

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS & DRIVER SAFETY

Do you have an ongoing need for transportation in Johnson County?

Consider creating a Transportation Checklist to meet your needs when you cannot drive.

Write down the **Transportation Option | Contact Information | Cost | Where and When You Want to Go.**

Your transportation options may include family, friends, neighbors, trusted acquaintances, or the options listed below.

Your destinations may include the doctor's office, grocery store, pharmacy, social activity, church, workplace, hair salon, barber, etc...

Think of where you need to go or would like to go and plan ahead, and budget for the cost. Perhaps you can get together with friends who don't drive and make plans together, or hire your own driver.

The following information covers transportation options in Johnson County, KS., listed here for your convenience.

Costs & details may change over time, so please call each provider for the latest information.

- **Ride-KC** Kansas City Regional Transit offers **Ride KC Freedom taxi service**, bus service and expanded routes in Johnson County so residents can better reach jobs, hospitals, higher education plus many stores and restaurants.

A Micro Transit Program in Overland Park offers very affordable rides in a large quadrant of Overland Park. Youth, seniors, & persons with disabilities may qualify for reduced fare rides. Call regarding options available, and plan your trip at <http://ridekc.org/> or 816-221-0660.

In Johnson County you may complete your application at Nolte Transit Center, 1701 W. 56 Hwy, Olathe, KS 66061 or apply at KC Area Transportation Authority, KCATA, 1200 E. 18th St, KCMO. Passes and affordable transportation are available. Call for application and costs, see information online, or e-mail RideKCONdemand@kcata.org

- **Catch-A-Ride** is a volunteer transportation service that assists Johnson County residents with transportation to medical appointments, grocery store/food pantry and other social service agencies (Kansas DCFS, social security office, etc.). CaR operates Monday-Friday from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm and is closed on county holidays. CaR utilizes volunteers who drive their private vehicles. All ride requests must be made within at least 5 business days prior to the scheduled appointment. CaR is donation based, suggested donation is \$5.00/each way, donation letters are sent to riders on a monthly basis. All CaR riders must complete a phone screen and application prior to utilizing CaR Services. To request an application, please contact 913-715-8900. <http://www.jocogov.org/dept/human-services/accessibility/catch-ride>

- **Cancer Action, Inc.** - 10520 Barkley, Ste. 100, Overland Park, KS 66212 **913-642-8885**
Transportation for medical treatment of persons diagnosed with cancer. <http://www.canceractionkc.org/>
- **JET Express** membership provides safe, door-to-door transportation and uses volunteer drivers to provide one-way and round-trip rides. Must be 65 years of age and older, without readily available transportation, and non-wheelchair bound (or able to get into the car and have wheelchair put into the trunk). \$5 each way, must be scheduled 5 business days in advance. 30 mile round trip limit per ride. Up to two round trip rides per week. Rides are available Sunday-Thursday, 8:00am-9:00pm; and Friday-Saturday, 8:00am-10:00 pm for medical appointments, going to the hairdresser, going to the grocery store, etc... **913-981-8877** <http://www.jfskc.org/services/older-adult-services/jet-express-2/>
- **JET Express Plus** provides rides in a comfortable minivan by a friendly Jewish Family Services staff member. Allows you to schedule same-day medical appointments. Rides can be scheduled Monday – Friday from 8:00am-9:00pm, and Saturdays and Sundays dependent on driver availability. JET XP rides are \$15 each way **913-981-8877**
- **Olathe Taxi Coupon Program -200 W. Santa Fe Street 913-971-6260.**
Reduced rate transportation in Olathe for Olathe residents. Taxi Coupons are available to elderly and/or disabled Olathe citizens needing affordable transportation for personal shopping trips, medical appointments, and work. Taxi companies provide rides at a reduced cost for program participants. The coupons “pay for” a one-way door-to-door trip in a taxi or wheelchair lift equipped van. Coupons may be used for rides anywhere within the city limits of Olathe. Program participants may purchase two coupon books (20 one-way trips) per month for personal trips. Each coupon is \$3.50, sold in books of ten for \$35. “Special” Taxi Coupons are also available which entitle the rider to a five minute stop at any business or location within Olathe, if the stop is less than five minutes. Special Coupons are \$1, sold in books of five for \$5.
<http://www.olatheks.org/HT/TransportationPrograms/TaxiCouponProgram>
- **Shawnee City Ride Program** – The city of Shawnee partners with 10/10 Taxi to provide transportation to Senior Citizens (age 65 years and older) and the disabled. Call 10/10 Taxi at (913) 647-0010 at least 45 minutes in advance of the time you need your ride. If you need a wheelchair accessible vehicle, just let them know. Under the CityRide Program, 10/10 Taxi will provide rides seven days a week, 24 hours a day, including holidays. The Shawnee City Ride provides for rides to private residences, to businesses, to physician offices, and any other location inside the Shawnee City limits or to the Shawnee Mission Hospital complex or the Merriam Nutrition Center as well as the Johnson County Transit Center in Mission at no additional charge. If you want to go outside of those areas, you are responsible for paying any additional charges. To enroll, and purchase up to 10 rides for \$2/ride, provide proof of eligibility (65 or older or disabled) at Shawnee City Hall, 11110 Johnson Drive in the City Clerk’s Office or at the Civic Centre at 13817 Johnson Drive prior to scheduling a ride with 10/10 Taxi. Up to 3 people can share a ride at no additional cost. **Questions? Call Shawnee City Hall (913) 742-6014.**
Information online at <http://www.cityofshawnee.org/> See Residents | Transportation

- **Medicaid Transportation:** (WC) If you are elderly or disabled and have less than \$2000 in savings and a very limited monthly income, Medicaid might help with transportation services for medical purposes. For more information regarding your MCO or Kansas Medicaid (KanCare) contact 1-866-305-5147 or <http://www.kancare.ks.gov/>

If on Medicaid, contact Transportation Services for your assigned Managed Care Organization (MCO):

Aetna KanCare Member 1-855-221-5656 for more information.

