A safe volunteer driver, who consistently abides by all traffic laws and practices defensive driving techniques, is the most important ingredient in any vanpool program. Spokane Transit has established specific guidelines to qualify those who volunteer to drive a public vanpool vehicle and to assure safe, reliable transportation to the public. Because the responsibilities of a volunteer driver include defensive driving and getting a group of people to and from work on time, a number of important items will be reviewed:

Selection of volunteer drivers is primarily dependent upon the following:

License and Experience:

- A potential driver must possess a current Washington or Idaho State Driver’s License and have driven for at least five years. Out of state licenses are accepted for military personnel.
- Copy of applicant’s driver’s license
- Your completed Volunteer Rideshare Driver Application
- Your current motor vehicle report

Suspension or revocation of license: Report of a suspension/revocation within the past five years will cause a potential volunteer driver's application to be rejected. Report of a suspension/revocation within the last seven years for reckless driving, hit and run, eluding police vehicle, leaving the scene of an accident, driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, driving while impaired, or a felony will result in application rejection.

Violations: Any moving violations received by a potential volunteer driver will be reviewed and may result in application rejection. A Failure to Appear on a driving record may result in application rejection.

Accidents: Accidents, in which a volunteer driver has been involved, will be reviewed and may result in application rejection.

Insurance history: Cancellation or non-renewal of insurance coverage within the past five years will be reviewed. If the action is related to the applicant's driving behavior, the application may be rejected. Filing of a Certificate of Financial Responsibility by a potential volunteer driver due to his/her personal driving record may also result in application rejection.

Ability to perform driving functions: A volunteer driver must be able to perform essential driving functions as listed on the Volunteer Rideshare Driver Essential Function List. The potential driver must be in good health. Any condition that may impair the driver’s ability to operate the van will result in application rejection.

Off-Street Parking: Approved volunteer drivers must provide off-street parking at home for the van or obtain written approval from a Rideshare Staff for other off-street parking arrangements.

Final approval for a volunteer to drive a vehicle is dependent upon successful completion of the application process, and successful completion of Spokane Transit’s Defensive Driving and Orientation class. On-road observation of any applicant or currently approved volunteer driver may occur at any time and for any reason. Failure to meet any Agency criteria may result in application rejection, driver suspension or removal of driving privileges. Spokane Transit reserves the right to refuse or revoke driving privileges from any volunteer driver at any time for any reason.

Eff. January 2024