

## **BELLE URBAN SYSTEM**

### **GENERAL ELIGIBILITY**

Individuals wishing to become eligible for the reduced fare identification card must file an application with a physician's certification that they are eligible for the reduced fare program. Eligibility is determined by the City of Racine, Belle Urban System.

Individuals wishing to apply for a Belle Urban System reduced fare ID card may receive an application from the Belle Urban System, 1900 Kentucky Street, Racine, WI 53405. You may also request an application by telephone at 262-637-9000.

### **ATTENDANTS**

1. An attendant is defined as any person whose assistance is required by the passenger. Attendant requirement must be indicated on the physician's certification.
2. One attendant shall be permitted to accompany any disabled passenger at no additional cost.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSENGERS- DEPENDENTS**

Additional non-certified dependents shall pay the full fare.

### **VISITORS**

Disabled individuals who do not reside within the Belle Urban System service area shall be permitted to ride the Belle Urban System for the reduced fare by showing an ADA certified identification card from any other agency.

### **COST**

The cost of riding the Belle Urban System for certified individuals, either by the City of Racine, or any other agency, is \$1.00 per one way trip, during all days and hours of operation.

### **COMPLAINTS**

All complaints must be in writing and must be sent to the Belle Urban System, 1900 Kentucky Street, Racine, WI 53405.

Date Sent: \_\_\_\_\_

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

# BELLE URBAN SYSTEM

## SECTION A - TO BE FILLED OUT BY APPLICANT

### APPLICATION FOR REDUCED TRANSIT FARE IDENTIFICATION CARD

If you have a disability, you may be eligible for a reduced transit fare identification card. If you think you qualify, please fill out Section A of the application and sign it.

The application isn't complete until you have a physician fill out section B. After you have completed your part, give or send it to your doctor, along with eligibility criteria and have the doctor mail the application to us. The City of Racine, Belle Urban System will determine whether or not you are eligible for the reduced transit fare identification card. **It can take this office up to 21 days to process the application.**

1. NAME \_\_\_\_\_
  2. MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_
  3. STREET ADDRESS (if different) \_\_\_\_\_
  4. HOME PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_
  5. DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ CURRENT AGE \_\_\_\_\_
  6. I HOLD A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE AND DRIVE REGULARLY. YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
  7. IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE GIVE US THE NAME AND PHONE NUMBER OF SOMEONE WE MIGHT CONTACT. NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_
  8. I AUTHORIZE \_\_\_\_\_  
(PHYSICIAN'S NAME)  
TO RELEASE MEDICAL INFORMATION CONCERNING MY DISABILITIES TO THE CITY OF RACINE, BELLE URBAN SYSTEM.
- SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Failure to complete all information will delay certification and the form will be returned to applicant for completion. No reduced fare identification card will be authorized unless a complete form is received by the Belle Urban System and approved.

## SECTION B - TO BE FILLED OUT BY PHYSICIAN

### VERIFICATION OF DISABILITY

Dear Physician:

Your patient has filled out Section A of this form to apply for a reduced transit fare identification card from the Belle Urban System. In order for this application to be processed, a medical certification of his/her disability is required. The Belle Urban System will make the final determination as to whether or not the person is eligible for the reduced transit fare identification card. Determine if your patient meets the disability criteria described in the ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA based on appropriate medical records. See attached CRITERIA sheet for section number to answer question #4.

Please complete the following information and return it to the City of Racine, Belle Urban System.

1. Does the applicant's condition preclude them from using their own vehicle to conduct daily activities \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO
2. Does the applicant's condition preclude them from using public transportation to conduct daily activities as effectively as persons who are not so affected? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO
3. If the answer to 1 or 2 above is no, please indicate if there are special circumstances whereby a reduced fare identification card would be necessary for this individual.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the disability of your patient? (DESIGNATE BY THE SECTION NUMBER OF THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA) \_\_\_\_\_

5. This condition is \_\_\_\_\_ permanent \_\_\_\_\_ temporary; for how long? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Applicant:

_____ Uses Mobility Device	_____ Is Mentally Disabled
_____ Uses Cane	_____ Is Legally Blind
_____ Uses Walker	_____ Is Deaf
_____ Uses Crutches	_____ Other (Specify)
_____ Uses Other Walking Aid	_____

(Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

7. Applicant requires the assistance of an attendant due to the disability described.  
\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

The certification form will remain on file with the program office as a medical record, not subject to public view.

