



RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

HOW TO BECOME A FIXED-ROUTE BUS DRIVER

The road to driving a fixed-route bus starts in RIPTA's paratransit division. To become eligible to be a Fixed-Bus Driver you must start as Paratransit Driver. This is the feeder system into RIPTA's fixed-route bus service.

What is Paratransit?

The RIPTA Paratransit Division provides on-demand service for eligible seniors and people with disabilities, using 16-passenger vans with wheelchair lifts. This program is known publicly as the Rlde Program.



WHAT STEPS DO YOU NEED TO TAKE?

Step 1: The Application

- Complete an [on-line employment application](#) to be a Rlde paratransit driver.
Please Note: All applications are reviewed for suitability to the position requirements.
- Must have required active CDL Driver's License with Passenger, Air Brake and General Knowledge endorsements;
OR must be able to qualify for one.

Step 2: The Interview

- Must participate in the oral interview and written assessment process.

Step 3: Driving Record & Background Check

- Must have clear driving record history for 3 or more years.
Please Note: Certain violations may permanently disqualify an applicant from consideration; leaving the scene of an accident, careless/reckless driving, DUI/OUI, voluntary/involuntary vehicular manslaughter, habitual offender.
- Must have clear state and nationwide criminal background history.

Step 4: Conditional Offer of Employment

- If selected, applicant will receive a conditional offer of employment as a Rlde paratransit driver.
- If applicant accepts conditional offer of employment, the applicant must fully meet the following requirements:
 - Provide RIPTA with a copy of their required CDL with endorsements OR required CDL permit with permitted endorsements (to participate in the CDL Training Program)
 - Pre-Employment Drug & Alcohol Testing and DOT Physical
 - Satisfactory Reference Responses
 - Employee must serve and satisfactorily complete 180-day probationary period.

Step 5: Transfer from Paratransit Driver (Rlde) to Fixed-Route Bus Driver

- Active RIPTA employee is eligible to submit their name for consideration for a Fixed-Route Bus Driver position.
- RIPTA will post internally for a period of 1-week for the position of Fixed-Route Bus Driver.
- When the posting closes, employee's work history with RIPTA will be reviewed for suitability for the position.
- Active list will be established. Employees will transfer into Fixed-Route Bus Driver position as needed.
Please Note: Fixed-Route Bus Driver openings are filled in accordance with Collective Bargaining Agreement guidelines.