

## Needham Community Council Transportation of Last Resort Program

The Needham Community Council Transportation of Last Resort Program is designed to increase the availability of transportation for Needham residents to medical appointments when no other appropriate transportation opportunities are available and based on the qualifications described below:

1. Rider must be 18 years or older or, if younger, must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Maximum number of riders per car is 3.
2. No intermediate stops may be made with trips curb to curb only. Independent mobility is required. (Transportation is not handicapped accessible.)
3. Maximum distance is approximately a 5 mile radius outside Needham [i.e. includes Newton-Wellesley Hospital; Elliot, Riverside & Newton Highlands T Stations; JCC, etc.] We are not able to provide transportation into Boston or Brookline.
4. Rides must be requested at least 24 hours in advance by calling 781-444-2415 and will be approved and scheduled by the Council's Transportation Coordinator. No requests will be processed on weekends or holidays when the Council office is closed. Office hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Below are some scenarios that may qualify for the program. If there is any doubt, please contact the Council at the number above.

1. Medical destinations: rides to medical appointments rides to AA meetings, physical therapy sessions, ambulatory discharge from BID-Needham, pre-op screenings, blood tests, etc.
2. Emergency needs: picking up prescriptions, picking up of food, meetings with Town officials.
3. Visiting a spouse or direct family member at BID-Needham Hospital or Needham nursing home.
4. Provide parents with rides to Needham Public School appointments and/or teacher conferences when alternative transportation is not available.
5. Special requests as approved by the Council.

This program is not income based. Each rider may request a **maximum of 10 rides per month [5 round trips]** unless pre-approved by the Council Executive Director. Council staff will initiate the ride and track the ride from our offices.

All rides are provided by Lyft (fee-based service) and will be paid for with grant funding as well as Council funds. Tipping is not necessary. Riders will receive a monthly letter outlining the cost of their individual fee-based rides. Individual, tax-deductible donations are always greatly appreciated, but not required, to support the program.

Please feel free to contact the Council office at 781-444-2415 for more information or with any questions.

We hope you will share the news of this program with your friends, family, and neighbors. As always, the Council's mission is to provide support to Needham residents. Visit our website at [www.needhamcouncil.org](http://www.needhamcouncil.org)

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