Physician Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Failure to complete all information will result in the return of this form to the applicant and no reduced transit fare identification card will be authorized until completed form is received by the Belle Urban System and approved. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Please return this form directly to:

Belle Urban System  
1900 Kentucky Street  
Racine, WI. 53405

# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

There are two categories of persons who meet the criteria: permanent (chronic condition) and temporary (acute). Any person who has a physical, mental, or psychological disability or incapacity of less than six months' duration that is covered in the eligibility criteria is considered in the temporary category, and his or her eligibility is limited to the duration of meeting the criteria. All other persons meeting eligibility criteria have chronic conditions.

## EXCLUSIONS

Persons whose sole incapacity is: 1) pregnancy; 2) obesity; 3) acute or chronic alcoholism or drug addiction; 4) contagious diseases are specifically excluded from eligibility; or if the disability does not preclude them from using their own vehicle or regular transportation services as effectively as persons who are not so affected.

## PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

### SECTION 1

**Nonambulatory Disabilities:** Impairments that, regardless of cause, confine individuals permanently to mobility device.

### SECTION 2

**Semiambulatory Disabilities:** Impairments that require individuals to use a long leg brace, a walker, or crutches to achieve mobility.

### SECTION 3

**Semiambulatory Disabilities:** Persons who, due to any cause, suffer arthritis which causes a functional motor deficit in any two major limbs (arms and/or legs).

American Rheumatism Association criteria may be used as a guideline for the determination of arthritic handicap. Therapeutic Grade III or worse and Functional Class III or worse and Anatomical State III or worse are evidence of arthritic handicap.

### SECTION 4

**Semiambulatory Disabilities:** Persons who suffer amputation of or anatomical deformity of both hands, or one hand and one foot (i.e., loss of major function due to degenerative changes associated with vascular or neurological deficits, traumatic loss of muscle mass or tendons and X-ray evidence of bony or fibrous ankylosis [a stiffness or "fixation" of a joint caused by fibrous or bony tissue accumulating in a joint

space] at an unfavorable angle, or joint subluxation [incomplete or partial dislocation of a joint or instability]); persons who suffer amputation of lower extremity at or above the tarsal region -- one or both legs. (The tarsal region is in the ankle. Tarsal bones are small bones that collectively support the leg bones above the foot.)

## **SECTION 5**

**Semiambulatory Disabilities:** Cerebrovascular accident (stroke) with one of the following occurring four months post-CVA:

- a. Pseudobulbar palsy (spastic weakness of the muscles enervated by the cranial nerves [face. larynx] due to bilateral corticospinal lesions of the spinal cord); or
- b. Functional motor deficit in any of the two extremities; or
- c. Ataxia affecting two extremities substantiated by appropriate cerebellar signs or proprioceptive loss. (Ataxia is loss of the ability to coordinate the voluntary muscles in a normal manner, e.g., legs and/or arm muscles.)

## **SECTION 6**

**Semiambulatory Disabilities - Pulmonary Ills:** Persons suffering respiratory impairment (dyspnea - a disability that involves shortness of breath or difficulty breathing) as defined by **The Journal of the American Medical Association**, "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, The Respiratory System." November 22, 1965.

### **CLASSES OF RESPIRATORY IMPAIRMENT**

**Class III:** Dyspnea does not occur at rest but does occur during the usual activities of daily living. However, the patient can walk a mile at his own pace without dyspnea although he cannot keep pace on the level with others of the same age and body build. Percent disability: 40-50.

**Class IV:** Dyspnea occurs during such activities as climbing one flight of stairs or walking 100 yards on the level, or less exertion or even at rest.

**Class VI:** Dyspnea present on slightest exertion, such as dressing, talking, at rest.

## **SECTION 7**

**Semiambulatory Disabilities - Cardiac Ills:** Persons suffering functional classifications of cardiac disease, Classes III and IV and therapeutic classification Classes C, D, and E as defined by Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels -- Nomenclature and Criteria for Diagnosis. Sixth Edition, Boston. Little, Brown and Company by the New York Heart Association.

## **FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

**CLASS III:** Patients with cardiac disease resulting in marked limitation of physical activity. They are comfortable at rest. Less than ordinary physical activity causes fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea, or Anginal pain. For instance, inability to walk one or more level blocks or climb a flight of ordinary stairs.

**CLASS IV:** Patients with cardiac disease resulting in inability to carry on any physical activity without discomfort. Symptoms of cardiac insufficiency or of the Anginal syndrome may be present even at rest. If any physical activity is undertaken, discomfort is increased.

## **THERAPEUTIC CLASSIFICATION**

**CLASS C:** Patients with cardiac disease whose ordinary physical activity should be moderately restricted and whose more strenuous efforts should be discontinued.

**CLASS D:** Patients with cardiac disease whose ordinary physical activity should be markedly restricted.

**CLASS E:** Patients with cardiac disease who should be at complete rest, confined to bed or chair.

## **SECTION 8**

**Semiambulatory Disabilities - Dialysis:** Persons who in order to live must use a kidney dialysis machine.

## **SECTION 9**

**Sight Disabilities:** This section includes only the legally blind.

- a. Those persons whose vision in the better eye after best correction is 20/200 or less; and
- b. Those persons whose visual field is contracted (commonly known as tunnel vision):
  1. to 10 degrees or less from a point of fixation; or
  2. the widest diameter subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees.

## **SECTION 10**

**Hearing Disabilities:** Deafness or hearing incapacity that may make an individual insecure in public areas because the individual is unable to communicate or hear warning signals.

This section includes only those persons whose hearing loss is 90dba or greater in the 500, 1000, 2000 Hz. ranges.

## **SECTION 11**

**Disabilities of Incoordination:** This section includes those persons suffering faulty coordination or palsy from brain, spinal, or peripheral nerve injury and persons with a functional motor deficit in any two limbs or who suffer manifestations which significantly reduce mobility, coordination, and perceptiveness not accounted for in previous categories.

## **DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES**

Those persons, not psychotic, who are so developmentally disadvantaged from infancy or before reaching maturity that they are incapable of managing themselves and their affairs independently, with ordinary prudence, or of being taught to do so, and who require supervision, control, and care for their own welfare, or for the welfare of others, or for the welfare of the community; and any person who is unable, or likely to be unable, to physically or mentally respond to an oral instruction relating to danger and, unassisted, take appropriate action relating to such danger. This section includes only those persons with the following disorders who are participating in a state or federally funded or state-recognized program.

## **SECTION 12**

**Mental Retardation:** Refers to subaverage general intellectual functioning which originates during the developmental period and is associated with impairment in adaptive behavior (a general guideline is IQ which is more than two standard deviations below the norm). This section also applies to adults who by reason of illness or accident suffer mental retardation.

## **SECTION 13**

**Cerebral Palsy:** A nonprogressive disorder dating from birth or early infancy. However, if it is not treated, there is marked regression in functioning characterized by examples of aberrations of motor functions (paralysis, weakness, incoordination) and often other manifestations of organic brain damage such as sensory disorders, seizures, mental retardation, learning difficulty, and behavioral disorders.

## **SECTION 14**

**Epilepsy (Convulsive Disorder):** Clinical disorder involving impairment of consciousness, characterized by major motor seizures (grand mal or psychomotor) substantiated by electroencephalogram (EEG), occurring more frequently than once a month in spite of prescribed treatment with:

- a. Diurnal episodes (loss of consciousness and convulsive seizure);  
or
- b. Nocturnal episodes which show residuals interfering with activity during the day.

## **SECTION 15**

**Autism:** (1) A syndrome described as consisting of withdrawal, very inadequate social relationships, exceptional object relationships, language disturbances, and monotonously repetitive motor behavior; many children with autism will also be seriously impaired in general intellectual function; (2) this syndrome usually appears before the age of six and is characterized by severe withdrawal and inappropriate response to external stimuli.

## **SECTION 16**

**Neurological Handicap:** A syndrome characterized by learning, perceptual and/or behavioral disorders of an individual whose IQ is not less than two standard deviations below the norm. These characteristics exist as a result of brain dysfunction (any disorder in learning or using the senses), neurological disorder, or any damage to the central nervous system, whether due to genetic, hereditary, accident or illness factors. This section includes persons with severe gait problems who are restricted in mobility.

### **VETERANS ADMINISTRATION DISABILITY**

Any veteran who holds a disability rating for aid and attendants, housebound or permanently totally rated at the 100 percent disability level, is immediately eligible and criteria section number requirement is waived on the Certification Form.

All other veterans are subject to the above eligibility criteria.

Any veteran wishing to apply for certification to the Veterans Administration should include his or her Social Security number and VA file number on the Certification Form or attachment when mailing to the Veterans Administration.