



# Explore your options: Transit

This resource guide is designed to guide you through exploring, promoting and implementing a transit program at your worksite.

## Transit Subsidies and Allowances

These are a great incentive for staff who want to try taking transit to work. Find out if your local transit agency offers a discount program for employers. Consider subsidizing the cost of a monthly pass for staff. Here are some steps to follow to establish a discount transit pass program:

- Step 1:** Seek senior management approval
- Step 2:** Check with your local transit agency to see if any discount programs currently exist
- Step 3:** Determine the amount of subsidy your workplace will provide and the budget available
- Step 4:** Speak to your Human Resources department about implementation
- Step 5:** Conduct a brief survey to determine staff interest
- Step 6:** Promote the new program via emails, intranet, all-staff meetings and include information in new-hire packages

## PRESTO

PRESTO is an electronic fare payment system available across all transit agencies in the GTHA. It allows transit users to load cash value or monthly/weekly passes and set up an automatic, pre-authorized uploads. Visit [www.PrestoCard.ca](http://www.PrestoCard.ca) for more information on connecting transit systems in the GTHA.

**Tip:** Consider giving a free PRESTO card with a small amount of cash value loaded on it to staff members interested in trying out their transit options.

## Promote First/Last Mile Connections

Many local transit authorities offer a discounted fare for customers connecting to GO Transit. Find out more on first/last mile fares at:

[www.GoTransit.com/public/en/travelling/connecting.aspx](http://www.GoTransit.com/public/en/travelling/connecting.aspx)

Want to take it a step further? Offer a corporate shuttle from the nearby transit hubs to connect staff to your worksite.

## Smart Commute Tool

Staff can use our online tool to explore their commuting options using public transit based on their A to B. The tool provides transit routing, timing and information on transfers. Try it at [www.Explore.SmartCommute.ca](http://www.Explore.SmartCommute.ca)

## Access to Transit Information

Information is one of the biggest barriers preventing people from trying transit. To assist, provide local transit route information, such as maps and schedules on site or on the intranet to keep staff informed. For more information, contact your local transit agency.

## Host a Workplace Commuter Challenge

Encourage staff to register or log in to [www.Explore.SmartCommute.ca](http://www.Explore.SmartCommute.ca). Contact your local Smart Commute office to find out how to get your workplace a network on our tool. Encourage staff to track their trips for a specific time period. Corporate challenges are a great way to boost company morale.

**Tip:** Try providing incentives to encourage participation or host an end of challenge breakfast or lunch for participants!

## Emergency Ride Home Program

Provide staff who commute sustainably to work with a safety net. If staff have an unforeseen emergency on any day they use a sustainable method to commute to work, consider reimbursing the cost of a cab ride home.

### DID YOU KNOW?

*A single bus can remove 57 single occupancy vehicles from the road.  
Hop on one today!*



Explore your options

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL SMART COMMUTE OFFICE TO LEARN MORE.

[WWW.SMARTCOMMUTE.CA/FIND-YOUR-LOCAL-OFFICE/](http://WWW.SMARTCOMMUTE.CA/FIND-YOUR-LOCAL-OFFICE/)