will call you and give you denial information over the phone.

All denials are also reviewed by a manager.

Then we will mail you a denial letter. It is also called a Notice of Adverse Benefit Determination (NOABD). We will send it within 72 hours of the denial. We will mail the letter to:

- You
- Your network provider if they requested your ride.

The letter will explain the rules and the reason for the denial.

## Complaints, Appeals and Fair Hearings

EOCCO makes sure all members have access to a grievance system (complaints, appeals and hearings). We try to make it easy for members, representatives, and providers to file a complaint or appeal and get info on how to file a hearing with the Oregon Health Authority. This is your right.

Let us know if you need help with any part of the complaint, appeal, and/or hearings process. We can also give you more information about how we handle complaints and appeals. Copies of our notice template are also available. If you need help or would like more information beyond what is in the rider guide contact us at:

EOCCO Customer Service  
888-788-9821  
TTY/Oregon Relay 711  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Pacific Time  
Unit 601 SW Second Ave.  
Portland, OR 97204  
Fax: 503-412-4003

Get information in another language or format.

You or your representative can get member materials like this ride guide in other languages, large print, Braille or any format you prefer. You will get materials within 5 days of your request. This help is free. Every format has the same information.

You can make a complaint, also called a grievance

If you are not happy with EOCCO, NEMT services, your healthcare services, or your provider, you can complain or file a grievance. You have a right to make a complaint if you are not satisfied with any part of your care. We will try to make things better. Just call EOCCO Customer Service at 888-788-9821 (TTY/Oregon Relay 711) or

Write:

EOCCO  
Attn: Appeal Unit  
Unit 601 SW Second Ave.  
Portland, OR 97204  
Fax: 503-412-4003

You may also find a complaint form here:

- English: [www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/complaint\\_form.pdf](http://www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/complaint_form.pdf)
- Spanish: [www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/Member/Resources/complaint\\_formSpanish.pdf](http://www.eocco.com/-/media/EOCCO/PDFs/Member/Resources/complaint_formSpanish.pdf)

You can file a complaint about any matter other than a notice of denial (NOABD) and at any time orally or in writing.

Examples of reasons you may file a complaint or grievance are:

- Problems making appointments or getting a ride
- Problems finding a provider near where you live
- Not feeling respected or understood by providers, provider staff, drivers or EOCCO
- Care you were not sure about, but got anyway
- Bills for services you did not agree to pay
- Disputes on EOCCO extension proposals to make approval decisions
- Driver or vehicle safety
- Quality of the service you received
- Problems getting services you want or need
- Problems about your rights

A representative or your provider may make (file) a complaint on your behalf, with your written permission to do so.

We will look into your complaint and let you know what can be done as quickly as your health requires. This will be done within 5 business days from the day we got your complaint.

If we need more time, we will send you a letter within 5 business days. We will tell you why we need more time. We will only ask for more time if it's in your best interest. All letters will be written in your preferred language. We will send you a letter within 30 days of when we got the complaint explaining how we will address it.

If you are unhappy with how we handled your complaint or grievance, you can share that with the Oregon Health Authority's Client Services Unit at 800-273-0557 or please reach out to the OHA Ombuds Program. The Ombuds are advocates for OHP members and they will do their best to help you. Please email [OHA.OmbudsOffice@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:OHA.OmbudsOffice@dhsosha.state.or.us) or leave a message at 877-642-0450.

Another resource for supports and services in your community is 211 Info. Call 2-1-1 or go to the 211 Info website for help.

EOCCO, its contractors, subcontractors, and participating providers cannot:

- Stop a member from using any part of the grievance and appeal system process or take punitive action against a provider who ask for an expedited result or supports a member's appeal.
- Encourage the withdrawal of a grievance, appeal, or hearing already filed; or
- Use the filing or result of a grievance, appeal, or hearing as a reason to react against a member or to request member disenrollment.

If you are unhappy, you may also submit the same grievance to both EOCCO and GOBHI NEMT.

You can ask us to change a decision we made.

This is called an appeal.

If we deny, stop, or reduce a medical, dental or behavioral health service, we will send you a denial letter that tells you about our decision. This denial letter is also called a Notice of Adverse Benefit Determination (NOABD). We will also let your provider know about our decision.

If you disagree with our decision, you have the right to ask us to change it. This is called an appeal because you are appealing our decision.

