Guidance notes for a Disabled Person’s Bus Pass

In Northumberland

Northumberland Disabled Person’s pass can travel at any time on any bus service within Northumberland. Please see below for validity outside Northumberland.

Outside Northumberland

The National Concessionary bus pass allows you FREE off-peak travel on local buses in England between 9.30am and 11pm on weekdays and all day weekends and bank holidays.

NCC have agreed additional benefits for free travel in Scotland on the following local bus services where your journey either starts or finishes in England:

- 18/19, 260 - Berwick to Duns
- 60 - Berwick to Galashiels via Duns
- 67 - Berwick to Galashiels via Kelso
- 34, 235, 236, 253 – Berwick to Eyemouth
- 131 - Newcastle to Jedburgh

On the following local bus services, free travel is only available for journeys wholly in England:

- 710 - Newcastle to Coldstream/Kelso
- 32 - Berwick to Swinton
- 87 - Berwick to Kelso

The pass is NOT valid on trains or most long distance services.

How do I qualify because of my disability?

If you live in Northumberland you can apply for a concessionary bus pass if you have one or more of the disabilities listed overleaf and are of fare paying age (5 years or older).

You will need to supply proof of your residency in Northumberland (current Council tax bill, utility bill or a bank statement less than 3 months old) AND proof of disability as listed overleaf. Please send copies as original documents are not returned.

Shown with each accepted disability is the acceptable proof that needs to be supplied to prove your eligibility. Please tick the box that relates to you on the application form.

You must provide acceptable proof of your disability or your application will not be considered. All proof supplied must have the same address on as shown on the application form.

If you need any further information or have any questions please call in to one of our Information Centres, call Customer Services on 0345 6006400 or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accepted Disability</th>
<th>Acceptable Proof</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Blind or partially sighted</td>
<td>Be in receipt of the higher/enhanced rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance/PIP or war pensioner’s Mobility Supplement. Or evidence of current registration with an appropriate association (e.g. Social Services) or certificate of vision impairment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Profoundly or severely deaf</td>
<td>Be in receipt of the higher/enhanced rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance/PIP, or war pensioner’s Mobility Supplement. Or evidence of current registration with an appropriate association (e.g. Social Services) or letter from a health care professional.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Without speech</td>
<td>Be in receipt of the higher/enhanced rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance/PIP or war pensioner’s Mobility Supplement. Or a letter from a health care professional* confirming that you are without speech.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Disability or injury, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to walk</td>
<td>Be in receipt of the higher/enhanced rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance/PIP or war pensioner’s Mobility Supplement. Or a letter from a health care professional* confirming that your walking ability is permanently and substantially impaired to the extent that you are unable to walk more than 64 metres without severe discomfort.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Long term loss of use of both arms or the loss of both arms</td>
<td>Be in receipt of the higher/enhanced rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance/PIP or war pensioner’s Mobility Supplement. Or a letter from a health care professional.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| F Severe learning disability | Be in receipt of the higher/enhanced rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance/PIP.  

**Children (5 to 15):** A copy of your Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)  

**Adults aged 16 and over:** Current evidence (on headed paper) of attendance at/or association with a local learning disability organisation confirming you have a severe learning disability or a letter from a health care professional* confirming you have a severe learning disability. |
| G Refusal of driving licence/unable to drive due to medical reasons | Letter from the DVLA* confirming the refusal of a driving licence, or a letter from your GP* confirming that you would be refused a driving licence due to your medical condition. **This does NOT include those excluded from holding a licence due to persistent misuse of drugs and/or alcohol.** |

Please note: Prescription lists, Employment & Support or Income Support Allowances are not accepted.

If you need any further information or have any questions please call in to one of our Information Centres, call Customer Services on 0345 6006400 or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk.
**Companion Pass**

If you are unable to travel alone you may be entitled to a companion pass. Your companion may be a carer, relative or friend of any age.

To qualify for a companion pass you must supply the following evidence:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>The applicant is in receipt or has been awarded the higher/enhanced rate care component of Disability Living Allowance/PIP.</td>
<td>A copy of the award letter from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) or confirmation of award stating that the applicant is in receipt or has been awarded the higher/enhanced rate care component of DLA/PIP. The award date should not have expired and the evidence should be dated within the last 12 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>The applicant is in receipt of or has been awarded Attendance Allowance issued by the DWP</td>
<td>Attendance Allowance award notice or letter from the DWP stating that the applicant has qualified for Attendance Allowance. The award date should not have expired and the evidence should be dated within the last 12 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td>The applicant has been certified as blind and in consequence is registered as blind in a register</td>
<td>A letter from Local Authority, RNIB, or other Blind Society confirming the applicant is registered as blind on a register maintained by or on behalf of their local authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>The applicant lives in a care/residential home or hospital and are eligible for the higher/enhanced rate care component of the DLA or Attendance Allowance</td>
<td>A copy of the award letter from the DWP or confirmation of award stating that the applicant is in receipt of higher/enhanced rate care component of DLA/PIP. Or a copy of the award notice from DWP or confirmation of award stating that the applicant is in receipt of Attendance Allowance. The award date should not have expired and the evidence should be dated within the last 12 months.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your companion is not issued a separate pass. A companion pass has an orange stripe down the right hand side of the pass with a C+ symbol at the top right hand corner which tells the driver that you require a companion. Your companion **CANNOT** use your pass without you.

**Replacement Passes**

If you think you may have lost your pass on a bus, first contact the relevant bus company where you may have left the pass. If it cannot be found, you will need to complete an application form and pay a charge of £15. If your pass is damaged or faded please call 0345 600 6400 or call into an Information Centre to organize a replacement at the cost of £15.

If your pass has been stolen and the crime was reported to the police, the replacement pass will be issued free of charge. You will need to quote the crime number that you were given by the police.

Expired cards will not be automatically renewed, you must re-apply.

**Other information**

Residents of Northumberland who hold a valid concessionary bus pass can also purchase a Nexus Gold Card which gives free off-peak travel on the Metro. The Gold Card costs £25 for a year’s travel and can be bought from Nexus Travelshops. You will need to show your concessionary travel pass when you apply. Nexus have Travelshops at the Central Station, Haymarket and Monument and at other locations.

All items marked * must be dated no more than 3 months old.

If you need any further information or have any questions please call in to one of our Information Centres, call Customer Services on 0345 6006400 or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk.