

Program Incentives and Rewards

Program Description: The Downtown Commuter Program is designed to encourage Downtown employees and employers to commute by modes of transportation other than in their cars by themselves. The program is viewed as an additional benefit to Downtown employees and to the Downtown business community. The program encourages employees to try alternate modes of transportation. The program is set to begin in August 2008 and end in June 2009, unless additional funding is obtained.

Vanpools: This subsidy pays up to \$50 per month for the first 3 months for new vanpool riders. You must be new to the vanpool program and have not used the service in the last calendar year prior to applying for the subsidy. The program will provide this subsidy for 15 riders each month, on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are eligible for only three months of the subsidy. All Downtown vanpool commuters, other than those at CTR affected worksites, are eligible for the monthly rewards drawings. They must register for the program using the general registration form and will be required to keep a monthly trip calendar to be entered in the drawing.

Carpools: All carpool participants in the downtown commuter program are eligible for the monthly prizes and will have to register and keep monthly trip calendars to be entered. If someone is in an official carpool for some other entity Downtown, other than a CTR affected worksite, they will be eligible for the rewards drawings by filling out the general registration form and logging all their commute trips on the commute calendar.

Monthly Rewards: This reward is for all those participating in the Downtown Commuter Program. There will be drawings each month for 8 gift certificates of \$25 each. Participants must sign up for the program and use calendars to log all their commutes. If more than 60% of their commute trips in a month are by an alternate commute mode, they will qualify for the drawings. Calendars must be turned in by the 5th of the month. Drawings will be conducted within the first two weeks of each month for previous month's participants.

Bus Passes: Each month, the Downtown Commuter Program will provide 200 free bus passes to program participants, on a first-come-first-served basis. Passes are available at the Parking Services office. Free passes will only be given to Downtown employees who register for the program and provide proof of employment. All bus commuters, not only the ones who have received the free passes, are eligible for the monthly drawing, as long as they are registered in the program, do not work at a CTR affected worksite, and they keep a commute trip calendar of all their commute trips.

Bicyclists and Walkers: Program participants who walk or bicycle to work Downtown for 60% of their overall commute trips will receive a one-time \$25 gift certificate to the Downtown business of their choice. They are also eligible for the monthly drawings if they submit a commute trip calendar that records all of their commutes to work.

For more information, contact:

John Keeffe
jkeeffe@ci.olympia.wa.us
(360) 753-8181