

Transportation Tips

for getting around Carbondale, Illinois

Jax Mass Transit Bus Service Ridejax.com 618-549-0304



Jax provides transit to locations throughout Carbondale and Jackson County, including Elkhville, DeSoto, Vergennes, Makanda, Grand Tower, Gorham, Campbell Hill, Ava, and Murphysboro. Jax also provides ADA paratransit for individuals whose disability prevents them from using fixed-route transportation services.

Half-off fares are available for children, seniors (65 years of age and older), active military service members, veterans of armed services, and people with disabilities. The JAX Go app allows riders to track buses and view locations, routes, and estimated arrival time. See route maps and read about fares, discounted fare passes and more at ridejax.com

Saturdays from June through September, JAX's Southern Outdoor Access Route (SOAR) offers free rides for all to several southern Illinois sites: Giant City State Park, Cedar Lake Beach, Touch of Nature and the Makanda Boardwalk. Details at ridejax.com/soar/

Clients of Carbondale Township ride Jax free; contact the Township at (618) 457-3366.

Eligible SIU Students ride Jax free with student ID. Contact Student Affairs:(618) 453-2461

Illinois Benefit Access Program

Illinois seniors (age 65+) and persons with disabilities may qualify for the Benefit Access Program which offers two benefits:

- A LICENSE PLATE FEE DISCOUNT
- FREE RIDES ON FIXED-ROUTE TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Eligibility is determined by income, residency, age and/or disability with an online application. Apply at tinyurl.com/IL-Benefit



Ride free on Jax Mass Transit in Carbondale after submitting proof of your acceptance into the Illinois Benefit Access Program.

VEO scooters and ebikes



Download the VeoRide app to see the service area and location of scooters. Riders will be charged through the app: \$1 to unlock the scooter, \$0.39 per ride minute. Read more at tinyurl.com/aboutVEOs If you are eligible or participate in any local, state, or federal assistance program, you may qualify

for discounted rates. Read about this discount at tinyurl.com/VEO-access Call for assistance: (855) 836-2256

Illinois Medicaid covers non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) to and from doctor appointments for eligible individuals. If you are a Medicaid recipient needing non-emergency transportation and are enrolled in a fee-for-service plan (not an MCO), you can contact Transdev at 877-725-0569 or visit www.netstap.com to learn more about the prior authorization process and find transportation providers. 🚗 If you are enrolled in a Medicaid Managed Care Organization (MCO), you should contact the phone number on your membership card for transportation assistance, as each MCO has its own procedures.

Rides Mass Transit District connects Carbondale, Carterville, JALC, Veterans Airport and Aisin through its Marion-Carbondale intercity route. The cost depends on the service and can be viewed on the Fares and Passes page. See the schedule: tinyurl.com/RidesMTD Call 844 220-1243



Salvation Army

The Salvation Army assists low income families in need. They sometimes will provide a gas card or vouchers to individuals who need to get to doctor's appointments, to a job interview, or are attending job training. Funding for these services is limited, and only a few people who apply receive assistance.



Mercy Medical Angels

This is a financial need-based program that provides travel assistance to medical appointments over 50 miles away in the form of gas cards, bus, and train tickets. Read more about this and apply: mercymedical.org



If you need a ride to and from the hospital for surgery, ask a family member or friend to help you. If you have no one to help, your medical provider might write an order for you to recover in a nursing facility. Jax and Rides Mass Transit will not take anyone home who has had anesthesia, even with a spouse present. Seniors and persons with disabilities on Medicaid may request help from DRS (877) 581-3690, or Shawnee Alliance for Seniors 618 985-8322.

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