



# City of Chicago

## Business Affairs and Consumer Protection

### PUBLIC VEHICLE INDUSTRY NOTICE

**Visit [chicago.gov/coronavirus](http://chicago.gov/coronavirus) for health, well-being, food, housing, utilities, plus financial and employment support resources and services. The City's dedicated COVID-19 webpage is updated with the current information and resources.**

April 6, 2020

Notice No. 20-011

### **INCREASED WAV INCENTIVES for TAXICAB INDUSTRY**

In its continuing effort to support transportation options for people who use wheelchairs – an essential transportation service, the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP), in consultation with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, is increasing the following incentives to sustain and increase wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) taxicab service. The following financial incentives are funded through the Accessibility Fund, as defined in MCC § 9-112-010.

Starting April 6, 2020, pursuant to Taxicab Medallion License Holder RULE TX7.07(m), BACP is increasing the following financial incentives for the purchase and maintenance of wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) taxi by initiating a new pilot program.

1. **\$25,000** (*up from \$20,000*) reimbursement for a post-manufacture or after-market mechanical conversion of an eligible new vehicle to a WAV taxicab.
  2. **\$35,000** (*up from \$25,000*) reimbursement for an eligible new factory manufactured WAV taxicab.
- Vehicles purchased on or after April 6, 2020 to be placed into service as WAV taxicabs qualify for the new incentive amounts outlined above. Vehicles purchased prior to April 6, 2020 to be placed into service as WAV taxicabs will be eligible for the \$20,000 conversion or \$25,000 factory built incentives.
3. **\$9,000** (*up from \$8,000*) **annual** reimbursement on qualifying maintenance and repair costs associated with a WAV taxicab vehicle.
- The increased amount associated with maintenance reimbursement applies to costs in calendar year 2020 and future years.

4. **\$25** (*up from \$15*) subsidy reimbursement for eligible WAV taxicab drivers per twelve hour lease agreement of a WAV taxicab vehicle. For a twenty-four hour WAV taxicab vehicle lease, a WAV taxicab driver may request a \$50.00 (*up from \$30*) subsidy reimbursement.
- Lease agreements entered into on or after April 6, 2020 qualify for the new incentive amounts outlined above. Subsidy requests for WAV taxicab lease agreements entered into prior to April 6, 2020 will be eligible for the \$15/12 hour lease and \$30/24 hour lease incentives.

Taxicab Medallion License Holders must meet the following criteria to be eligible for above incentives:

1. Compliance with City laws and in good license standing with the City;
2. Medallion licensee is affirmatively taking steps to ensure a taxicab driver operating licensee's WAV taxicab has been trained to properly and safety load, unload, and secure passengers using wheelchairs;
3. Medallion licensee is affirmatively taking steps to ensure a taxicab driver operating licensee's WAV taxicab is actively participating and responding to requests from the City of Chicago Centralized WAV Taxicab Dispatch Service;
4. Medallion licensee's WAV taxicab must participate and follow the procedures as they relate to the Centralized Dispatch System for WAV Taxicabs to ensure a timely demand response system;
5. Medallion licensee is affirmatively taking steps to ensure a taxicab driver operating licensee's WAV taxicab is accepting PACE TAP trips; and
6. Medallion licensee's WAV taxicab is equipped with technology and equipment to accept and process PACE TAP trip payments.

Taxicab Driver must meet the following criteria to be eligible for above incentives:

1. Compliance with City laws and in good license standing with the City;
  2. Taxicab driver is properly and safety loading, unloading, and securing passengers using wheelchairs;
  3. Taxicab driver is actively participating and responding to requests from the City of Chicago Centralized WAV Taxicab Dispatch Service;
  4. Taxicab driver is accepting PACE TAP trips; and
  5. Taxicab driver must verify active participation in the City of Chicago Centralized WAV Taxicab Dispatch Service and maintain trip data on WAV requests performed.
- **Start the process** by completing and submitting the appropriate subsidy/reimbursement form posted at [chicago.gov/bacp](http://chicago.gov/bacp)
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- ▶ For questions, comments, or to join the Business Affairs and Consumer Protection-Public Vehicle Operations (BACPPV) e-mail list to receive industry notices and other news, send an email to [BACPPV@cityofchicago.org](mailto:BACPPV@cityofchicago.org).
- ▶ Rules and Regulations governing City of Chicago licensed public vehicles and public chauffeurs are available at [chicago.gov/bacp](http://chicago.gov/bacp).
- ▶ The Municipal Code of Chicago is available at [www.amlegal.com](http://www.amlegal.com).

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