

RELIEF TRANSIT OPERATOR

The position:

Driving a bus for Pierce Transit is a very important and highly rewarding job. A Relief Transit Operator covers vacancies created by full-time operators who are unavailable for reasons such as vacations, sick leave, training time, etc. All Relief Operator trainees will receive training. Upon successful completion of training, you will begin in part-time positions and will be promoted to a full-time position based on seniority as vacancies occur. Relief Operators are guaranteed a minimum of 25 hours per week, but could work 40 or more hours depending on the needs of the Agency in any given week. Relief Transit Operators must be available seven days a week. Your hours can change with little or no notice and will vary from day to day. **Our operating hours begin at 1:50 a.m. and continue until 1:06 a.m. Relief Operators are expected to drive any shift and any route including nights, holidays, weekends, mornings, split shifts, and your days off if necessary.**

Wage:

- \$16.58 per hour during training
- Relief Transit Operator wages range from \$18.42 - \$21.46 per hour
- Full-time Transit Operator wages range from \$22.24 - \$28.23 per hour

Job Duties/Responsibilities:

- Safe and efficient operation of transit vehicles while following routes, schedules and all traffic regulations
- Informing customers about fares, routes, schedules and operating rules
- Assisting customers using wheelchairs in boarding and exiting the vehicle
- Completing written reports
- Inspecting the bus or van before and after operation
- Prompt and regular attendance

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must be at least 21 years of age at the time of hire
- Stable 10-year work record with references and verifiable work experience. Self employed individuals must be able to provide documentation of work performed and/or contacts that can confirm work record
- Minimum of **five** years of licensed driving experience with an excellent driving record for the past **five** years. Must possess a valid Washington State Driver's License at the time of hire
- Possess a Commercial License Permit (CLP) by the first day of training (more information will be provided about how to obtain these documents as you get further along in the selection process).
- Superior customer service skills including the ability to interact with individuals of various backgrounds and abilities, to problem solve, and to promote good passenger relations
- Ability to read and speak the English language sufficiently to converse with the general public, to understand traffic signs and signals and to comprehend written instructions and standard operating procedures, notices or memos.
- Ability to learn new routes and procedures and to follow them reliably and consistently
- Ability to meet strict physical requirements, which will be determined by a physical exam including a drug screen. Must be able to maneuver up to 300 pounds (passenger including wheelchair) over a six-inch curb and up a wheelchair ramp. The Agency and the examining physician will look for conditions that are likely to interfere with the applicant's ability to perform the essential functions of the job and to safely operate and control a motor vehicle.
- Knowledge of traffic laws and ordinances and safety rules
- Successful public contact experience and a stable paid or volunteer work history are desirable

How to Apply:

Applications and required supplemental forms may be downloaded from our website at www.piercetransit.org/careers or obtained from the Pierce Transit receptionist at 3701 – 96th St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499 or by calling 253.581.8000. Failure to follow written instructions on the application form and/or incomplete applications may be cause for disqualification.

Benefits:

All Relief Transit Operators receive medical, dental and sick leave benefits. Medical benefits begin the first day of the month following date of hire and dental benefits begin the first day of your seventh month of employment. Sick leave is earned on a pro-rated basis after completion of six months of employment.

Relief Transit Operators will not earn holiday pay while on part-time status. However, upon completion of six months of employment, you will be eligible for six paid vacation leave days to be used within 12 calendar months. This time may be used in hourly, daily or weekly increments. Two paid personal holidays for Relief Transit Operators will also be available under the same terms as other employees.

All new employees of Pierce Transit belong to the Washington State Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). Employees do not participate in the social security system, except for a 1.45% payment for Medicare.

Other benefits include life insurance, deferred compensation plans with an employer match of up to 4.25% of annual compensation, long term disability insurance, a flexible spending account for eligible health care and/or dependent care expenses, and an ORCA pass.

Selection Procedure:

Applicants who submit **completed** application materials and pass a screen of their application and driving record will be invited to an interview. All applicants will be contacted. Please be patient with the process as we receive a large number of applicants for these positions.

For questions or additional information, please contact Vanessa Carrillo at 253.984.8217, Adrienne Johnson at 253.983.3642 or Jean Carlson at 253.581.8081.