

FACT SHEET 17

Transport and Travel

The fact that your child has a limb difference shouldn't stop your family from travelling or getting around, but it may require a little more planning and consideration beforehand. When travelling with your child, or when your child is travelling alone, it is a good idea to be well prepared for a comfortable and stress-free journey.

This Fact Sheet provides information about car parking, travel on public transport, airplane travel, overseas and international travel, accommodation and general travel tips.

Car parking

You may find that, as the parent of a child with limb difference, being able to park your car closer to buildings is useful. This is particularly true if your child has difficulty walking long distances, is recovering from surgery, adjusting to a new prosthesis or in a wheelchair.

The disability parking rules and regulations in each state and territory differ. The differences include such things as: who is eligible for a permit; what they can use it for; how it can be used; costs and application process; and penalties for breaching the rules. The following links outline the rules and regulations in each state and territory:

Australian Capital Territory

www.rego.act.gov.au/parking/special-parking-permits/australian-disability-parking-permits

New South Wales

www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/using-roads/mobility-parking

Northern Territory

www.transport.nt.gov.au/mvr/disability-accessible-transport/accessible-parking

Queensland

<http://www.qld.gov.au/disability/out-and-about/driving>

South Australia

www.sa.gov.au/topics/transport-travel-and-motoring/public-transport-and-travel/getting-around-with-a-disability/disability-parking-permit

Tasmania

www.transport.tas.gov.au/passenger/concessions

Victoria

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/road-rules/parking-and-clearways/disability-parking

Western Australia

www.app.org.au

Public transport

Accessible public transport is important for all people. Accessible transport doesn't apply only to persons with a physical disability but also applies to pregnant women, parents using a pram and to older people. Public transport accessibility differs across Australia, with the following links providing information about accessibility in each state and territory.

Australian Capital Territory

www.transport.act.gov.au/catch_a_bus/accessible-public-transport

New South Wales

www.transport.nsw.gov.au/accessibility

Northern Territory

www.transport.nt.gov.au/public/bus/accessible-transport

Queensland

www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Travel-and-transport/Disability-access-and-mobility

South Australia

www.sa.gov.au/topics/transport-travel-and-motoring/public-transport-and-travel/getting-around-with-a-disability/public-transport-help

Tasmania

www.metrotas.com.au/corporate/publications/disability-action-plan

Victoria

www.ptv.vic.gov.au/getting-around/accessible-transport

Western Australia

www.wa.gov.au/information-about/getting-around/buses-trains-public-transport

Airplane travel

Travelling on airplanes, particularly when additional mobility devices are required or need to be transported, can sometimes be stressful for travellers. Every airplane company are required to support the accessibility needs of travellers but it is important to make the company

aware of any needs when making bookings. Most airplane companies, and airports, also have information about support available to travellers who have a disability – so have a look at their websites.

In Australia the Civil Aviation and Safety Authority provide excellent tips and advice for persons with accessibility needs who are travelling on airplanes.

www.casa.gov.au

A wide range of airplane travel tips, specific to children with limb difference, can be found on our website.

www.limbs4kids.org.au/advocacy-inclusion/airplanes

Accommodation

While more and more hotels and motels in Australia, and around the world, are ensuring that their facilities are fully accessible you may find that some aren't. If your son or daughter requires a ramp, room at a ground level, and/or relevant bathroom and shower modifications you are best to discuss your needs with the hotel when making a booking.

General travel tips

A wide range of travel tips, to ensure that your child and your family have a great journey, can be found in the travel tips section of our website. The tips are specific to children with limb difference and includes general travel information and security check details.

www.limbs4kids.org.au/advocacy-inclusion/general-travel-tips/

Accessing support

If you have questions or concerns about transport and travel you may want to speak to a Limbs 4 Kids team member who can assist you. You may also want to speak to another parent who has experienced what you are going through. If so, Limbs 4 Kids can connect you to a trained Peer Support Volunteer who you can speak to you. Visit our website or call us for more information and links to our online support.