Follow these steps if you do not agree with our decision:

Step 1	<p><b>Ask for an appeal.</b></p> <p>You must ask within 60 days of the date of the denial letter (NOABD).</p> <p>Call us at 888-788-9821 (TTY/Oregon Relay 711) or use the Request to Review a Health Care Decision form. The form was sent with the denial letter. You can also get it at <a href="https://bit.ly/request2review">https://bit.ly/request2review</a>.</p> <p>You can also fax the form to 503-412-4003.</p> <p>EOCCO can also help you write your appeal.</p> <p>Who can ask for an appeal? You or someone with written permission to speak for you. That could be your doctor or an authorized representative.</p>
Step 2	<p><b>Wait for our reply.</b></p> <p>Once we get your request, we will look at the original decision. A new doctor will look at your medical records and the service request to see if we followed the rules correctly. You can give us any more information you think would help us review the decision.</p> <p><b>How long do you get to review my appeal?</b></p> <p>We have 16 days to review your request and reply. If we need more time, we will send you a letter. We have up to 14 more days to reply.</p> <p><b>What if I need a faster reply?</b></p> <p>You can ask for a fast appeal. This is also called an expedited appeal. Call us or fax the request form. The form was sent with the denial letter. You can also get it at <a href="https://bit.ly/request2review">https://bit.ly/request2review</a>. Ask for a fast appeal if waiting for the regular appeal could put your life, health or ability to function in danger. We will call you and send you a letter, within 1 business day, to let you know we have received your request for a fast appeal.</p>

	<p><b>How long does a fast appeal take?</b></p> <p>If you get a fast appeal, we will make our decision as quickly as your health requires, no more than 72 hours from when the fast appeal request was received. We will do our best to reach you and your provider by phone to let you know our decision. You will also get a letter.</p> <p>At your request or if we need more time, we may extend the timeframe for up to 14 days.</p> <p>If a fast appeal is denied or more time is needed, we will call you and you will receive written notice within 2 days. A denied fast appeal request will become a standard appeal and needs to be resolved in 16 days or possibly be extended 14 more days.</p>
Step 3	<p><b>Read our decision.</b></p> <p>We will send you a letter with our appeal decision. This appeal decision letter is also called a Notice of Appeal Resolution (NOAR). If you agree with the decision, you do not have to do anything.</p> <p><b>Still don't agree? Ask for a hearing.</b></p> <p>If we took too long or our appeal decision is harmful to you, it is your right to ask the state to review the appeal decision. This is called asking for a hearing. It is your right to ask for a hearing. You must ask for a hearing within 120 days of the date of the appeal decision letter (NOAR).</p> <p><b>What if I need a faster hearing?</b></p> <p>You can ask for a fast hearing. This is also called an expedited hearing.</p> <p>To ask for a normal hearing or a faster hearing, call the state at 800-273-0557 (TTY/Oregon Relay 711) or use the request form that was sent with the letter. Get the form at <a href="https://bit.ly/request2review">https://bit.ly/request2review</a>. You can send the form to:</p>



OHA Medical Hearings  
500 Summer St NE E49  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-945-6035

The state will decide if you can have a fast hearing 2 working days after getting your request.

**Who can ask for a hearing?**

You or someone with permission to speak for you. That could be your doctor or an authorized representative. They don't need permission in writing.

**What happens at a hearing?**

At the hearing, you can tell the Oregon Administrative Law judge why you do not agree with our decision about your appeal. The judge will make the final decision.

Questions and answers about appeals and hearings:

**What if I don't get a denial letter? Can I still ask for an appeal?**

You have to get a denial letter before you can ask for an appeal.

If your provider says that you cannot have a service or that you will have to pay for a service, you can ask us for a denial letter (NOABD). Once you have the denial letter, you can ask for an appeal.

**What if EOCCO doesn't meet the appeal timeline?**

If we take longer than 30 days to reply, you can ask the state for a review. This is called a hearing. To ask for a hearing, call the state at 800-273-0557 (TTY/Oregon Relay 711) or use the request form that was sent with the denial letter (NOABD). Get the form at <https://bit.ly/request2review>.

### **Can someone else represent me or help me in a hearing?**

You have the right to have another person of your choosing represent you in the hearing. This could be anyone, like a friend, family member, lawyer, or your provider. You also have the right to represent yourself if you choose. If you hire a lawyer, you must pay their fees.

For advice and possible no-cost representation, call the Public Benefits Hotline at 800-520-5292; TTY/Oregon Relay 711. The hotline is a partnership between Legal Aid of Oregon and the Oregon Law Center. Information about free legal help can also be found at [OregonLawHelp.com](http://OregonLawHelp.com)

### **Can I still get the benefit or service while I'm waiting for an appeal or hearing decision?**

If you have been getting the benefit or service that was reduced or denied and we stopped providing it, you can ask us to continue it. This is your right to ask.

