Taxi Voucher policy

Policy

Boston Children’s Hospital is committed to helping all residents and clinical fellows get home safely after working an extended shift. Any resident or clinical fellow at Boston Children’s Hospital who drove or biked to work and worked a shift of 24 or more hours is eligible to receive a voucher for a taxi ride home to ensure their safety and the safety of others. In addition any resident or clinical fellow who is leaving late at night when it is unsafe to walk or use public transportation is eligible to use a voucher. Both residents and clinical fellows enrolled in training programs at Boston Children’s Hospital and those residents and clinical fellows rotating to Boston Children’s Hospital from other institutions are eligible for this program.

Taxi vouchers are available for residents & clinical fellows from the Valet Desk twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Trainees participating in the program must show a valid Boston Children’s Hospital ID and complete a sign out sheet to allow the hospital to monitor and manage usage. By monitoring the usage of the program, we will be better able to understand the trends and demand on the program and ensure that the program is not used inappropriately. Any incidents of inappropriate use will be reported to the program director and reimbursement will be requested.

Procedure

TAXI VOUCHER PROGRAM GUIDELINES

NOTE: You must be on a rotation at Boston Children’s Hospital to use this program

FOR THOSE WHO DRIVE OR BIKE TO WORK

You may use the cab voucher program to get home safely if you drive or bike to & from work and:

- You have worked a shift of 24 hours or more;
- You feel fatigued and are concerned about falling asleep regardless of the length of the shift you worked.
- You cannot reasonably get home via public transportation

You may take a second voucher for a ride back to work the next day only if you are unable to return to work via public transportation.

Example #1: You have been at the hospital for an in-house call shift of 27 hours. You drove to work, but are concerned that you are too drowsy to safely drive home. You do not live near a subway or bus stop. You may take a taxi voucher for a ride home.
Example #2: You have been at the hospital for an in-house shift of 30 hours and are leaving the hospital at 11 a.m. You took the T to work today. You should return home via the T.

FOR THOSE WHO TAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OR WALK TO WORK

You may use the cab voucher program to get home safely if you take public transportation or walk to & from work and:

- You are ending a shift after dark, before dawn, and do not feel safe walking home AND
- Public transportation is NOT available.

You may take only one voucher if you walk or take public transportation to work.

If you are concerned for your safety in walking from the hospital to public transportation between 6:30 p.m. and 11:45 p.m., the evening shuttle service will bring you to the D or E line Longwood stops or Kenmore station. Between 11:45 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., you may request shuttle service by calling/Security x5-6121. Security will also provide a walking escort to/from area parking lots and garages and both Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; this escort service is available 24 hours a day.

Example #1: You are leaving the hospital at 6 p.m. You should return home using the same method you used to get to work.

Example #2: You are leaving the hospital at 9 p.m., and it is dark. You are worried about walking to the T due to the late hour. You should take the hospital’s evening shuttle service to one of the area T stations.

Example #3: You are leaving the hospital at 1 a.m. and there is no public transportation available. You may take a taxi voucher for a ride home.

Please remember that this program is intended to provide you with a safe means of returning home after working an extended shift or when leaving at a late hour. Usage will be closely monitored to ensure that it is not being used for any other purposes; abuses will be reported to the training program director and chief of the department, and reimbursement will be requested.

Questions or concerns? Contact the GME Office at x54372.
FOR USE WITH BOSTON CAB ONLY VOUCHERS CANNOT BE USED OUTSIDE OF GREATER BOSTON AREA

• The house staff member must complete this form. Please print and fill out all sections.
• If eligible for 2 vouchers you must complete 2 separate forms – one for each voucher

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<th>TIME ISSUED</th>
<th>DATE ISSUED</th>
<th>VOUCHER #</th>
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<th>ID#</th>
<th>YOUR NAME</th>
<th>YOUR TRAINING PROGRAM AT Boston Children’s</th>
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By your signature you indicate that you have read and understand the rules of the taxi voucher program (on reverse side of form)

TODAY I AM ON A ROTATION AT BOSTON CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AND I:

☐ Drove/biked to work     ☐ Took public transportation to work     ☐ Walked to work

I AM USING A CAB VOUCHER BECAUSE I:

☐ Drove/biked to work, worked a 24-hour or longer shift and feel too fatigued to get home safely
☐ Drove/biked to work, worked less than a 24+ shift and feel too fatigued to get home safely
☐ Am leaving at a late hour (between 12 midnight and 5 a.m.) and public transportation is not available.

Questions about this program should be addressed to the GME Office x54372