

Concessionary Diamond Travelcard

Guidance notes

National entitlement

The concessionary fares pass entitles you to free travel on permitted local bus services in England from 9:30am to 11:00pm on weekdays, and at all times on weekends and bank holidays (on production of a valid pass). At all other times you must pay the standard fare, this cannot be reclaimed from the operator or local authorities.

Applicants are only permitted one pass per person and this is provided by the authority where you live. Your pass will be valid until the expiry date shown on the front.

Local services

Your South Gloucestershire Concessionary Diamond Travelcard will allow free travel from 9am Monday to Friday throughout South Gloucestershire, Bath, Bristol and North Somerset authority areas.

You can still make journeys into Wales from South Gloucestershire and on some local bus services operating directly to Chepstow and Newport. We advise that you check before you travel.

You will also be entitled to the following benefits: Shopmobility free of charge, Dial-a-Ride and South Gloucestershire's social car scheme at a reduced cost. Details can be found online at www.southglos.gov.uk/concessionaryfares

Eligibility for a concessionary Diamond Travelcard

You qualify for a concessionary Diamond Travelcard when you reach the pensionable age applicable for women, irrespective of whether you are male or female. Alternatively you may qualify if you satisfy the disability criteria.

To apply your main residence must be within South Gloucestershire. Visitors on a temporary visa and British Nationals whose main home is abroad are not eligible.

Eligibility reason 1 - You are of pensionable age

On the 6 April 2010 the state pension age for women changed. As the pensionable age for women gradually increases from 60 to 65 and over, so too will the age of eligibility for a concessionary Diamond Travelcard for both men and women.

To find out when you become eligible for your Concessionary Diamond Travelcard use the table at the end of this form.

Eligibility reason 2 - You receive an automatic qualifying benefit

The benefits for automatic eligibility are:

- A. Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance
- B. Personal Independence Payment (PIP), where you have been awarded at least eight points against either the PIP “Moving around” and/or “Communicating verbally” activities
- C. War Pensioner’s Mobility Supplement
- D. Blue Badge Holder

Eligibility reason 3 - Eligibility under qualifying disabilities

Your disability must be permanent and have lasted at least 12 months, or be likely to last at 12 months or be likely to recur. The disability must have a substantial effect on your ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The seven qualifying categories of disability are as follows:

- 1. you are registered blind or partially sighted
- 2. you are profoundly or severely deaf
- 3. you are without speech
- 4. you have a disability, or suffered an injury, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to walk
- 5. you do not have arms or have long-term loss of the use of both arms
- 6. you have a learning disability, that is, a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind which includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning
- 7. if you applied for the grant of a licence to drive a motor vehicle under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, you would have your application refused pursuant to section 92 of the Act (physical fitness) otherwise than on the ground of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

Replacement concessionary travelcard

There is an administrative charge of £8 to replace a travelcard unless it is due to expire in the next 3 months. You can apply for a replacement travelcard if it is lost, stolen, or you would like to update the photograph. If your pass has been stolen please report the theft to the police first who will issue you with a crime reference number. If you have a crime number we can issue a replacement free of charge.

If you require a replacement pass, please contact the concessionary travel team before completing an application form.

Reassessment of your Concessionary Diamond Travelcard

Prior to the expiry of your concessionary Diamond Travelcard a reassessment of your eligibility will be undertaken. Where we are able to, SGC will carry out a residency check and if you are still resident in South Gloucestershire and qualified under the age category your concessionary Diamond Travelcard will be reissued automatically.

If you qualified under one of the other categories you will be required to reapply for your concessionary Diamond Travelcard and provide supporting evidence.

If you previously received a Concessionary Diamond Travelcard as you were in receipt of a qualifying benefit you will need to complete and submit a new application form.

If you previously were eligible for a Concessionary Diamond Travelcard under certain qualifying disabilities your card may be issued automatically providing you are still a residence of South Gloucestershire. If we are unable to automatically reissue your Concessionary Diamond Travelcard, we will aim to write to customers and advise them that a new application form will need to be completed

If you have moved to the area and do not have a South Gloucestershire concessionary Diamond Travelcard you will need to apply as a new applicant and provide supporting evidence, passes issued by another authority cannot be reissued by South Gloucestershire council.

The concessionary travel team will aim to issue approved concessionary Diamond Travelcard prior to the expiry of your existing card. Please note that if an application is not complete or supporting evidence, where required, is not submitted this will cause a delay in assessment.

Changes of address or personal details

If you are moving address or your personal details have changed, it is important to contact the concessionary travel team.

Date of birth	Date eligible for a concessionary pass
6 April 1952 – 5 May 1952	6 May 2014
6 May 1952 – 5 June 1952	6 July 2014
6 June 1952 – 5 July 1952	6 September 2014
6 July 1952 – 5 August 1952	6 November 2014
6 August 1952 – 5 September 1952	6 January 2015
6 September 1952 – 5 October 1952	6 March 2015
6 October 1952 – 5 November 1952	6 May 2015
6 November 1952 – 5 December 1952	6 July 2015
6 December 1952 – 5 January 1953	6 September 2015
6 January 1953 – 5 February 1953	6 November 2015
6 February 1953 – 5 March 1953	6 January 2016
6 March 1953 – 5 April 1953	6 March 2016
6 April 1953 – 5 May 1953	6 July 2016
6 May 1953 – 5 June 1953	6 November 2016
6 June 1953 – 5 July 1953	6 March 2017
6 July 1953 – 5 August 1953	6 July 2017
6 August 1953 – 5 September 1953	6 November 2017
6 September 1953 – 5 October 1953	6 March 2018
6 October 1953 – 5 November 1953	6 July 2018
6 November 1953 – 5 December 1953	6 November 2018
6 December 1953 – 5 January 1954	6 March 2019
6 January 1954 – 5 February 1954	6 May 2019
6 February 1954 – 5 March 1954	6 July 2019
6 March 1954 – 5 April 1954	6 September 2019
6 April 1954 – 5 May 1954	6 November 2019
6 May 1954 – 5 June 1954	6 January 2020
6 June 1954 – 5 July 1954	6 March 2020
6 July 1954 – 5 August 1954	6 May 2020
6 August 1954 – 5 September 1954	6 July 2020
6 September 1954 – 5 October 1954	6 September 2020
6 October 1954 – 5 April 1960	66th birthday

