

## I'm Interested in Vanpooling!

I am interested in (check all those which apply):

- Joining a vanpool as a rider\*
- Driving a vanpool\*
- Carpooling\*

S S S S S S S S S S S S S

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address (or major cross streets)\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City ZIP

( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employer Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City ZIP

( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Days Work Hours Flexibility (in minutes)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
How do you get to work now? (drive alone, bus, carpool, etc.)

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\*I understand that my name and telephone number or e-mail address will be registered and provided to other persons requesting ride-matching assistance. My address will remain confidential. Commute Alternatives provides ride-matching referral services and does not certify the character of ridesharing applicants. You are advised to screen referrals to your personal satisfaction.

*Detach and return the form at right to the address below to receive a free vanpool/ carpool matchlist. For faster service, give us a call or visit our website.*



P.O. Box 809  
Marina, CA 93933-0809

Salinas Area  
(831) 422-POOL

Monterey Peninsula  
(831) 883-3754

Facsimile  
(831) 883-3755

[www.commuteralternativesinfo](http://www.commuteralternativesinfo)

[rideshare@ambag.org](mailto:rideshare@ambag.org)

Parts of this brochure were adapted with permission from Commute Solutions, a program of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.



# Vanpooling



Vanpools are a convenient, reliable, enjoyable mode of transportation, ideal for commute distances over 40 miles round-trip.



422-POOL

# Questions & Answers

## How do vanpools work?

Although a few vans are owned by employers, most are either leased or owned by individual commuters. Commute Alternatives can help interested commuters attain a van and organize a vanpool.

## How many people are there in a vanpool?

A minimum of seven people is normally required to start a vanpool. The number of riders, however, range from 7 to 15. The more passengers riding in a vanpool, the lower the monthly fee charged to each person.

## Who drives the van?

The owner or leasee is usually responsible for driving. In addition, each van has one or more back-up drivers to cover vacations and illnesses.

## Do vanpools provide door-to-door service?

Not necessarily. Each group sets its own route, schedule, and pick-up and drop-off locations. Most vanpools have common meeting points such as a Park & Ride lot, park, shopping center, or major cross street.



## How much does it cost?

Riders pay an average of five to nine cents per mile. The riders' fares cover leasing costs, as well as operating expenses, such as gas, maintenance, and insurance. Fares may change depending upon the operating expenses and changes in the number of riders.

## What kind of commitment is required?

In almost all cases, drivers and riders have a month-to-month commitment to the vanpool. Riders may leave the vanpool by giving the driver a 30-day notice.

## How are fares collected?

Fares are usually collected at the start of each month by the coordinator, who is in charge of organizing the vanpool. The collections coordinator may or may not send you an invoice. For tax benefits purposes, ask for a receipt.

## I'm interested in being a driver.

### What's in it for me?

Drivers usually have their expenses covered by the other riders in exchange for driving and coordinating the vanpool.



## What happens if I'm sick or on vacation?

Most vanpools have back-up drivers and waiting lists of riders. If you're a rider, you can sublet your seat to someone on the waiting list. If you're a driver, you make advance arrangements with a back-up driver.

## What are the driver's basic responsibilities?

Drivers are responsible for picking up and dropping off passengers, arranging for van maintenance, and fueling the van. Again, each arrangement varies. In some vanpools, riders share some of the responsibilities. Keep in mind the driver is usually the first one out in the morning and the last one home.

## Is smoking or eating permitted in the van?

Each van has its own rules that are generally established by consensus. Issues such as smoking, eating, perfume, and choice of radio stations are discussed by each group when the vanpool is formed.

## Vanpooling isn't for everyone.

Vanpooling works best for long-distance commutes. If your commute is more than 20 miles one way, vanpooling could be your ideal commute. Vanpools are the best deal for commuters who travel from Salinas or the Monterey Peninsula to the San Jose or Santa Cruz areas. If you have a short commute, consider other alternatives. We can also help you join a carpool, get bus schedule information, or pick a suitable bicycleroute.