



# 5 reasons to love the bus!

## 1 Senior Discount

COTA offers discounts of 50% and more for seniors. With your Senior ID Card, you pay only 75 cents for a one-way local fare, compared to \$1.50 full fare. Senior monthly passes cost only \$22, compared to \$45 full fare.

## 2 More affordable than driving

It costs more than \$14 to operate the average car for just one day – including car payments, license, registration, insurance, and incidentals.

## 3 Safe, reliable transportation

\*Statistics show that taking the bus is safer than driving. COTA gets you there safely.

## 4 No traffic or parking hassles

People who ride COTA don't worry about fighting traffic, hunting for a parking space, or having the money to pay for parking.

## 5 Access to many places

There's a COTA bus going to nearly every major hospital, shopping center, grocery, and service agency in central Ohio.

## COTA Connection

The COTA Connection Sales Office is located downtown at 60 East Broad Street. It is open 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. the first two days and the last two days of each month, and closed on weekends and holidays.

Senior I. D. Cards are made between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. only.

The COTA Call Center is staffed Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., weekends and holidays 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and can be reached by calling (614) 228-1776.

## Visit the COTA Connection to:

- Apply for Senior ID Card
- Pick up route information
- Purchase daily, weekly or monthly passes
- Claim lost items

Bus and Scheduling Information ..... 228-1776

Hearing Impaired (TTY) ..... 228-1832

Quality Service ..... 228-1776

Lost and Found ..... 228-4112

Mainstream ..... 275-5828

For general information, call the COTA Connection at **614-228-1776 or 614-228-1832 (TTY)**, log on to **www.cota.com**, or visit the COTA Connection at 60 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.



Accessible information available upon request. Please call (614) 308-4403.

# Older Citizens Fare Better



Seniors save 50% on regular COTA bus fares

\*Transit trips with destinations similar to those with cars result in almost 200,000 fewer deaths and injuries, totaling \$2.5 billion in safety benefits each year. -APTA Transit Board Members Seminars, Baltimore, MD, July 2003

## Why should I get a COTA Senior ID Card?

- Save more than half-price on COTA fares with your free COTA Senior ID Card.
- Go anywhere that COTA goes.
- Convenient COTA shelters, bus stops, or Park & Ride locations.
- Spend less on transportation, parking, and car expenses.
- Leave the driving to us!



## How do I get the COTA Senior ID Card?

Senior applicants must be at least 65 years of age to apply. All reduced fare applicants (seniors) must provide a picture identification and Social Security Card (which will not be printed on the reduced fare identification card) when applying. Seniors must show proof of age (Driver's License, State Identification Card or Birth Certificate).

## Where can I buy a COTA Senior Pass?

- COTA Connection, 60 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Kroger and Giant Eagle (participating locations in Franklin County)
- Other COTA Pass Outlets

Call **(614) 228-1776** to find the outlet nearest you.

## Where can I get on a COTA bus?

Any COTA bus stop, shelter, or Park & Ride location

Call **(614) 228-1776** for the bus stop, shelter or Park & Ride nearest you.

## Compare the fares!

With your free COTA Senior ID Card, ride COTA for discounted fares!

	Regular	Senior
<b>One-Way Local</b>	<b>\$1.50</b>	<b>\$.75</b>
<b>Day Pass</b>	<b>\$3.50</b>	<b>\$1.75</b>
<b>Monthly Pass</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>	<b>\$22.00</b>

## How do I use my Senior Pass?

- Have your Senior ID Card and exact change, Monthly Pass, Day Pass, or fare ready.
- Swipe your Senior ID Card in the farebox and deposit exact change or swipe your Monthly Pass or Day Pass.

## What other services are available?

**Mainstream** is available to individuals who have a disability which prevents the use of fixed-route bus service. This special service offers curb-to-curb transportation throughout COTA's fixed-route service area.

To request an application or for more information about **Mainstream**, call **(614) 275-5828**.



## What if I need help getting on COTA?

All COTA buses are ramp- or lift-equipped to accommodate wheelchairs and other mobility devices.

If you have trouble boarding for any reason, all buses have a "kneeling function," which lowers the front of the bus to the curb for your convenience.

## What if I've never been on COTA?



If you're new to COTA, call **(614) 228-1776** during office hours, weekdays from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., weekends and holidays 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and press "0" to be connected to one of our friendly COTA service representatives. COTA also offers free service to senior organizations. COTA staff will come to your location to provide transit information, how-to-ride education, and to process on-site new and renewal Senior ID cards. To schedule a COTA representative for your group, call (614) 275-5813.

## "Ride" Insurance

Working seniors who use the bus for their commute to work qualify for MORPC's Guaranteed Ride Home. While at work if you have an emergency or unexpected overtime, call a taxi. Ride Solutions will reimburse 90% of the fare (maximum four times a year). Just call 1-888-742-RIDE for free enrollment.

**RideSolutions**  
**1-888-742-RIDE**  
[www.ridesolutions.morpc.org](http://www.ridesolutions.morpc.org)

## How do I find out more?

Call (614) 228-1776 to request a system map or a timetable for your route. For assistance with our Interactive Voice Recording System, just press "0" to be connected to a customer service representative. Information about COTA routes and schedules, as well as a convenient trip-planner, is now available 24 hours a day on our website:

**[www.cota.com](http://www.cota.com)**