You need to:

- Ask for this within 10 days of the date of the denial letter (NOABD) or by the date this decision is effective, whichever is later.
- Use the Request to Review a Health Care Decision form. The form was sent with the letter. You can also get it at <https://bit.ly/request2review>.
- Answer "yes" to the question about continuing services on box 8 on page 4 on the Request to Review a Health Care Decision form.

Do I have to pay for the continued service?

If you choose to still get the denied benefit or service, you may have to pay for it. If we change our decision during the appeal, or if the judge agrees with you at the hearing, you will not have to pay.

If we change our decision and you were not receiving the service or benefit, we will approve or provide the service or benefit as quickly as your

health requires. We will take no more than 72 hours from the day we get notice that our decision was reversed.

**What if I also have Medicare? Do I have more appeal rights?**

If you have both EOCCO and Medicare, you may have more appeal rights than those listed above. Call Customer Service at 888-788-9821 (TTY/Oregon Relay 711) for more information. You can also call Medicare at 800-633-4227 to find out more on your appeal rights.

**Can a provider appeal a decision made by EOCCO?**

Your provider can appeal a decision by us. They can appeal when we deny to cover a service. Providers can call EOCCO Customer Service to request the appeal at:

888-788-9821 (TTY/Oregon Relay users, please call 711)

Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PT

Providers also can help you submit appeals to EOCCO. If you would like help from your provider, please call their office.

**Need help with our Grievance and Appeal System?**

Contact EOCCO Customer Service at 888-788-9821 or TTY/Oregon Relay 711 for more info about our Grievance and Appeal System and related:

- Policies and Procedures
- Notice Letters
- Forms

## Frequently Asked Questions



### When do I call for a ride?

- It is best to book a ride ahead of time.
- Call us 2 or more working days before your appointment.
- You can schedule a ride up to 90 days in advance.
- Repeat appointments (dialysis, therapy) can be set up 6 months at a time

### What if I need a same day ride?

- For short notice same day rides, call right away.
- For immediate ride need, call right away
- We will make every effort to get you a ride

### How do I schedule a ride?

- Call the Free Ride Program 877-875-4657

### How do I cancel a ride request?

- Call the Free Ride Program and speak with a Call Taker.
- The earlier you tell the program of a canceled ride, the better

### What if I need ambulance transportation?

- If you have an **emergency, call 9-1-1**. We do not offer emergent rides.
- Ambulance rides can be arranged.
- Secure transport can also be arranged

### Things to know for my trip

- Drivers will make their presence known once they arrive, and will wait at least 15 minutes
- There is a 30-minute scheduled window to pick you up
- If your driver arrives after your scheduled pickup time, the driver is considered late
- You do not need to board the vehicle before your pick up time
- Your pick up time allows for enough travel time to get you there on time to check-in and prepare for your appointment
- You do not have to arrive at your appointment more than 1 hour before your appointment time
- You will not have to wait more than 15 minutes for pickup
- You will be dropped off at the time you need, and at least 15 minutes before your appointment time

- You may be dropped off more than 15 minutes before a building opens if you or your guardian, representative, or parent requests it
- No pick up more than 15 minutes after a building closes unless the appointment is not going to end within 15 minutes of closing, or you or your guardian, or parent, or representative make a request
- All appointments have pre-arranged times for pick up
- If an appointment goes long or did not have an end pick up you can call and be picked up within the hour
- The driver will wait at least 15 minutes past the pick-up time. The driver must call dispatch prior to leaving
- Drivers will drop you off 15 minutes or more before your appointment time to avoid a late drop off

### **Backup Plans**

We will arrange for another driver, another company, or public transportation vehicles if:

- The driver is more than 15 minutes late
- The type of ride you need is not available

## **NEMT Driver and Vehicle Standards**

All drivers will have a valid Driver License. They will also complete the pre-hire process, screenings, and background checks. They will receive safety trainings before they can drive.

You can expect the vehicle:

- To be clean and free of debris
- To be smoke, aerosolizer, and vaporizer free
- To be serviced and inspected annually
- To have a first aid kit
- To have a fire extinguisher
- To have seatbelts for all riders
- To have roadside reflective or warning devices
- To have a flashlight
- To have tire traction devices when appropriate
- To have disposable gloves
- To have a hands-free mobile phone or tablet

- To have all items needed to transport members with wheelchairs or stretchers
- To meet all local licensing and permit requirements
- To be in good working condition, and to have:
  - Side and rear view mirrors
  - A horn
  - Heating and air conditioning
  - Working turn signals, headlights, tail lights, and windshield wipers