

Redesign Your Commute

What would your commute look like if you shared the ride in a vanpool?

You could spend less than \$100 per month to get to work

Share the ride with four or more coworkers



Work, read, or nap while you ride

Options include WiFi, TV, and satellite radio



SANDAG Vanpool Program
RedesignYourCommute.com



Redesign Your Commute

Ride together, save together. The average person in a vanpool pays less than \$100 per month to get to work. A vanpool could help you save money on gas and reduce wear and tear on your personal vehicle. Most vanpools also qualify for a subsidy of up to \$400 per month from the SANDAG iCommute program.

Choose the ride that works for you. Multiple vehicle options, from comfortable 7-seat SUVs to 15-passenger vans, can be customized with accessories like WiFi, satellite radio, and power outlets. Picture cruising to work in a sleek new SUV with leather seats!

Design a better experience. When someone else drives and you spend less time in traffic, you'll have time to catch up on email, read, text, or even take a nap! Meeting points and times can be arranged to fit your schedule, and vehicles are leased from a certified vanpool vendor.

It's better together. Sharing your commute not only means saving money and time; vanpools help the environment too. Fewer cars on the road means less traffic congestion and lower CO2 emissions.

Joining a vanpool has been an amazing experience. The representatives are friendly and helpful. I get to spend time driving with awesome people and save money while doing so! The vehicle is very comfortable and roomy with all the bells and whistles. I will continue to vanpool for as long as I can!

— Savannah R., vanpooler

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a vanpool?

A: A vanpool brings five or more people together to share the costs of commuting in a van or SUV. It's like a carpool, only bigger! The vehicle is leased and paid for by the participants, with the primary driver being the leaseholder. Typically, the lease is month to month, unless you want it for longer at a reduced rate.

Q: What do I need to start a vanpool?

A: You or another individual needs to volunteer to be the driver and to sign the vanpool lease agreement. The following are also required:

- DMV driving record check (required for primary and all alternate drivers)
- DMV Medical Evaluation (only required for primary and alternate drivers in vehicles with more than 10 passengers)
- Find other people to join you who share a similar commute pattern and working hours. The number of fellow participants you need to find depends on the size of the vehicle you want to lease
- Agree with other riders on fixed arrival and departure times from a centrally located meeting place

Q: How much does it cost?

A: Participants share the cost of the vehicle lease and gas. The SANDAG Vanpool Program provides a subsidy of up to \$400 per month to offset the lease cost. Employees may be eligible for additional incentives from their employer. Members of the military and federal employees can also receive up to \$255 per month for vanpool costs! The average person will spend less than \$100 per month to get to work in a vanpool.

Q: Are vanpool vehicles ADA compliant?

A: ADA-compliant vehicles are available upon request. Enterprise is the contracted vendor for vanpool services and can provide more information. You also can email vanpool@sandag.org with questions.

Q: Who owns the vehicle?

A: Most vehicles are leased by individual commuters. Vehicles are leased through the SANDAG vanpool vendor, Enterprise. They have competitive pricing that includes a complete service package, vehicle registration, insurance, and maintenance.

Q: Am I eligible for the SANDAG Vanpool Program subsidy? Is there any paperwork required?

A: SANDAG provides a subsidy of up to \$400 per month for vanpools that meet a minimum occupancy, have an origin or destination within San Diego County, and fill out and sign the vanpool application. Vanpools that do not have both an origin and a destination in San Diego County must travel at least 20 miles one-way within San Diego County to qualify. Vanpool participants are required to participate in program surveys and should log their vanpool trips each month online using the iCommute TripTracker system.

Q: Who does the driving?

A: It depends on how your vanpool is set up. In some vehicles, everyone takes turns driving. Typically, two or three participants volunteer to share the driving or step in when needed.

Q: Is a special driver's license required?

A: No, drivers and back-up drivers only need a regular Class C driver's license. Drivers applying for vehicles carrying more than 10 passengers are required to have a DMV medical evaluation.

Q: Who is responsible for maintaining and servicing the vehicle?

A: The vanpool vendor pays for maintenance and service about every 6,000 miles. In the unlikely event that the van breaks down, the vanpool vendor offers free 24-hour roadside assistance that will bring a replacement van to you so you can quickly resume your commute.

Q: What about insurance?

A: The vanpool vendor offers \$1,000,000 liability insurance, with \$500,000 per occurrence coverage to protect authorized drivers, with no deductible.

Q: How do I find other riders?

A: The iCommute team has a database of interested participants and can help match your vanpool with commuters who fit your schedule and route. iCommute also offers an online system for trip planning and ridematching. Vanpool participants are encouraged to talk with their vanpool vendor, HR department, coworkers, or other people in their building to find a potential match.

Q: Will I be picked up at my home?

A: Each vanpool will agree on a meeting place and schedule. Vanpools typically meet at a central location that suits everyone, such as a Park & Ride lot.

Q: Can I use the vehicle for personal trips?

A: Yes. The vanpool vendor allows extra miles each year in addition to the allotted miles per vehicle. Please contact them directly for more details.

Q: How long does it take to start a vanpool?

A: The application process takes between 24–48 hours.



Guaranteed Ride Home

You'll never be stranded. Vanpool participants who work in San Diego County have a built-in safety net with the Guaranteed Ride Home program. Rest assured, we've got you covered.

Registered Guaranteed Ride Home participants can get a free ride home up to three times per year in the event of:

- Personal or family illness or emergency
- Unscheduled overtime (with a supervisor's approval)
- Being stranded at work due to vanpool driver leaving for an emergency

How will I get home? Upon registration, you will receive three Guaranteed Ride Home vouchers to use with either Uber, Yellow Cab, or Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Be sure to print a voucher and have it handy when needed. Follow the instructions on the voucher to contact a service provider. You will be required to relinquish the voucher or promo code at the time of service.

How do I sign up?

To register for the Guaranteed Ride Home program, simply complete an online registration form, and make sure you have an active iCommute account.



Sample agreement between participants

Meeting place(s) and time(s):

Route:

Driver schedule: (For example, will you switch drivers weekly? Monthly?)

• Food allowed?	Yes	No
• Drinks allowed?	Yes	No
• Cellphone conversations and time limit?	Yes	No

To discuss:

- Payment arrangements
- Temperature in the car, a/c, and windows
- Preferred or assigned seating
- Quiet time and talking
- Absences
- How long to wait at a meeting point
- Music preferences, volume, who adjusts
- Shared costs: gasoline, parking, car wash, etc.
- Side trips such as a coffee stop in the morning
- Other items agreed upon include: _____

Getting started

If you are ready to start a vanpool, please contact the vanpool vendor for a quote. You may also contact the SANDAG Vanpool Program coordinator for additional information or to answer any of your questions.

Enterprise

(800) 826-4967 | vanpool.com

Contact us

For more information about the vanpool program, visit RedesignYourCommute.com, call 511 and say "iCommute," or email vanpool@sandag.org.

You can also contact our staff directly:

SANDAG Vanpool Program

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