<https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/kansas/members/resources/transportation>

Sunflower Health Plan KanCare Member 1-877-644-4623 www.sunflowerstatehealth.com

United Healthcare KanCare Member 1-877-796-5847 www.uhc.com

Additional Private-Pay Transportation in Johnson County and Kansas City such as 10/10 Taxi, Uber and Lyft are available on demand. For transportation with assistance or escort, see Home Health agencies that offer transportation. See transportation listings pages 74-76 in the **Explore Your Options directory online**.

DRIVER SAFETY AND EVALUATION

Be sure to check out the Safety and Training information listed on page 74 of the Explore Your Options directory.

AARP Driver Information Line 1-888-227-7669 <http://www.aarpdriversafety.org>

(List of classes, online course option, contacts.)

Americans for Older Driver Safety <http://afods.org/>

Avenues Driving Rehabilitation Program 913-272-1710 <http://www.avenuesdrivingrehab.com/>

Johnson County Community College

Defensive Driving & Driver Education Classes Overland Park 913-469-2323 www.jccc.edu/ce

Kansas Department of Insurance Accident Prevention Courses

800-432-2484, 785-296-3071 www.ksinsurance.org

Kansas Department of Revenue Driver Control

785-296-3671, 785-296-3613 TTY www.ksrevenue.org/dmvdcontact.htm

(Unsafe driver: license revocation requests Tu-Th)

KU HealthPartners Driving & Mobility Services 913-945-9673 <http://larrs.kumc.edu>

(Assessment and rehabilitation of driving skills for older adults and individuals with medical conditions.)

The Rehabilitation Institute of Kansas City 816-751-7782 or 816-751-7700 <http://www.rehabkc.org>

Older Drivers Fact Sheet

Giving up driving is very difficult for most people. Driving gives a person freedom and control, a sense of self esteem and independence. Many elderly drivers assess their own skills and begin changing their driving habits – not driving after dark, or at busy times of the day. Overall, elderly drivers are responsible and experienced. However, a few high profile accidents have brought this issue to national attention.

Below are some suggestions and options for older drivers and their families.

Simple Tips to Safer Driving:

- Have regular check-ups including eye and hearing exams
- Take part in an exercise program so that you maintain your health and can react quickly
- Ask your doctor if any of your medications can affect your driving
- Reduce noise in your car; turn off the radio
- Ask passengers to not disturb you in high traffic or confusing situations
- Plan rest stops in any long-distance driving and allow plenty of time
- Do not use a cell phone while driving
- Do not travel with your pets unless they are in a cage
- Avoid high traffic times and areas; drive only during the daylight hours
- Do not drive in bad weather; wear your seat belt properly
- Make sure your car seat and mirrors are adjusted for your height
- Keep your car well-maintained and equipped with emergency equipment such as a flashlight and blanket
- Take a refresher driving course to improve your skills and possibly get a discount on your insurance

Helping Seniors Drive Safer and Longer <https://seniordriving.aaa.com/> includes tips and guides on staying safe on the road, concentrating on specific issues with which many seniors have difficulty.

What Should I Say?

If you have a loved one that you are concerned about, the first thing to do is to approach them directly.

Be prepared with specific incidents and suggestions. Your approach can make all the

difference in how well they hear you and their willingness to change their driving habits. “Dad, you’re too old to drive anymore” won’t go near as far as “Dad, I’m concerned about your driving and the fender-bender you had yesterday. Can we discuss some ways to help you drive a little longer and still be safe on the road?”

Some signs that may indicate a need for discussion include: forgetting how to get to familiar places, failure to follow traffic signs, poor judgment of distance, making turns that are too wide or too tight, making poor decisions in traffic such as failing to yield or too slow to react to emergencies, nervousness or fatigue after driving. Another sign is a series of fender-bender accidents.

Help your loved one find alternative solutions to driving. Offer to take them to the big wedding on Saturday or the funeral on Monday. Would the grandchild like more practice driving by taking grandma to get her hair done? Give gift certificates or cash for birthdays that can be used for transportation other than driving. Your assistance and guidance in making this transition needs to be ongoing.

Seniors and Driving – Helping a Loved One Stay Safe

(Excerpts from pamphlets available from www.journeyworks.com) 1-800-775-1998

- + Age alone does not tell you who should or should not drive. Some age-related conditions do affect driving.
- + With some age-related conditions, it helps to limit night driving, avoid freeways, and limit the distance you drive.
- + Medical and eye exams can help a person detect issues with vision, hearing, memory, health conditions, or medications that might effect reaction time and other driving skills.
- + Signs that indicate unsafe driving are close calls, accidents, people honking, difficulty staying in the lane, difficulty judging distances, driving too slowly, confusion about directions in familiar places, hitting the gas pedal instead of the brake, getting frequent tickets or warnings.
- + Let drivers know if you are concerned. Be respectful, but say “I am concerned about your safety and the safety of others.”
- + As a last resort, family member or caregivers of resistant drivers with significant memory loss may need to disable the car or “lose” the keys.
- + Assessing driving ability before an accident can help make the roads safer for everyone.
- + To find alternative transportation ask family or friends, use public transportation, consider living arrangements where you can walk to stores, or call about senior services in your area.