



## AMERICAN BENEFITS GROUP

*My Commuter Connect*

### COMMUTER TRANSIT AND PARKING

*Section 132(f) Tax-Free Transportation Plan*

#### The Plan

A Qualified Transportation Fringe Benefit Plan allows you to set aside “pre-tax” dollars to pay for qualified employment-related transportation and commuter parking expenses.

#### There are two qualified transportation benefits:

**Qualified Parking** — Expenses for parking at or near the employer’s business premises or parking at or near a location from which an employee commutes to work by mass transit, vanpooling, carpool, etc.

**Transit Passes and Vanpooling** — Expenses for passes, fare card or similar item that entitles the employee to transportation on a mass transit system to and from work or for the cost of transportation between the employee’s place of residence and place of employment in a commuter vehicle that has a seating capacity of 6 persons or more (not including the driver) where at least 80% of the mileage used for the year is for the purpose of transporting employees to their place of employment.

You may use your benefit for [LyftLine](#) and [UBERpool](#) (not available in every city).



#### Using the Transportation Benefit

To participate in the plan, you simply estimate your monthly transportation expenses. Then login to your existing enrollment site and clicking the link for commuter benefits. You will be led through a series of screens to place your order, first by selecting your Greater Metropolitan Area, and then your specific transit authority. You will have access to commuter products, transit vouchers, direct pay parking, and parking reimbursement. Your order will be processed on a monthly basis and mailed directly to your home. Your order can be set up as one time only or recurring. Customer service issues are handled by American Benefits Group dedicated account services team at 800-499-3539 or [support@amben.com](mailto:support@amben.com).

#### IRS Limits

The IRS has placed monthly pre-tax contribution and reimbursements limits on Parking and Transit Expenses. Employees may participate in one or both accounts. Benefits are excluded from federal income and payroll taxes, and most state taxes, up to the monthly limits. As of 1/1/2019 monthly limits are increasing to \$265 for parking and \$265 for transit/vanpooling.

#### The Importance of Planning

Unlike Flexible Spending Accounts, your Parking and Transit contribution amounts can be modified from month to month as your needs change. Unused contributions in your Parking and Transit accounts carry forward indefinitely to be used for future expenses as long as you remain with your current employer. However upon termination you run the risk of forfeiting some if not all your commuter funds.

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

**American Benefits Group** has a product that will meet your needs, whether you take public transportation, or drive to work. Below is a description of the products available through your employer's commuter benefit program.

### Public Transportation and Vanpools:

**Commuter Check Vouchers:** The most flexible way to pay for transit expenses. Commuter Checks can be used to purchase transit passes, tickets, cards, or other fare media for the transit authority of your choice. They can also be used to pay for vanpool expenses. Commuter Checks come in flexible denominations to meet your transit needs and are valid for 15 months – a great option for frequent or infrequent riders!

**The Commuter Check Card Prepaid MasterCard®:** A re-loadable commuter benefit card that is accepted at transit agencies or designated transit retail centers where *only* transit and vanpool passes, tickets, and fare cards are sold\*. The Commuter Check Card can be also used at fare vending machines, which saves you time waiting in line and locating a customer service desk or staffed sales area.



*\*For compliance reasons the Commuter Check Card can only be accepted at designated outlets that sell transit products exclusively, such as Transit Stations and Kiosks. Stores that sell other products, such as gift shops and pharmacies, will not accept the Commuter Check Card.*

**Fare media:** Various transit passes, tickets, and smart cards are offered by participating transit authorities across the nation. They are sent directly to your home, so no more waiting in line to purchase your transit passes! loaded with pre-tax funds every month for your convenience.



### Parking:

**Monthly Direct Pay:** This convenient solution allows us to send payment directly to your parking provider each month, so you don't have to worry about writing checks and mailing payments.

**Commuter Check for Parking Vouchers:** These vouchers are made payable to the parking provider of your choice and can be used to pay for parking expenses. Commuter Check for parking vouchers may be used to purchase one or more types of parking, and you can order as many vouchers as needed for multiple parking providers. They come in flexible denominations and are valid for 15 months.



**The Commuter Check Card Prepaid MasterCard®:** This pre-paid card solution offers the functionality and convenience of a reloadable, personalized, debit card for use at parking facilities nationwide. No receipts are necessary with this solution, just swipe and go!



*The Commuter Check Card Prepaid MasterCard is issued by the Bancorp Bank pursuant to license by MasterCard International Incorporated. MasterCard is a registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated.*