

Baseline Industry Standards& Best Practice Suggestions

SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

2016

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Background Definitions and Assumptions

<u>SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS - RCW – 81.66.10 (3)</u>

Excerpt – "Persons with special transportation needs" means those persons, including their personal attendants, who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase appropriate transportation.

ADDITIONAL FACTORS

Community Transportation Association of the Northwest recognizes the following also contribute to special transportation needs:

- Geographic location
- Availability of transportation options
- Familial, custodial, guardian status i.e. parent is transporting children

PROVIDERS OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

Community Transportation Association of the Northwest recognizes transportation options for people with "Special Transportation Needs" can be provided by all of the following: Public transit, paratransit, transportation network/rideshare companies (Uber/Lyft), friends/family, neighbors, churches, community organizations, volunteers, private companies, nonprofits, senior centers, assisted living organizations, veterans' programs, taxi companies, limousine and town car companies, shuttles, ferries, trains, government agencies, planes, helicopters, ambulances, school buses, and private cars.

Application and Development of Best Practices and Standards

A committee of transportation providers, brokers, transits, and government agencies researched current and existing contract regulations and incorporated the latest best practices from field experience into the recommendations. It is assumed 'Best Practices' and 'Standards' will evolve as the industry evolves.

This information is designed for use by any business or organization providing "Specialized Transportation", with particular emphasis on businesses or organizations where transportation is a direct service or major component of the programming and where there is a financial contract or agreement to provide the service. It designed as a "Professional Standard" that can be adapted to meet organizational and customer/client/passenger needs.

A Specialized Transportation Provider (AKA Supported Mobility Transportation Provider):

- Has a vehicle designed or specially enhanced to meet various mobility capacities and needs (seating, ramps, accessible loading, etc.);
- Has a driver who has received training to work with various populations, including those living with various abilities, mental and cognitive capacities, and those from various backgrounds;
- Has internal rules and regulations designed to promote safety;
- Provides Location/Destination specific options, including pick-up and drop-off;
- Includes up to door-to-door, door-through-door, and hand-to-hand services (above and beyond curb-to-curb).

Areas of Best Practices and Standards

- ⇒ Operator/Drivers
- ⇒ Vehicles and Inspections

INSURANCE	BASELINE INDUSTRY STANDARDS	BEST PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS
AMOUNTS	 Commercial & General Liability Policy 1,000,000 Occurrence Limit 2,000,000 General Aggregate Limit Business Auto Liability Insurance 1,000,000 Combined Single Limit (CSL) for all owned, hired, leased and non-owned vehicles Loading & Unloading Coverage Insurance coverage must include Loading and Unloading Coverage and cannot limit coverage to a certain premises. This includes "bodily injury to any person being transported or assisted from the place where there accepted for movement in an "auto" or from an "auto" to the place where they are finally delivered" Worker's Compensation Compliant with all applicable state Worker's Compensation, occupational disease, occupational health and safety laws and regulations; All employee drivers shall be covered under Washington Labor and Industry Policies or by private carrier. 	 Sexual Abuse and Molestation Coverage Employment Practices Liability Directors & Officers Liability Fiduciary Liability Employee Benefits Liability Cyber Liability Crime Coverage Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Coverage Property Coverage Umbrella/Excess Liability
INSURANCE TYPE	 All insurance policies shall be written on an "Occurrence" or "Per Occurrence" basis. Provider shall provide, upon request, certification of the coverage required under this section. 	
CARRIER RATING	• B++	 A Best's Report rating of B++, Class VII, or better, Surplus Lines insurance companies should have a A-, Class VII, or better.

OPERATORS	BASELINE INDUSTRY STANDARDS	BEST PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS
QUALIFICATIONS	 Have a Valid Driver's License recognized by the States of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Be able to operate a vehicle in accordance with manufacturer recommendations, and all local, state and federal laws. Have at least 5 years of driving experience. Be able to document information accurately, and communicate clearly on radio and in person. Obtained prior to hire and annually, maintain a DMV record with: no more than 3 moving violation convictions in the last 3-year period; no "Driving Under the Influence" convictions in the last 5-year period; and no more than 1 at-fault accident in the last 24-months. Be able to pass a pre-employment fingerprint level background check and annual Criminal Background Check with no convictions in accordance with RCW 43.43.830 and WAC 388.112.0020. Maintain annual "Fit for Duty" certification from a recognized physician or through self-declaration. 	 Abilities to communicate in the predominate language(s) of the geographic service region, including English. Knowledge of the Geographic Service region. Have at least 3 years driving experience in the United States. Have no more than 2 moving violation convictions in a 3-year period. Be able to maintain a preemployment and annual fingerprint level Criminal Background Check in accordance with RCW 43.43.830 and WAC 388.112.0020.
TRAINING	 Successfully complete training in the areas of: Accident, Incident Reporting Passenger Assistance & Customer Service, including no less than: working with disabled youth and adults; de-escalation techniques; working with aging adults; working with populations with lower incomes; working with people who have a mental health diagnosis; and passenger- 	 Child Safety Restraint (Child Safety Seats) CDL (if applicable) Technology & Distracted Driving HIPAA

