Assistive Device Guidelines Information Sheet

Barrie Transit

Assistive Devices on Barrie Transit:

Barrie Transit has a completely accessible low floor bus fleet. Within this fleet, there are several different styles of buses. Each bus style may have varying methods of securement and placement of your assistive device. These guidelines apply to all buses used in conventional fixed-route transit service.

Wheelchairs and Scooters

While Barrie Transit attempts to transport all our passengers, some assistive devices will not fit on the bus ramp, fit safely or be properly secured in the designated areas inside the bus.

Maximum Wheelchair and Scooter Size that can be Accommodated

Barrie Transit can accommodate scooters and wheelchairs that do not exceed 30 inches in width, 42 inches in length, and the combined weight of a passenger and device must not exceed 600 lbs. Please consider the turn radius in the wheelchair/scooter designated area is 30 inches.

A passenger must be able to maneuver their assistive device independently. If assistance is required, passengers may travel with a free attendant or support person. A Barrie Transit Attendant application must be submitted.

Assistive Devices Must

- Have properly inflated tires
- Have working brakes and apply brakes while the bus is in motion
- Have proper securement/seatbelts

Assistive devices such as a powered wheelchairs or vacant scooters must be turned off while the bus is in motion.

If the assistive device does not meet these criteria, the passenger may not be accommodated.

Passengers about to purchase an assistive device, who require assistance before a ride, or who are concerned that their wheelchair/scooter may not fit on our vehicles may contact Service Barrie at 705-726-4242 or Servicebarrie@barrie.ca and request the Transit Department for assistance.

Assistive Device Securement

Barrie Transit highly recommends the securement of wheelchairs/scooters to avoid potential injury.

Passengers using an assistive device must use all securements or none of them. Lap and shoulder belts must be used as per manufacturer's specification.

Scooters:

Passengers travelling on a scooter are encouraged to transfer to a seat. Remaining on the scooter is not safe in the event of an emergency stop or turn.

Other Assistive Devices

Barrie Transit buses also accommodate a variety of other assistive devices, including the following:

- Walkers
- Rolling walkers ("Rollators")
- Transport chairs
- Canes
- Crutches
- Leg braces
- Service animals

Individuals using transport chairs and walkers may not sit on their assistive device while travelling on the buses.

Boarding and exiting the Bus with an Assistive Device:

When travelling on bus, the operator can:

- Kneel the bus or lower the ramp upon request when passengers get on and off the bus
- Help in an emergency
- Give extra time to reach a seat and when getting on and off the bus

When boarding with an assistive device, a passenger should:

- Board the bus safely from the front doors
- Request the bus be kneeled and/or ramp be lowered
- Proceed to the Priority or Courtesy Seating area, apply the brakes of the assistive device, request the operator secure the assistive device if required

When exiting with an assistive device:

- Request the operator remove the securement if required
- Exit the bus safely form the front doors
- Request the bus be kneeled and/ramp belowered

Operators will not intervene to enforce the Priority or Courtesy Seating requirement.

When travelling on Barrie Transit using a wheelchair or scooter, or other assistive device please:

- Remove flags and store parcels away from the securement areas of the assistive device
- Do not overload the assistive device with parcels
- If travelling with an attendant, please present the Barrie Transit Attendant card to the operator upon boarding
- Use the on-board next stop display & announcement systems to identify the stop needed
- Remain seated or in the designated areas until the bus has stopped
- Pull the yellow cord or press the red button to request a bus stop, give enough notice to allow the operator to pull over at the requested stop