## Customized Transportation Plan

This customized transportation plan is meant to generate conversation between you and your Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) counselor regarding your transportation situation. You can also use it on your own to think through and brainstorm about your transportation situation. The following questions will guide you through considering various transportation routes, your transportation history, and your transportation options. The end goal of these questions is to help you craft a workable transportation plan that is customized to your own unique situation.

## Background Information

Do you need any special accommodations or equipment to get to and from work?

## Customized Transportation Information

## Route:

How familiar are you with the route to and from work?
Distance to work in miles:
Distance to work in minutes and the mode of transportation (driving, walking, etc.):
What kind of road do you live on (e.g., highway, major road, minor road, dirt road)?
How far is your nearest neighbor (in minutes, and specify mode)?
How far is the nearest neighbor that you have ever shared a ride with (in minutes, and specify mode)?

## History:

If you have worked since your vision loss, how did you get to work?
What options have you already explored to get to/from work?
Did any of these options work?
How do you get to the grocery store?

## Financial:

Have you paid for transportation in the past?
If so, what kind of transportation was it?
How much did you pay (note per mile or per trip)?
How much do you think you would have to spend to get to and from work each day?
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## Physical Limitations:

What are your physical limitations regarding getting to and from work?
Could you walk outside to meet a car or van?
Could you walk a few blocks or to your nearest street corner or to a pickup point to wait for a ride?

How far could you walk from a drop off point to your workplace (specify in feet or minutes)?

## Transportation Options

## Private Vehicle:

Do you own a vehicle that another person could drive?
If yes, is the car dependable?
If yes, is the car insured?
Is there a car in your household that another person could drive?
If yes, is the car dependable?
If yes, is the car insured?
Is there someone in your household who might be able to drive you?
If yes, who?
What needs to be done to make arrangements for this person to drive you?

## Public Transportation:

Is there public transportation near your home?
Is there public transportation near your workplace?

## Carpooling/Drivers:

Are there others living near you going to the same general location that you could ride with?
Are there others near your workplace that may have drivers you could ride with?
Have you ever hired a driver?
What resources do you have to assist you in finding a ride to and from work (e.g., friends, family, church or civic groups)?

## Ride-hailing Services:

Do taxi or other ride-hailing services like Uber or Lyft operate in the area between your home and work?
Do you have access to a phone which could receive text messages from service providers regarding arrival and other notifications while traveling?
Do you have access to a smart phone on which a service provider's app could be downloaded?

If yes, Are you comfortable independently using your smart phone and accessing the app to schedule and monitor rides?

Do you currently have a payment method (e.g. credit card) which could be included with your account information and billed for rides?

## Planning

If you are already working, how do you get to and from work?
Is this a temporary mode of transportation?
If yes, when will it end?
What is your ideal way of getting to and from work?
Given costs, limitations, etc., what do you think is the most feasible way for you to get to and from work?
What are some back-up transportation options you could use in case of emergency?

## Additional Resources:

AAA: Gas Price Calculator - calculate the cost of fuel for your travels
AAA: Your Driving Costs - how much are you really paying to drive?
AARP: The Getting Around Guide - guide to walking, bicycling, and public transportation
BiOptic Driving Network - technical and experiential information about driving with a bioptic device
Easter Seals Project Action - promoting universal access to transportation for people with disabilities
ADA Transit Regulations - guidelines for paratransit and public transportation
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$\underline{\text { VisionAware: Finding and Hiring a Driver - tips for finding and hiring a personal driver }}$