	appropriate loading and unloading techniques.	
	Wheelchair and Mobility Device Securement	
	CPR/FIRST AID	
	Biohazards & Blood Borne Pathogens	
	 Vehicle Evacuation Procedures, to include Fire Suppression and Client/Driver Evacuation-First Procedures 	
	Mandatory Reporting	
	Confidentiality and Documentation	
	Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness	
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & ORGANIZATION POLICIES	 ID Badge, including name or ID number, picture and name of organization must be worn or prominently displayed in the vehicle. 	 Maintain drug and alcohol-free standards set by the Federal Transit Administration, which includes random testing.
	 Adherence to drug and alcohol policies which include at the minimum: pre- employment testing and post-accident testing consistent with FTA guidelines. 	 Maintain a harassment- free environment.
	Maintain confidentiality of passengers.	 Provide courteous and polite customer service.
	 Maintain smoke-free public spaces as required by Washington State Law. 	 Adhere to professional conduct standards, including ethical
	 Follow Mandatory Reporting for Abuse and Neglect requirements provided by Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, the Washington 	boundaries, nondiscrimination, and customer service.
	Administrative Code, and the Revised Washington Code.	 Adopt organizational policies pertaining to:
	 Adopt an Americans with Disabilities Act compliance Service Animal Policy which is readily available to customers, clients and passengers. 	 Drug and Alcohol Testing Harassment and Nondiscrimination Confidentiality Incident/Accident Reporting Reporting of License

		Suspension or Revocation, or Convictions Driver Professional Conduct Driver Review/Observation Passenger Complaint Process Shared-Ride Policies No-Show/Cancellation Policies Seatbelt Usage Customer/Passenger Rights and Responsibilities Reasonable Accommodations Passenger Eligibility Safety Meeting Attendance CDL Level (if applicable) Mileage Reimbursement Emergency Preparedness Physicals Cell phone, personal electronic devices Media Passenger Complaint Mediation
DOCUMENTATION	 Pre-employment application, fingerprint background check and DMV record; Copy of Driver's License; DMV Record for all years of employment; documentation of pre-employment and annual background checks; Signed receipt of compliance with minimum qualifications and organizational policies. Documentation of completed mandatory trainings Documentation of pre-employment and any post-accident drug/alcohol testing Copy of ID Badge 	

VEHICLES	BASELINE INDUSTRY STANDARDS	BEST PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS
INSPECTIONS	 Inspections must be completed by a Certified Mechanic. 	 Complete inspections by a Certified Mechanic should be conducted
	 Initial inspections must be completed prior to a vehicle joining the fleet. 	annually; Use of Mileage intervals to determine periodic inspection
	 Complete inspections include the following points (included in attachment A). 	frequency should be based on OEM specifications.
	Complete inspections must be completed for each vehicle periodically.	

ATTACHMENT A

(This inspection should be completed on each vehicle used for specialized transportation services prior to the vehicle joining the fleet and periodically thereafter. Each of the following must meet or exceed Manufacturer and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidelines*.)

*Highlighted -	for Vehicles with Enhanced Communication	or Mobility Equipment Only
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BODY & EXTERIOR	· -	ificant/substantive damage, all bolts are
	tightened and meet minimum requi	
	 Company name, logo and vehicle nu 	umber are present, visible and legible
	 Hood, trunk and door latches are fu 	lly functioning
	 Vehicle is clean and free of debris 	
	 Springs and shock absorbers are in p 	place and fully functional
	Brake system is fully operational	
BRAKING SYSTEM	 Brake pads, rotors, lines and compo 	nents meet minimum safety standards
	 Brake pedal is firm and provides cor 	nplete stops
	 Emergency (parking) brake is compl 	etely operational, and hold vehicle with
	throttle engaged	, ,
	 Brake percentages meet minimum s 	safety guidelines
	2-way communication system is in	 If a camera system is in place,
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM &	place and fully functional. This	ensure camera system is in
CAMERAS	system must provide continuous	working order.
	communication between the	
	operator and dispatch and be	
	utilized in accordance RCW:	
	46.61.667.	
		ctional, free of cracks or damage, and are
DOORS & WINDOWS	able to be secured	,
WINDOWS	 Door handles, latches and hinges ar 	e fully operational
	Emergency exits have clear signage	
EMERGENCY EXITS	 Emergency exits are fully functional 	
	 Emergency alarm, lighting and signs 	
	• Efficiacity diami, lighting and signs	are rany randitional

