

Carpooling: How to Find and Register a Carpool

Why Carpool?

Wake Forest University encourages faculty and staff to share the ride to and from campus. Carpooling reduces reliance on single occupancy vehicle travel, saves money and gas, and reduces air pollution.

WFU carpool groups can register at any point during the year, park at no cost, and can choose a location on campus to which they would like to park near.

Steps to Find a Carpool Partner (Commute or Single Trip)

If you haven't already identified a rideshare partner, the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Parking and Transportation offer Zimride. [Zimride](#) is an electronic ride-sharing board that helps Wake Forest students, faculty, and staff connect with peers who are traveling to the same destination or in the same direction. Rides are matched based on the criteria set by the individuals offering and seeking rideshare partners.

- Go to www.zimride.com/wfu/.
- On the right hand side of the page click "Sign Up with Email" and fill in the required information. (Full Name, Email, Password, Affiliation)
- Once you are logged in, click the yellow "Post a ride" button in the upper right hand corner and fill in your ride details.
 - Starting from
 - Going to
 - Commute or single trip
 - How much you want each passenger to pay (if anything)
 - The number of available seats
 - Visibility
- Click "Post Ride." You will be notified by email if a match is found.

Steps to Register a WFU Commute Carpool

The WFU carpool program is open to all Wake Forest faculty and staff members currently employed by the university. Carpool groups must consist of two (2) or more participants who live along a reasonable commuting path and work similar work hours.

- Identify a rideshare partner using [Zimride](#) or through personal contacts.
- Confirm interest in registering a carpool with rideshare partner(s).
- Establish a point of contact (POC).

- The POC should collect the following information from all carpool participants: name, university ID, address, email address, license plate issuing state and number, vehicle model, color, and year.
- Members of the carpool may collectively choose a location on campus to which they would like to park nearest and Parking and Transportation will designate a carpool space as near to that location as possible.
- Once this information is collected, the POC needs to visit the Parking and Transportation office in Alumni Hall to complete the application, listing all of the carpool participant information listed above for each vehicle.
- Each individual carpool member must also visit the Parking and Transportation office and provide the following:
 - WFU ID
 - Proof of ownership for the vehicle he/she will drive to campus.
- A carpool hangtag will be issued to be shared among the members of the carpool group and each carpool member will receive four (4) daily-use hangtag parking permits per semester.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I have thought about carpooling before, but am not sure if it will work with my schedule. What happens if I try it and it's not a good fit?

A: If you post your commute and test out carpooling, there is no obligation to continue. You might want to explore options with different carpool partners until you find the best option. If you are unsuccessful, you can register for an individual parking permit at any time during the semester.

Q: What if I register a carpool and my carpool partner backs out on me?

A: If you register a carpool and it doesn't work out, there is no penalty. If a carpool disbands, the Parking and Transportation office must be notified. If a carpool is made up of just two (2) employees, the remaining member will have 30 days to fill the vacancy. If the vacancy remains unfilled after 30 days, the carpool will be considered void and the remaining member must return the carpool hangtag to the Parking and Transportation office and apply for an individual permit.

Q: I'm considering carpooling, but am uncomfortable not having a means to get somewhere if an emergency arises. Does Wake Forest offer an emergency ride service?

A: Yes. In the case of a personal or family emergency, the Parking and Transportation office will reimburse a carpool member for cab fare upon submission of a valid receipt. In the case of scheduled appointments or other driving needs during the workday,

carpool members are encouraged to maintain a membership in [Zipcar](#). Any of the four vehicles in the WFU shared fleet can be reserved and used as needed at a low hourly rate that includes gas and insurance.

Q: I am interested in carpooling but may need to come to campus individually more than four times per semester. Is it possible to obtain more than four daily-use hangtags?

A: Yes. Additional daily-use hangtags are available for \$5.00 each at the Parking and Transportation office.

Q: Some members of our department are attending a meeting off campus. We think others from Wake Forest might also be attending, but we're not sure how to connect with them. Is there a way to do that online?

A: Absolutely. Whether you are driving to a meeting, a regional conference, or just an office lunch, you can always offer/seek a ride through Zimride. If you are attending a regional conference and have colleagues from the area attending, you can post a ride that is open to our members in trusted partner network: University of Virginia, Appalachian State University, University of Richmond, UNC Chapel Hill, and NC State University.

Q: I am interested in carpooling, but don't have access to a vehicle. How can I find a ride?

A: Zimride is intended for all WFU users whether they have access to a vehicle or not. When posting a ride you will be able to select whether you are a passenger or are willing to drive. You can also click "I don't have a car" in your profile.

Q: I am interested in carpooling, but don't feel safe riding with someone I don't know. Is there a way to screen carpool matches?

A: Yes. Our Zimride network is only available to the WFU community and all users are required to create a Zimride profile before they can post a ride. If a matched carpool partner doesn't seem like a good fit for whatever reason, you are not obligated to continue.

Q: I would like to charge for the spots in my vehicle, but would prefer not to handle cash exchanges. Does Zimride offer an online payment system?

A: Yes. Zimride allows you to accept payment via credit card. In order to do this, you must have a registered PayPal account listed on your Zimride profile. Prior to accepting a match, passengers will be able to view how much you have asked them to contribute.

Q: I am sensitive to smoke and want to ensure I carpool with a nonsmoker. Is there a way to request this when posting a ride?

A: Yes. In your profile you can check the box that states “I prefer non-smoking.” This will show as a preference every time you post a ride. You can also post any other preferences in the “About me” section of your profile or in the notes section when you post a ride.