

TRANSPORTATION TO CLINICAL SITES

Medical schools have recently recognized that students need educational experiences beyond those available in teaching hospitals. In answer to this educational need, ambulatory sites, rehabilitation centers, geriatric facilities, nursing homes, health centers, and other venues have been introduced to provide a comprehensive exposure to a broad range of patients, illness, and care. At the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, we are arranging teaching in more locales than before, and we have therefore felt the need for a transportation statement.

University of Pittsburgh students are responsible for arranging their own transportation, including that to and from their clinic sites. These sites, usually, are accessible by public transportation from the medical school.

When a clinical site is inaccessible by public transportation, students should be encouraged to seek out fellow students assigned to the site with whom they might car pool. Failing that, students are advised to take public transportation to the nearest point to their site, and to take a cab the rest of the way. The student would be responsible for paying all transportation costs incurred.

Students who choose to take cars to their sites are responsible for covering all gas and parking fees incurred by that mode of travel. Again, car pooling - and cost sharing - with fellow students is recommended whenever feasible.

Students who consider themselves unable to afford the cost of transportation to a clinical site should be referred to their financial aid advisor. The average cost of travel to clinical sites is included in the standard student budget used to assess financial need. If, however, a review of the student's financial aid case reveals that he/she qualifies for further assistance, adjustments in the aid package may be made by the financial aid office. (518 Scaife Hall).