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES	The vehicle includes the following emergency supplies, properly stowed and operational:
	 Accident/Incident Report Kit Bio Kit Emergency or caution indicators, including at least one of the following: Caution Lights, Caution Markers, Emergency Triangles and/or Flare(s) Fire Extinguisher with pin intact First Aid Kit Traction Devices (for vehicles operating in winter or hazardous conditions) Flashlight Seat Belt Cutter
ENGINE, EXHAUST & FLUID SYSTEMS	 Ice Scraper Battery and cables are fully functioning and in good repair Cooling system, including radiator, hoses and fluids are operational and meet minimum safety regulations Belts, pulleys and wheels are fully operational Muffler and exhaust system is fully functioning and free of leaks or damage Heating and cooling systems are fully functioning All fluids meet minimum levels, are new or replaced according to manufacturer specifications Emissions system is fully functional Air intake systems and filters are fully functional Fan is functional and fan shroud is in place and free of damage All wiring is connected, and free of damage Hoses, containers and fluid vessels are free of leaks and corrosion Ignition and starting system is fully functional Intake and acceleration system is functional Distributor system is fully functional
FUEL & THROTTLE SYSTEM	 Fuel system meets manufacturer standards, and is functioning properly with no leaks present Fuel Cap (if applicable) Fuel tank is free of damage or leaks (any kind of fuel) Alternative fuel or after-market conversions or modifications must meet manufacturer standards and approval from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
GAUGES & OPERATOR CONTROLS	 Air Conditioner, heater and defrost system is functional and working Speedometer, fluids, fuel and electrical system gauges are fully functional Horn is functioning Switches and controls are fully functional
INTERIOR & CABIN	 Interior is clean and free of debris Flooring and walls are free of dirt and debris The vehicle is scent-free All items are securely stowed
LIFTS & MOBILITY EQUIPMENT	 Lift, ramps, and mobility devices are fully operational, and serviced per manufacturer instructions; Lift and/or ramp is fully cycled during inspection to confirm operations

	All electrical and manual components are fully functional
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	 Ramps are free of any defects and fully operational. Vehicle includes at least 2 exterior side view mirrors free of scratches, cracks
MIRRORS, WINDSHIELD, LIGHTING & SIGNALS	 or debris Rear-view mirror is in place and free of cracks, scratches or debris Windshields shall meet current state safety statues; No damage or debris inhibiting visibility or creating a hazard Windshield wipers are in place and fully functional All signals, gauges and lighting are fully functional, including headlights, taillights, parking lights, emergency lights, back-up lights and alarms, interior lighting (dome, dash and step) and exterior lighting Seats are fully secured to the floor
SECUREMENT	and are clean and free of significant tears, holes or rips • Driver's seat is fully operational, and free of significant tears, cuts or disrepair • If vehicle has handrails, the handrails are secure and meet FMS Standards • If vehicle is designed for wheelchair transport, wheelchair securement mechanisms, including straps and cams, are in place and meet manufacturer safety requirements
STEERING SYSTEM	Steering system, including steering wheel, linkages, fluids, pumps and
TIRES, WHEELS, DRIVE TRAIN AND AXELS	 mechanics are fully functional and meet minimum requirements Tires are in place, appropriately rotated and have minimum tread as identified by manufacturer guidelines Lugs, hub caps, and wheels are fully secured Tie rods, drag link, suspension and shocks are fully operational Differential and pinion system is fully functional Drive shaft is functional and good repair Mud flaps, if part of the original vehicle, are in place and free of damage
TRANSMISSION SYSTEM	 Transmission system is fully functioning and operational, to include appropriate fluid levels, shifting components, and appropriate speed control Shift tower is functional and operational

PRE-TRIP INSPECTIONS	 Operators must complete a pre-trip inspection before each trip. A pre-trip inspection includes the following points (included in attachment 	 Pre-trip inspection includes: visual, functional, road test, and mechanics
	 Any defects noted in the pre-trip inspection or during transport must be addressed prior to transporting passengers. 	 Post-trip inspection or report completes the transportation cycle
	 A copy of the pre-trip inspection must be signed and dated by the operator, and kept on file electronically for 7 years. 	

ATTACHMENT B

(A pre-trip inspection is an observational and functional inspection and confirmation completed by the operator before each trip, and includes at minimum the following.)

