

## Flip Seats (Accessible Taxis)

Flip seats are movable, let-down seats. They are most often installed in wheelchair accessible taxis. To use these seats, taxi operators must have “express authorization” for flip seats on their passenger transportation licence.

You must apply for this “express authorization”. If you are applying for a new licence, you can apply to use flip seats as part of your application. If you already have a licence, you must apply to amend your licence.

When you apply, use the Flip Seat Request form in the [Board Forms package](#). Applicants must include the following information with a flip seat authorization request:

- a. **Statement** that explains why you need to use flip seats.
- b. **Evidence of public need** for flip seats.
- c. **Number of trips** for persons who need a wheelchair accessible taxi (if you are an existing licensee). Give a daily or weekly average. Submit data for at least six months.
- d. **List transportation service agreements** that your company has. Also, state whether taxis used under those contracts will have flip seats. For example, contracts may relate to the following: airports or airlines, cruise ship terminals, ferry terminals, travel agencies, postal workers, crew transportation, school boards, and hotels.
- e. **Priority Dispatch Plan**. See Reference Sheet 7 “[Preparing an Accessible Service Plan](#)”. (A Priority Dispatch Plan is part of an Accessible Service Plan.)

As with every application, the Board considers the following questions when looking at requests for flip seats.

1. Is there a public need for the proposed service?
2. Are you a fit and proper person and capable of providing the proposed service?

3. Would approving the application promote sound economic conditions in the transportation industry?

The Board may also look at the availability of wheelchair accessible taxi services in an area. The Board may look at what an applicant has done to ensure that people who need wheelchair accessible taxis are being served effectively. The Board approves wheelchair accessible taxis because there is a public need for them. The Board expects that taxi operators will ensure that these taxis are available to people who need them.

Operators are responsible for ensuring their vehicles meet safety standards. Division 10.07(5) of the *Motor Vehicle Act Regulations* sets out safety requirements for flip seats. For information about vehicle safety standards and certification requirements, contact Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement.

## ***More Information***

### **Forms**

[PT Board Form 3: Flip Seat Request](#)

[Board Optional Forms package \(with Flip Seat Request form\)](#)

### **Priority Dispatch Plans**

[Reference Sheet 7: Preparing an Accessible Service Plan](#)

### **Web Page**

More information about accessible transportation issues is posted on the Board's [Accessible Transportation Web Page](#).