



TRAVEL TRAINING PROGRAM



WHAT IS TRAVEL TRAINING?

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Travel Training Program teaches individuals with disabilities and older adults how to use Metra, Pace and CTA buses and trains. Travel Training is free except for the cost of transit fares during training sessions.

Travel training sessions are led by professionals who are knowledgeable about transportation accessibility, and have experience working with people with disabilities and older adults. A certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist is available to provide one-on-one travel training to participants who are blind or have low vision.

WHAT TYPES OF TRAVEL TRAINING ARE OFFERED?

The RTA Travel Training Program offers two types of training tailored to meet each participant's needs:

1. Trip Training
2. Individual Transit Orientation

An Eligibility Assistant will help participants decide which type of training will work best.

TRIP TRAINING

Participants in this type of training work one-on-one with a Travel Trainer to practice using buses and trains to travel to locations they visit on a regular basis. During Trip Training sessions, participants will learn how to recognize landmarks to know when to get off the bus or train and how to interact with transit personnel and other riders.



INDIVIDUAL TRANSIT ORIENTATION

Participants in this type of training will work one-on-one with a Travel Trainer to receive a general introduction to bus and train accessibility.

The goal of Individual Transit Orientation is to educate participants on how to use the entire transit system.

During Individual Transit Orientation sessions, a Travel Trainer will explain how to use accessibility features in transit vehicles and transit stations, and how to plan trips on CTA, Metra, and Pace. In addition, Travel Trainers may take participants to a bus garage or rail station to practice boarding transit vehicles or practice using buses and trains to build confidence.

TRAVEL



BE CONFIDENT

“In a sense (Travel Training), changed my life because it helped me to build my confidence

to get out more and travel independently. Now I feel like I can take some of my family members on the system and show them what I learned. Before they would have to take me out, but now I can show them that I can do it on my own.”

~ Anna



BE FEARLESS

“I learned so much from my Travel Trainer. Now I know how to transfer on Pace buses to get to work. I wasn’t scared because my travel trainer talked me through the process as we were training.” ~ Laura



BE INSPIRED

“The Travel Training program is great and people should not be afraid to go ahead and try the fixed route service.” ~ Heather

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

To sign up for Travel Training, contact the RTA Travel Training Program:

Email

TravelTraining@RTAChicago.org

or call **(312) 913-3120**