	BASELINE INDUSTRY STANDARD	BEST PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS
BODY	 Clean, and free of damage Doors functioning, handles working, latched and closed Mirrors are adjusted and clean, free of 	 Camera system appears to be functioning properly (if applicable)
	scratches Windows are clean, clear and latched Lights are in working order	 Check fluid levels for Coolant, Oil, Transmission and
BRAKES	Emergency/Parking brake functional	Windshield Wipers
CONTROLS	 Climate Controls/Defroster Working Gauges working: speedometer, voltmeter, fuel, fluids, other Horn is working 	 Check for any leaks Lug nuts are checked (consider arrow tabs)
COMMUNICATION	Windshield Wipers are workingSystem is functional	o Tire pressure check
		 Tire tread depth check

EMERGENCY	Accident Report Kit	
QUIPMENT	Bio Kit	
	Fire Extinguisher	
	First Aid Kit	
	 Flashlight 	
	 Flare or Triangle or Caution Markers 	
	Ice Scraper	
	Seat-Belt Cutter	
	 Traction Devices (when applicable) 	
ENGINE	 Belts, hoses or wires seem to be in proper 	
LIVOIIVE	place	
	 Hood is latched, and engine starts 	
INTERIOR	• Clean	
INTERIOR	 Seat belts are functional 	
	 Seats appear to be in good repair 	
	Lift is fully cycled to ensure functional	
LIFT & EQUIPMENT (IF	 Securement devices in place, functional 	
APPLICABLE)	and secured in place	
	 Service Doors/Handrails/Step - Clean, 	
	clear and functional (if applicable)	
	 Ramp is functional 	
	 Supplies stowed 	
LICUTING	Interior and exterior lights, including	
LIGHTING	instrument panel, headlights, tail lights	
	and turn signals are functional	
	 Back-Up Lights and Alarm and Clearance 	
	Lights are functional (if applicable)	
STEERING	 Operational 	
TIRES	Appear properly Inflated	

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

- Each vehicle must have a preventative maintenance schedule which coincides with manufacturer recommendations, including any after-market alterations (such as fuel systems).
- A preventative maintenance schedule includes:
 - Vehicle Make, Model and Year
 - Dates of Service
 - Maintenance Schedule based on Manufacturer Recommendations, including after-market equipment and accessories (attachment C)
- Any issues identified during preventative maintenance must be addressed by a Certified Mechanic prior to the vehicle returning to service.

ATTACHMENT C

(Implemented for each vehicle based on manufacturer specifications.)

*Highlighted = for Vehicles with Enhanced Communication or Mobility Equipment Only				
BRAKING SYSTEM	 Complete check of brake system, including: Pads, rotors, drums and cylinders Percentages Emergency (Parking Brake) Pedal 			
ENGINE & UNDERCARRIAGE	 Clean Engine Complete general service, including spark plugs (if applicable) Service battery and clean terminals Check bolts and engine mounts Inspect cooling system, including radiator, hoses and fluids Service A/C (as required) Check differential and pinion Check shocks and struts Check drive shaft and under carriage Change differential oil (OEM) Emissions control system if applicable 			
FUEL SYSTEM	 Inspect fuel system, including tank, lines and other equipment Service after-market fuel systems according to manufacturer specifications Complete emissions control test (if applicable) 			

GAUGES & OPERATOR CONTROLS	 Check horn, gauges and instrument panel switches, including wipers, turn signals, climate control systems and all panel devices 			
HOSES & CONNECTIONS	Check hoses, belts, pulleys and connections			
IGNITION AND STARTING SYSTEM	Check starter, ignition and distributor			
LIGHTING SYSTEM	 Check all lighting, including headlights, taillights, parking lights, emergency lights, back-up lights and alarms, interior lighting (dome, dash and step) and exterior lighting 			
OIL AND/OR LUBRICANTS & FILTERS	 Check all fluid levels Change oil, coolant and transmission fluid Lube chassis Change PVC filter and valve Check all sensors 			
STEERING SYSTEM	Test steering system, and service power steering			
TIRES & WHEELS	 Test tread on tires Check seals Torque adjustments 			
TRANSMISSION SYSTEM	 Change fluid Check transmission mounts Timing 			
WINDOWS & DOORS	 Check operation of doors and windows Check operation of emergency windows and exits (if applicable) 			
LIFT & MOBILITY EQUIPMENT	 Check lift operation, service lift to manufacturer specifications, ensure load certification label is visible on the lift Check grab rails and securement systems 			

INSPECTION Documentation of inspection records for each vehicle should be maintained DOCUMENTATION for each vehicle during its service, and for a period of 7 years after its retirement. The record should be maintained electronically, and should include the following: Initial Inspection signed by Certified Mechanic. Periodic Inspection Report by Certified Mechanic (when applicable). Copy of all Pre-Trip Inspection Reports Documentation of preventative maintenance, including: Preventative Maintenance Schedule; Signed and dated completed work orders from Certified Mechanic; Receipts of service. Documentation of any issues identified in the initial, periodic, pre-trip or preventative maintenance inspections, including documentation of repairs signed by a Certified Mechanic. **VEHICLE** Vehicles passing complete inspections by a Certified Mechanic may remain in RETIREMENT service.