



Frequently Asked Questions





# Frequently Asked Questions



SmartBenefits® "Plu\$50" is an incentive program that offers employees a free \$50 SmarTrip® card just to try transit, and that make it easy for employers to implewment a commuter benefit program.

#### How does Plu\$50 work?

Our goals are twofold: to make it easy for employers to implement a commuter Smart Benefits program, and to offset employee transit costs with the free \$50 incentive program until their commuter benefits take effect the following month.

#### What are the benefits to our organization?

Offering transit or commuter benefits is a great way to retain and attract new employees, managing rising parking costs, and even improve the environment and air quality by reducing traffic congestion. There may also be tax saving advantages from allowing staff to pre-tax their commute cost. Consult with your tax adviser regarding potential savings.

#### What's the eligibility criteria?

Alexandria organizations of all sizes are eligible to participate in the Smartbenefits Plu\$50 program. In order to receive the free \$50 SmarTrip cards, staff that are new to bus or rail service and do not already own a SmarTrip® card may be eligible. Please note that federal government employees, employees currently enrolled in SmartBenefits, current vanpool and transit users are not eligible for this incentive. The SmartBenefits® "Plu\$50" program is available while funding lasts.



#### How much does it cost to participate?

There is no additional costs for participation or administration in the SmartBenefits or Plu\$50 Program. You only pay the cost of the monthly commuter benefit, such as the cost of a commute subsidy!

#### Is there a complicated contract to navigate?

Not at all. The SmartBenefits Sales Team will help you determine the type of program that best fits your organization.

## How can our company get into the "Plu\$50 Program" so that the employees can receive the free \$50 to try transit?

First, does your company offer SmartBenefit to your employees? If you are not already enrolled in and providing a commuter benefit with SmartBenefits, contact SmartBenefits ® Sales Team at smartbenefits@wmata. com and they will make it easy to enroll in the new Plu\$50 incentive program. Once you set up your program, GO Alex will work with you to market the program to the staff and distribute the free \$50 SmarTrip cards.

#### We are a small company, can we enroll in SmartBenefits?

Yes. Whether your company has one or one thousand employees, you can enroll in the SmartBenefits Plu\$50 program.

### Can the SmarTrip card be traded in for its cash value? No.

## What happens if staff do not use the full \$50 on the SmarTrip card or loses the card?

Once the staff receives their card, it is theirs to keep and will retain the remaining balance until it is used. Unfortunately, lost or stolen cards will not be replaced. Staff will need to purchase another card and register the replacement card on their SmartBenefits account and with your Human Resources department.

For more information, please contact your GO Alex representative at

City of Alexandria, VA www.alexandriava.gov/GOAlex 703.746.4401

GOAlexVA

GOAlex@alexandriava.gov



