

Concessionary Travel

Category a – blind or partially sighted

A person is eligible for a concessionary bus pass if they are blind (severely sight impaired) or partially sighted (sight impaired).

In general terms a person can be registered as blind, or severely sight impaired, if they cannot see (with glasses, if worn) the top letter of the eye test chart (used by doctors and opticians) at a distance of 3 metres or less. Some people who can read the top letter of an eye test chart at 3 metres, but not at 6 metres, may still be eligible for registration as blind if their field of vision is also severely restricted.

A person can be registered as partially sighted, or sight impaired, if they have a full field of vision but can only read the top letter of the eye test chart at a distance of 6 metres or less (with glasses, if worn). However, if they can read the next three lines down at the same distance, but the field of vision is either moderately or severely restricted, they may still qualify for registration.

You will be eligible if;

- you are registered, or entitled to be registered, as blind or severely sight impaired, or
- you are registered, or entitled to be registered, as partially sighted or sight impaired.

You will **not** be eligible if;

- you are not entitled to be registered

N.B. you may still qualify if your vision is so impaired that you would be refused a driving licence. See the information sheet for 'Category g' for more details.

Proving that you are eligible



we can accept this evidence

- Certificate of Visual Impairment (CVI) completed by an ophthalmologist.
- Form BD8 (issued from 1990 but replaced more recently by the CVI).
- Evidence of registration with the local authority as being severely sight impaired (blind) or sight impaired (partially sighted) (e.g. registration card or confirmation letter). In Warwickshire the register is managed by Warwickshire Vision Support, (formerly Warwickshire Association for the Blind), who can be contacted on 01926 411331.
- For a veteran, the 'Reasons for Decision' letter under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS).

If you cannot provide one of the above pieces of acceptable evidence, then please call the Concessionary Travel Team on 01926 414986 to discuss your application or renewal.

You are advised not to ask your GP to complete the evidence form, or write a letter, as this is not an NHS service. If your GP does agree to complete the form you will normally have to pay, and a completed form does not guarantee you a bus pass. We do not deal directly with GPs and we cannot contact them on your behalf.