



CHAMPIONS OF  
TOMORROW INC.

# TRAVEL TRAINING PROGRAM

The Champions of Tomorrow Inc. Travel Training program provides mobility options to people with disabilities, seniors and ADA paratransit riders. This program helps individuals save transit dollars by teaching them how to travel independently using the QLINE, DDOT and SMART fixed-route buses. Travel Training is free except for the cost of transit fares during training sessions.

### **What is Travel Training?**

Travel training is a free one-on-one or group training program to help people with disabilities and senior citizens learn to use the QLINE, DDOT, SMART, and RTA fixed-route transit systems safely and properly. Travel training is meant to aid people in developing the confidence necessary to travel independently.

### **Eligibility**

If you are disabled and/or 55+ and unfamiliar with the local transit fixed-route system, you may email or call a Champions of Tomorrow Inc. mobility specialist at 313-924-4368 to set up an in-home, in-person assessment of your needs. Our mobility specialists will determine your eligibility for the program and be able to get a better understanding of the type of training you will require.

### **Who will conduct the Mobility Training?**

A qualified mobility specialist from Champions of Tomorrow Inc. will provide the training you need. Our trainers will work with your schedule to make sure it is as convenient as possible for you.

The mobility training program is available and provided free-of-charge to citizens of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

### **What will I learn?**

During the training period, you will be taught how to get to and from the bus, important riding techniques, emergency procedures and how to get to and from specific destinations. Our mobility specialists will work with you to plan out your trips using QLINE, DDOT, SMART transit guides and you will be taught how to maneuver your mobility aid, if necessary, on and off the bus using devices such as ramps, courtesy seats and securement straps. You will also learn how to deal with certain situations such as what to do if you miss your bus, get on the wrong bus or get lost.

### **How long will the training last?**

The time spent on training is based completely on individual need. Mobility training is a gradual process that begins with learning community orientation shells, map reading and routing shells and safety information. Training then moves to the QLINE/DDOT/SMART fixed route vehicles where you will ride with a Champions' mobility specialist who will show you everything you need to know to travel independently.

### **What are the benefits of Mobility Training?**

Mobility training will provide you with the independence you desire and enable you to travel where you want, when you want. As an independent traveler, you will be able to rely less on family and neighbors and have the freedom to plan your trips according to your own schedule.

Using the QLINE/DDOT/SMART/ fixed-route transit system is less expensive than driving; using Paratransit or taxi service, and you won't have to schedule your trips in advance.

### **How do I get started?**

You can start by calling or emailing our mobility specialists at 313-924-4368 to set up an appointment for your in-home assessment. When you call, please be prepared to provide your name, address and telephone number.

## TRIP TRAINING

Participants in this type of training work one-on-one with a travel trainer to practice using buses to travel to locations they visit on a regular basis. During Trip Training sessions participants will practice specific trips repetitively until they learn to complete the trip without assistance. Participants also learn how to recognize landmarks to know when to get off the bus, how to interact with transit personnel and other riders and skills to stay safe while traveling.

## 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 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 how to plan trips on QLINE, DDOT and SMART. In addition, Travel Trainers may take participants to a bus station to practice boarding transit vehicles or practice using buses to build confidence.

## GROUP TRANSIT ORIENTATION

This type of training provides group presentations at agencies that serve people with disabilities and older adults throughout the tri-county region. The goal of Group Transit Orientation is to give participants and agency staff an introduction to the accessibility of QLINE, DDOT and SMART service, and to demonstrate the benefits of using fixed route buses.

During Group Transit Orientation presentations, a Travel Trainer will explain how to use accessibility features in transit vehicles and at bus stations, how to plan trips and pay fares on QLINE, DDOT and SMART, and how to travel safely in the community while using buses.

**19001 E. 8 Mile  
Suite 109  
Eastpointe, MI  
48021**

**TEL: (313) 924-4368**

**FAX: (888) 201-7887**

**EMAIL: [info@det-transitionaltransit.org](mailto:info@det-transitionaltransit.org)**

**WEBSITE: [www.det-transitionaltransit.org](http://www.det-transitionaltransit.org)**